

Workplace readiness for all



College Plan Night

Prepare, Plan, Research, Apply, and Afford

Two Year Colleges

- Also called community colleges or junior colleges
- Can earn an Associate's Degree and or a Certificate
 - Associate's = General Education Requirements. 2 year degree.
 - Certificate = Vocational Focused / Licensure. May be shorter 9mo.
- The Associate's degree will transfer to most four year schools, and meet the requirements for the first two years.
- Two year schools can be less expensive (but not necessarily).
- You can apply anytime -Oct 16, Oct 17, or Oct 18 would be ideal days (SHS College Application Week in Sabre Center Computer Lab).

Four Year Schools

- Bachelor's Degree
- More competitive for admission.
- Have application deadlines.
- If you aren't able to visit the school in person, selective schools are far less likely to grant admission
- Majority of admissions happen for students who apply in the priority filing period. **DON'T WAIT** to retake tests (ACT/SAT), get 1st semester grades, or anything else. Get your application in!

How to search for college

1. Be at College Plan Night (see, you're already on the right track!)
2. Use Naviance
3. Talk to your counselor
4. Visit college representatives outside guidance at Streamwood - Find the list of who is coming on the Naviance homepage under "What's New."

College Search - finding a fit

Target acceptance

Stretch = Your grades/SAT would be low end of their acceptance

Target = Your grades/SAT would be right in the middle of their acceptance

Safety = Your grades/SAT would be at the top or above their acceptance range

Size

Small (less than 2000 students)

Medium (2000-8000)

Large (8000+)

Extra large (20,000+)

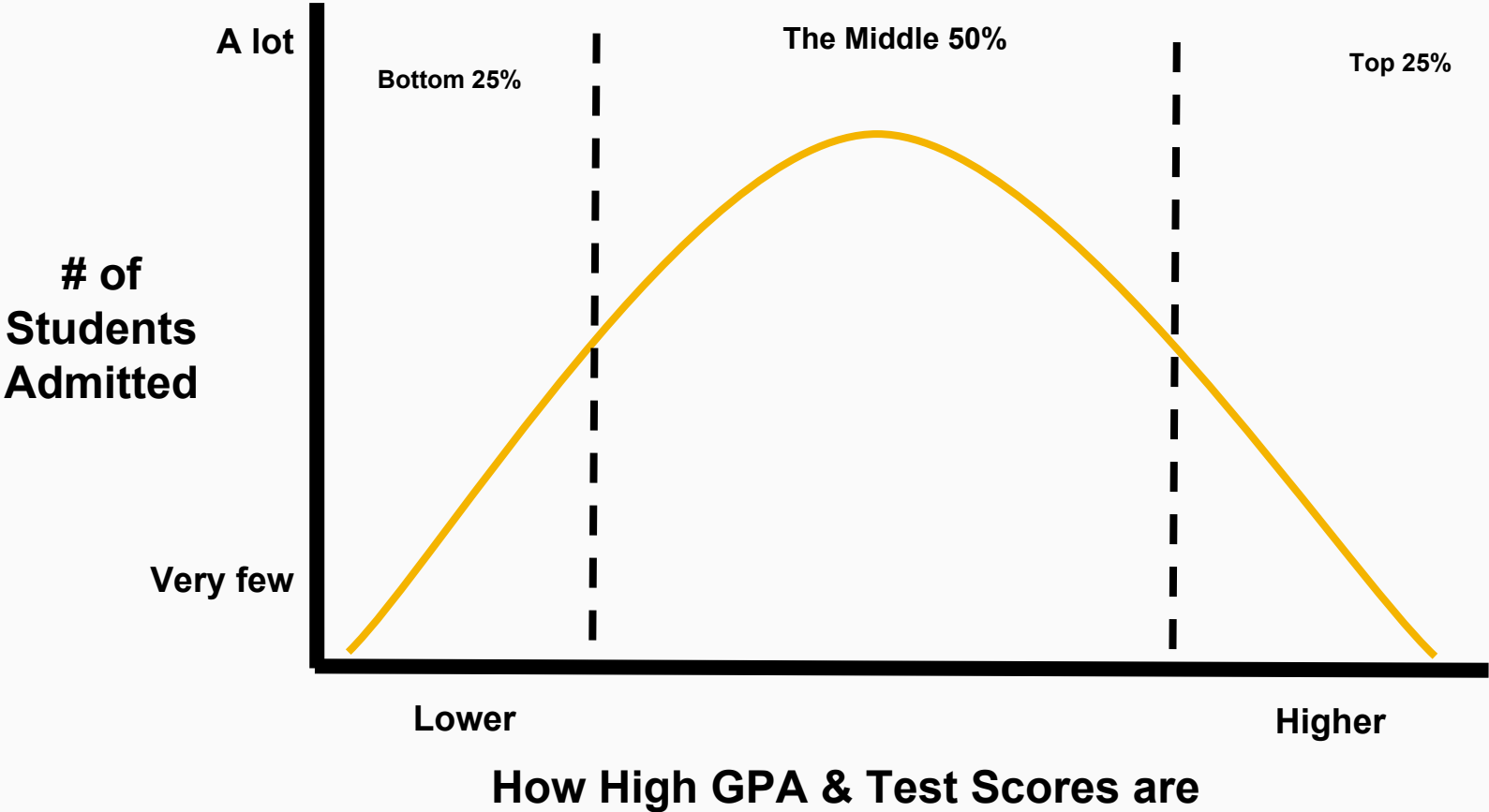
How to find target acceptance?

