



July Newsletter

[Schedule a meeting with Mrs. Saurine](#)

Hello, SENIORS!

I hope you have had the most wonderful Summer!

Tomorrow, many college applications open for the Class of 2025. You do not need to rush to complete these and submit them before you come back to school. However, it is important to get started early because the early deadlines happen fast and it is important to give yourself plenty of time to collect all of your materials, but you want to make sure you have the correct information. College applications are NOT something you want to rush through, guess on or procrastinate on.

You will receive a lot of information from me in the next few months. ALWAYS come in and ask if you are confused, unsure or need clarification. I am more than happy to help! As a reminder, the [College Counseling Drive](#) is a great resource with all previous newsletters! See the bottom of this newsletter for a few important dates/events!

Two Quick Reminders:

- **Mandatory All-Senior Meeting:** On August 8th and 9th during seminar we will meet to get started on applications. You will go to the **gym** for seminar.
- **Lilly Endowment BCHS Nomination Application:** I am allowed to nominate 2 students from Marion County and 2 students from Hamilton County for the Lilly Endowment Scholarship. We have an application to be nominated that will be reviewed by an internal committee. I have to nominate students in the first two weeks of school, so if you want to be considered, you need to fill out the nomination form by **August 12th** at midnight. [Here is the nomination form](#) and here is [more information](#) about the scholarship. Please leave thoughtful and detailed answers!

Common Questions about Applications (we will talk about this in our August Application meetings, but so you also have it in writing!):

- **Common Application:** The [Common App](#) is typically how I encourage students to apply to college. You can send the same application to up to 20 schools. Many schools are on the Common App, but there are some that aren't. HBCUs, California schools, Texas Schools, and some others are not on the Common App. If you are applying to multiple HBCU's, consider making an account on the [Common Black College Application](#).



- **FERPA:** Whenever you are asked to sign a FERPA waiver, I highly suggest you do so. It shows the college that you have nothing to hide. You'll be asked to sign a **FERPA** form on Scoir in your profile and in the Common Application under "recommenders and FERPA."
- **GPA:** It is okay to use your weighted GPA on your applications unless it specifically says "unweighted." Your weighted GPA is in your Scoir profile whenever you need it!
- **Scholarships:** I update the Bishop Chatard Scholarship page with general scholarships that I find but I strongly recommend [GoingMerry](#), [Fastwebb](#) and [RaiseMe](#) for scholarship searches. If a student would like to be nominated for a scholarship, I am happy to do that if a student reaches out to me at least two weeks in advance of the due date.
- **Miscellaneous:**
 - We do not do class rank. List N/A when applications ask.
 - Your class size is 170.
 - Our grading scale is 4.0
 - If the application asks for AP and honors, your dual credit classes also qualify and are weighted like AP courses.
 - **CEEB Code: 151654** (also referred to as your high school code)
 - Applying to college costs money. Expect to pay around \$60 for each application you submit. If you are free and reduced lunch, you qualify for a fee waiver. I will upload this into Scoir for you to sign.
- **Counselor Information:** Be sure you put the College Counselor down as your counselor, and not your other academic counselors here at BCHS. You can put this in the Common App when it asks for your counselor.
 - Abbey Saurine
 - Bishop Chatard High School
 - 5885 N. Crittenden Ave.
 - Indianapolis, IN 46220
 - 317-785-2401 (phone)
 - asaurine@bishopchatard.org (email)
- **Letters of Recommendation (LOR):** Be sure you have your survey completed in Scoir for your recommenders. Here is some [etiquette on LORs](#) and instructions on [how to request Letters of Recommendation](#). You will request letters through Scoir. **If someone from outside Bishop Chatard is writing you a letter** (like a coach or boss), they can send their letter directly to Mrs. Saurine to add to your Scoir profile. Remember, you get one letter from me!
- **Athletes:** If you plan on playing college athletics at the Division I or II level, you need to have a [NCAA Eligibility Account](#) to make sure you are eligible. **Please do this ASAP** if you haven't already. There are three types of accounts, you want "Academic and Amateurism Certification Account." It costs \$100. Remember,



you are not accepted to a school just because a coach is talking to you. You need to be accepted to a school AND be eligible with the NCAA.

