

Counselor's Corner

Senior Newsletter

September/October 2011

<http://www.southlakecarroll.edu/CSHS/CSHS2/index.htm>

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Understanding the College Application Timeline

Now that your senior year is officially underway, it is time to begin your college applications. Hopefully, you spent some time this summer writing essays, working on creating a resume, and finalizing your list of colleges and universities to which you are going to apply. If not, it is time to get busy!

The number one rule of the college application process is this: **PAY ATTENTION TO DEADLINES.** Colleges will **not** consider late applications. Be careful to read the fine print since some of the schools will set postmark deadlines while others say your file must be complete by the deadline. A huge key to the college application process is to know the college application timeline. Generally speaking, there are three different types of timelines:

Regular Admission. You apply by a midwinter deadline, hear from colleges in early April, make your decision and notify colleges by early May.

Rolling Admission. You apply and usually receive an admission decision within two to six weeks from the time you submit your application. Many public universities as well as private colleges use this timeline.

Early Applications. Essentially, there are two types of early plans, early action and early decision. One is binding (early decision) and one is nonbinding (early action).

Early Decision – This is considered “binding,” so it’s essential that you be certain about wanting to enroll at that college. You will submit an application in early fall, and the college can give you one of three answers. You may be admitted, you may be deferred to the pool of regular applicants, or you may be denied. This commitment is very serious so you should only be applying to one college through this method.

Early Action – This is a nonbinding plan that requires you to submit your application in early fall (usually November 1 or 15). The college lets you know their decision by early January, but you have the right to wait until May to respond. This gives you time to compare colleges, including their financial aid offers, before making a decision since the early action application does not commit you to enroll if offered admission.

What are the advantages of utilizing an early plan? For students who have found their ideal college, applying early allows them to bypass the regular spring notification deadline, avoid the time and expense of submitting multiple applications, and reduces the time and anxiety spent waiting for a decision. Just remember that applying early action and early decision is not a mandate and is not for everyone. If you know for sure you have found the college that is the perfect fit or if you have spent the time and energy to really narrow down your choices the early plans may be right for you.

Finally, remember that college deadlines are **non-negotiable** and you must plan ahead and ask your teacher and counselor for letters of recommendation. Remember to request your official transcript in order for the document to be processed and reach the college by the deadline.

What’s the fastest way to apply?

The quickest way for you to apply to colleges and universities is **on-line.**

Apply Texas

www.applytexas.org

Common Application

www.commonapp.org

(used by many private colleges and universities across the nation)

Source: College Counseling Sourcebook, 2nd Edition.

ARE YOU TAKING ADVANTAGE OF CAMPUS CHATS?

What are campus chats?

Campus chats consist of college representatives from around the United States visiting CSHS during the school day. Students have the opportunity to introduce themselves to college recruiters, hear valuable information about the specific school and ask lots of questions.

When: 1:05-1:40

Where: College and Career Center (located in the Guidance Office) or Library

Listen for the announcements OR check out the Campus Chat Board in front of the SAC

PLEASE double check the following site for any updates:

http://www.southlakecarroll.edu/carrollsrhigh_guidance-general.aspx

September 15

University of Iona
Furman University
Louisiana State University
University of Evansville

September 16

Villanova University
Boston University
University of South Carolina
Winthrop University
University of Delaware

September 19

Drake University
Columbia College, MO
Ohio State University
University of Mississippi (Ole Miss)

September 20

Bradley University
Colorado State University
Ohio Northern University
Georgia Tech

September 21

University of Colorado-Denver
Cornell College of Iowa
Samford University
Case Western Reserve

September 22

Northeastern University
George Mason University
Virginia Tech
Emory-Riddle Aeronautical
University of Texas @ San Antonio

September 23

New York University
University of Southern California
University of Colorado

September 30

Washington University - St. Louis
MIT

October 4

Austin College

October 6

University of Missouri

October 12

Purdue University

October 26

TCU

October 27

University of Oklahoma

November 2

Trinity University

November 3

Texas A&M

Still needing to purchase the **REQUIRED** English novels?

Head to our awesome CSHS library and purchase them today!