Use Naviance - enter your GPA and SAT scores and Naviance can help you decide how good the fit might be.

How to decide about size?

Think about what sounds good, visit college reps, and if at all possible - visit the college. Then use Naviance where with SuperMatch you can search based on school size.

The Bell Curve



College Search - finding a fit

Location

How far away from home?

In state or out of state?

On campus or commute?

Type

Public

Private

Community (typically 2 years)

Major

Desired major available?

Quality of program?

How to find a desired location and major or other criteria:

Use Naviance and look for College **Supermatch**
- Naviance can help you determine if you want to look in a particular state, a region, or within a certain distance from Streamwood

College Search Websites

Streamwood Guidance (lots of resources):

<https://www.u-46.org/shscounselors>

Naviance

Use Clever and login to your Naviance Account

Big Future (College Board's site - links to SAT, AP, and Schools)

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>

College Greenlight (ISAC's link for schools and scholarships)

<https://www.collegegreenlight.com/>

Application Terms

- **Priority Filing** - Some schools use this term and a specific date. Priority filing is applying earlier. You are more likely to get accepted if you apply by the priority filing date, and will get an answer sooner.
- **Early Action** - Very similar to Priority Filing. Get the application in earlier to get an answer sooner.
- **Early Decision** - This is a special / unique kind of application at highly competitive private schools where if you apply and are accepted, you agree to commit to attending that school and the cost of that school.
- **Regular Decision** - You apply when you apply, you hear when you hear. Watch out for deadlines!

Application Process

1. Pick schools where you'll apply and list in Naviance: "Schools I'm Thinking About"
2. Complete application (usually on line)
3. Move to "Schools I'm Applying To" in Naviance
4. Make sure you've turned in your transcript request form.
5. Request transcript through Naviance. Your counselor will send it electronically
6. If you want other than your school SAT score sent, order it separately from <http://www.actstudent.org> or <http://www.collegeboard.org>.

Juniors - when taking ACT / SAT - Take advantage of the 4 free score reports.

Safety, Target, Stretch

Safety: This is a school where, while you counselors can't promise you'll get in, all the data says you probably should get in

Target: You're a competitive applicant

Stretch: You may not get it, but go for it!

Your counselor and your research can help you decide which are target, safety, and stretch schools.

What counts as a target, safety, or stretch varies for every student based on your , your grades, the classes you've taken, your test scores, and all kinds of other factors.

There are some advantages to Safety or Stretch schools you may not have thought about ...

Why Apply Early?

- You demonstrate interest to the college
- You hear back sooner
- The college itself has more opportunity and is more likely to consider you for school based scholarships
- It gives you more time to look for outside scholarships
- It's A NUMBERS GAME!

Eastern Illinois University

Rolling admissions

Applied: 9,000

Admitted: 4,500

(note: 50% acceptance rate)

Enrolled: 1,125

Stats from College Board's College Handbook 2016 edition, rounded to nearest 100

Scholarships

Look at Streamwood High School's Student Bulletin and website:

<https://www.u-46.org/shscounselors>

We have information on ECC, Local, State, National, and School-based scholarships in addition to General Resources on Scholarships. Use these lists as *starting points* and search engines to investigate more. This information is being transferred into **Naviance!**

Also - College Greenlight (ISAC's link for schools and scholarships)

<https://www.collegegreenlight.com/>

Events

Hispanic College Fair – October 2nd

- College representatives visiting with students of Hispanic Background
- Field trip form required, available in Guidance Office

Elgin Community College - College Fair – October 2nd

- 6:00pm – 8:00pm at Elgin Community College, Building H
- Meet with representatives from more than 100 colleges.

FAFSA Completion Workshops - October 3 and 4

- 6-8pm In Streamwood High School's **Sabre Center Computer Labs**
- Assistance for parents and students to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- Help for all is available both nights. Spanish speakers will available on Thursday, October 4th
- Parents please bring your 2017 tax returns to this workshop
- Student(s) and parents will both need to provide an email address for this event (If you do not have one,
there will be assistance available to help you create one)

More Events

PSAT - October 10th = No school for Seniors so it's a great day to do a College Visit!

Christian College Fair – October 10th

- 6:00pm – 8:30pm at Harvest Christian Academy
- Meet with representatives from many Christian Colleges.

College Application Week – October 16, 17, 18

- During lunch Periods in Computer Labs
- Work with your counselor and ISAC representatives to complete college applications and transcript requests on the spot

College & Career 101 for Parents of High School Students – October 18th

- 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Elgin Community College
- Targeted for Freshman through Juniors
- Help your students become college and career ready

What you need to complete FAFSA

- **Social Security Number.** Don't guess - it has to be correct. ITIN number isn't acceptable
- **Records of income** - The tax forms for your 2017 taxes
- **Dates of birth** - include month, day, year.
- **Month and year of marriage, divorce, or other change in marital status.**
- **Alien registration number** - if you(student) are not a US citizen.

Upcoming College Visits @ SHS

**See Naviance Homepage
Under “What’s New”**

Other Resources

- Your Counselor
- College Reps at SHS outside of Guidance. Listen to announcements, see the website, or the bulletin board in Guidance. Pick some to go to and get a pass in Guidance.