- **Testing Plan:** Be sure you are happy with your SAT score or have a [plan to sign-up](#) and retake it if you plan on submitting your scores as part of your applications or if your colleges require scores. If a school is test-optional, I recommend submitting scores if your scores fall in the Middle 50% for that school/program; you can wait until September to send these if you choose. **Please note, students are in charge of sending their scores to colleges.** Some schools allow students to self-report through their portals (last year, IU and Purdue were two of those schools) but some schools require *official* score reports sent through College Board (last year Ball State and Dayton were two of those schools). **If you apply to a school indicating you want test scores considered as part of your application, your application is considered incomplete until the schools receive them.** Be sure you know how they want scores reported. You are welcome to take the ACT as well but that is not required; colleges don't have a preference.

My Recommendations:

- Always go for the early deadlines! November 1st is the most popular one, though some schools in the Southeast are on October 15th (UNC, Clemson, etc). [Know the meanings](#) between different admissions deadlines. I typically recommend Early ACTION (See below).

| STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU? | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| Regular Decision | Rolling Admission | Early Action (EA) | Early Decision (ED) | Restrictive Early Action (REA) |
| DEFINITION: Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision by a clearly stated period of time. | DEFINITION: Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle. | DEFINITION: Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date. | DEFINITION: Students make a commitment to a first choice institution where, if admitted they typically will attend and withdraw all other applications. This application deadline and decision deadline occur early. | DEFINITION: Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment they have until May 1 to confirm. |
| COMMITMENT: NON-BINDING | COMMITMENT: NON-BINDING | COMMITMENT: NON-BINDING | COMMITMENT: BINDING | COMMITMENT: NON-BINDING |
| Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment. | | | Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions. | |

For a copy of this flyer, please visit www.nacac.org

- Keep yourself organized!
 - **Keep your passwords in a safe place.** As you get college decisions back, you are going to be asked to create a computing account with each school. If you can't login, you'll have to contact the university



to help you- you'll save yourself a lot of time and frustration if you keep track of all of your passwords!! (IU is notorious for this- they require a short sentence for passwords!)

- **Organize your email!** Consider creating a “college” folder in your personal email for important emails such as financial aid packages from schools, admission decisions, etc. OR, create an email just for college and scholarship applications. Again, students will spend a lot of time searching their email for their student ID number, login information, financial aid info, etc. if they don't have it organized. **We will ask you for a copy of all admission and scholarship information**, so keep track of it and do NOT delete it until you have reported it to me!

SAVE THE DATE:

- If you are planning to take the Saturday **August 24th SAT** the deadline to register with College Board is August 9th. We will be offering seniors the opportunity to take the SAT on our school PSAT day in October. Stay tuned for how to sign up for that if you wish.
- **August 8th and 9th** during seminar: all-senior meeting to get started on your application together
- **Multiple Days:** College Rep visits throughout August and September
 - You can sign-up in Scoir. Go to “me” then “visits and deadlines”
- **September 22:** Application Help Night- Students and parents welcome!
- **September 24:** Financial Aid Night with INvestEd
 - Outside organization dedicated to helping families pay for college will be at BCHS to talk about scholarships, loans, FAFSA, and more. Students and families welcome
- **September 23-27:** [College GO week in Indiana](#)
 - Some Indiana schools waive their application fees that week, so it is a good goal to finish and submit your applications by then if you can
- **October 15th:** Early Action Deadline for some schools, mainly in schools in the Southeast
- **November 1st:** EARLY ACTION DEADLINE
- **November 12th:** FAFSA Filing Event with INvestED in the evening
 - Get some assistance to file your FAFSA. Both students and parents are encouraged to attend (THIS DATE HAS CHANGED- The Department of Ed announced a new release date for the FAFSA- updated 8/12)