Feel free to email Sarah Chase, Librarian, for the complete list of novels at
sarah.chase@southlakecarroll.edu

The College Application Process

1. Secure an application.

Go to the school's website, download and print. If you are using the Common Application or Apply Texas, go to the website, download and print.

2. Separate the "pieces" of the application.

3. Read through the application.

Look for specific recommendation forms, evaluations, SSR, essay topics, etc.

4. Complete the Parent Information Form, the Student Information Form & develop a resume.

Return the forms and your resume to your counselor.

5. Make copies of all application materials before mailing them to the college.

6. If you apply online, print your application and edit before sending; colleges prefer that you apply online.

7. Request your SAT or ACT scores be sent.

8. Request a transcript: Be sure and paperclip any Secondary School Reports/specific Counselor Recommendation Forms/Evaluations to the Transcript Request form. This will ensure all items are mailed together.



State University Updates

Detailed information can be found at:

www.bealonghorn.com

www.tamu.edu

www.ttu.edu

condensed information located at:

http://www.southlakecarroll.edu/carrollsr_high_guidance-general.aspx



COLLEGE FAIR

November 2, 2011

6:00-8:00

CSHS SAC

Meet school representatives

Attend a Financial Aid
Workshop

What is a transcript?

A transcript shows all courses a student has taken for high school credit. All grades, including grades below 70, will be recorded.

Transcripts show the following:

- Completed Courses
- Summer School Courses
- Correspondence Courses/Credit By Exams
- GPA
- Graduation Plan

**Seniors have one complimentary, unofficial transcript available for pick up in the Guidance Office.

How to request a transcript:

All transcripts must be requested.

Transcript request forms are located in the Guidance Office and on the website at:

<http://www.southlakecarroll.edu/CSHS08/Files/transcript%20alternate%20request.pdf>

Please allow two weeks for processing

Cost:

Official Transcripts are \$5.00

Unofficial Transcripts are \$2.00

**All post high school institutions require one official transcript.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Spanish Honor Society

1st meeting will take place on Monday, October 3rd during lunch in Room 211.



SENIOR SISTERS 2012

Senior Sisters is a club designed for female students who want to participate in a SPIRIT CLUB.

Meetings are held every Tuesday, during lunch, in Room 409.

Want to Redefine Beautiful?

Join an amazing group of students each Monday, during lunch, Room 103.

Do you want your picture in the yearbook?

If you have **NOT** had your Senior Picture taken by Don Painter Photography they will be on campus Monday, October 17 from 12:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Don Painter is the *only* official photographer for the yearbook picture.

If you are unavailable during this specific time you may set up an appointment with Don Painter's studio; however, all yearbook photos **MUST BE** taken prior to October 17.

Parents are under no obligation to purchase any photos from Don Painter, but all students receive their student ID from these photo sessions.

NHS Mandatory Fall Meeting Tuesday, October 4th, 2011

@ 7:15 AM in the SAC, 1:15 PM in the CSH Auditorium, **OR** 3:25 PM in the SAC

Come get all the latest news on how to keep your NHS membership active and in good shape for the new year!

Attendance at only **ONE** of these meeting times and places is required - see you there!!!

Spring Break Adventure Program 2012: Berlin, Prague & Vienna



Registration Going on Now! Info Meeting Set for Fall Semester!

Join a very special group of Carroll students in March 2012 on an outstanding itinerary custom tailored for fine art, historic sites, epic museums and more! These three beautiful "river" cities have been hand-selected to provide an art-filled excursion through time we will experience first-hand!

An informational meeting for parents and students on registration procedures has been set for Monday, September 19th @ 6:30 PM in the CSH Library. Though the meeting is not mandatory for registration, what a better way to hear all about the program and to find out what you need to know -- before you register!

If you are unable to attend the meeting, or if you have questions about the registration process, feel free to contact Mr. Tim Johnston at Tim.Johnston@southlakecarroll.edu, or visit the tour website at <https://sites.google.com/site/springbreakadventure>.

Don't miss out on the highlight of your year - find out everything you need to know to confidently register for this exciting tour!