

General Questions

1. How often should I meet with you to make sure I'm staying on track?
2. How should I plan my schedule?
3. Am I on schedule for graduation?
4. Should I consider taking advanced placement courses?
5. How far in advance should I start thinking about college?
6. Can I opt out of any classes for electives that will prepare me for college?
7. How many credits in each subject do I need to graduate on time?

TOP 50 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Standardized Tests

8. Do you recommend taking the PSAT?
9. How high do my GPA and test scores need to be so that I qualify for the colleges I want to attend?
10. Should I take the SAT, ACT, or both?
11. When should I take the exam?
12. How many times do you recommend I take the SAT/ACT?
13. How do I prepare for the SAT/ACT?
14. Do you have any resources I can use to help me study?
15. Is the SAT/ACT exam held at our school or in another location?
16. Should I take the ACT/SAT subject tests?
17. How do I send my test scores to the schools I'm applying to?
18. Is the SAT/ACT more important to colleges than GPA?

Exploring Your Interests

19. Is there a career/major fit for my interests?
20. How can I decide between a college nearby or one far away?
21. Which extracurriculars should I take to explore my options?
22. What electives can give me experience in the career I want?
23. How do I decide whether I want to turn an interest into a career?
24. Is there any way to contact people who work in the field I'm interested in?
25. There are so many options—how do I know whether a certain career/major is right for me?

College Search

26. When should I begin thinking of colleges to apply to?
27. What should I look for when visiting campuses?
28. Are there any upcoming college fairs in our area?
29. What colleges do students from our school usually apply to?
30. Do you know of any schools similar to the college I'm interested in?
31. Do you know how I can talk to any students currently enrolled in the college?

Preparing for College

32. Can you review my college résumé?
33. When is the deadline for college applications?
34. Is it better for me to apply early?
35. Are there any college handbooks or guides I can access?
36. Who should I go to for letters of recommendation?
37. What are colleges looking for in my personal essays?
38. Can we review my transcript and see whether there's anything to improve?
39. Will there be any college-planning sessions in the near future?

Financial Aid & Scholarships

40. How do I apply for financial aid?
41. Where can I find scholarship opportunities?
42. How does my family's income affect my financial aid and scholarship opportunities?
43. Are there any scholarships you think I qualify for?
44. Am I qualified to waive my college application fees?
45. Are there any special scholarships, awards, or state aid that I should apply for?
46. What type of aid does the college I'm interested in provide?
47. If I don't apply for financial aid this year, does that affect my eligibility for financial aid in the future?
48. When is the deadline for financial aid?
49. How do I appeal for more financial aid if necessary?
50. Will my financial aid be affected if I win scholarships?