COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

ALLDERDICE STUDENT SERVICES
IMPORTANT DEMOGRAPHICS

- **School Address**: 2409 Shady Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15217
- **CEEB Code**: 393925
- **Counselor Contact Information**:
  - Ms. Hecht (A-E) dhecht1@pghschools.org
  - Ms. Harris (F-K) tharris1@pghschools.org
  - Ms. Meyers (L-R) hmeyers1@pghschools.org
  - Mrs. Van Luik (S-Z) lvanluik1@pghschools.org
  - Mrs. Ionadi (Transition Counselor – 9 & 10) mionadil@pghschools.org
  - Mrs. Stonestreet (Transition Counselor - 11 & 12) cstonestreet1@pghschools.org
COMPONENTS OF A COLLEGE APPLICATION

- **APPLY**
  - DEMOGRAPHICS - MAJOR/MINOR
  - ESSAY(S)

- **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**
  - TRANSCRIPT
  - LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- **TEST SCORES**
  - SAT
  - ACT

**Student's Responsibility**

**Shared Responsibility** between Student and School

**Student's Responsibility**
WHERE TO APPLY

- The Common Application - [https://www.commonapp.org](https://www.commonapp.org)
  - 1000+ Colleges and Universities

- The Coalition - [https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org](https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org)
  - 150+ Colleges and Universities

- Common Black College Application (CBCA) - [https://commonblackcollegeapp.com](https://commonblackcollegeapp.com)
  - 65 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU’s)

- The School’s Website
A high school transcript is like an official and thorough report card. It's a record of your academic performance and accomplishments throughout high school, making it one of the most important factors in college admissions decisions, if not the most important.
THE HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

▪ A transcript tells a story

▪ What Information is Included:
  ▪ Grades – Some schools may re-compute GPA
  ▪ GPA - weighted and unweighted
  ▪ Rank
  ▪ Rigor of Curriculum

▪ School Profile

▪ Requesting a Transcript
  ▪ 1. Transcript Request Form (required)
  ▪ 2. Request in Naviance
# Standardized Testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAT</th>
<th>ACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COLLEGEBOARD.ORG</strong></td>
<td><strong>ACTSTUDENT.ORG</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 3 hrs (no essay)</td>
<td>• 3 hrs and 35 min (with essay)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reading, Writing &amp; Language, Math (no calculator section)</td>
<td>• Reading, English, Math, Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Question Difficulty: Easy, Medium and Hard/More time per question</td>
<td>• Optional Essay (40 minutes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No penalty for wrong answer</td>
<td>• Question difficulty: Equally challenging/Less time per question</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• No penalty for wrong answer</td>
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</tbody>
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TEST OPTIONAL

- When is it beneficial to report your scores?
  - Strong scores
  - School mandates
  - Scholarships
  - Specific schools/majors
  - Adds to the application

- Which schools are test optional?
  - https://fairtest.org/test-optional-list/
LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- **Who to Ask?**
  - Two teachers
  - Start with Junior year teachers
  - Teachers for classes that align with major/strength OR classes that student showed improvement
  - Approach teacher before leaving for summer break of junior year

- **Naviance**
  - Request letters in Senior Year
  - Have resume ready for recommenders (required for counselors and many others)
  - Ask in person before requesting!
**TIMELINE OF PROCESS AND SUPPORT**

- **Freshman and Sophomore years**
  - Focus on grades
  - Get to know your counselors
  - Get involved!
  - Variety of classroom presentations from student services
  - Naviance tasks
  - Visit campuses at any opportunity

- **Junior Year**
  - Visit campuses at any opportunity and make an SAT/ACT testing plan
  - September/October – Admissions Visits at Allderdice
  - October – PSAT/NMSQT
  - Fall 2021 – Jr. Year Timeline/Naviance Counselor Presentation
  - March – SAT School Day
  - Spring 2022 – College Search Counselor Presentation and Individual Student Planning Sessions
  - Spring 2022 – Visit campuses, if possible. Use Naviance to help narrow down your options.
  - Summer 2022 – Finalize college list; Create Common App account, if not yet created
  - August 1, 2022 – Common Application opens for 2022-2023 seniors
TIMELINE FOR PROCESS AND SUPPORT

- **Senior Year**
  - August/September – Take SAT/ACT again, if absolutely necessary
  - September – College Application Counselor Presentation
  - September/October – Admissions Visits at Allderdice
  - Fall 2022 – Pittsburgh Promise – Update Portal once login info is received
  - November 1 and 15 – Early Action/Decision Deadlines
  - December 2023 – FAFSA application goes live
  - January 1 – Regular Decision Deadlines
  - February – Scholarship Night
    - Scholarship List – Check Naviance continually all year long
  - May 1 – College Decision Day
Q & A

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