

Grade 12 College Counseling Top FAQs

1. How do I request my transcript?

Log in to [Naviance](#) and click on the "Colleges I'm Applying To" link. Add your college to the list (click the little add button on the top). Click "request transcript" and "I've applied."

2. How do I send my test scores?

Log in to your account on the [College Board](#) (SAT) or the [ACT](#) and request "send my scores."

3. Are my test scores on my transcript?

No.

4. Can Mrs. Overman and Mrs. Haque help me with my applications?

Yes! Both of our college advisors have extensive admissions experience and have both sat on admissions committees- they know what colleges are looking for and can provide lots of advice! They can review your essays, list of activities, and offer suggestions about different responses to various questions on each application.

5. I don't know how to start my essay. What should I do?

Brainstorming about the details you want to share with admissions offices is a good place to start. Make an appointment with your college advisor to discuss your ideas, or lack of ideas.

6. What is the [Common App](#)?

The Common App is a way to apply to several colleges using one central system. Over 700 colleges accept the Common App.

7. What is the [Coalition Application](#)?

The Coalition App is another way to apply to several colleges using one central system. 140 colleges currently accept the Coalition Application.

8. Should I register with [CFNC](#)?

Yes! CFNC can provide a lot of great information. Even if you don't apply to college using CFNC, you can still find info about scholarships and special events.

9. How do I apply for scholarships and financial aid?

Create an account on [Fastweb.com](#) and [FAFSA](#). Fastweb can help you find outside scholarships (money not tied to a specific college) and FAFSA can provide you financial aid. Create your accounts now!

10. Is it too late to still search for colleges?

No way! Aim to complete your search by December though.

Grade 11 College Counseling Top FAQs

1. How do I sign up to meet with the college representatives visiting RTHS?
Please ask permission from your teacher to miss class and sign up on the sign-up sheets outside of the college advising offices. The meetings will take place in various places in school.
2. Are there events in the community that I should attend?
Yes! You should attend the college fair at the McKimmon Center which will be held on Sunday, September 16th from 2-4:30pm. There is also a large college fair in downtown Raleigh on March 19th. We'll share more information about these events closer to the dates.
3. How do I start my college search?
 - a. Think about criteria that are important to you: location, size, academic programs.
 - b. Visit colleges in our area to get familiar with different campuses.
 - c. Meet with a college advisor to discuss your thoughts about college.
4. I don't know what I want to study in college. What should I do?
You don't need to know what you want to major in to start your search; think about other criteria that are important to you and find schools with a lot of different academic disciplines.
5. I'm not involved in anything. Will that hurt my chances for admission to college?
Colleges like to see students who are involved in activities that interest them. There is no magic list or number of activities to pursue. Check out the online club fair and attend a few meetings of organizations that sound interesting to you. You can also consider getting a job (colleges love to see work experience) and volunteering in your community.
6. My grades could be better but I'm worried that it is too late to try harder in school. Should I give up?
No way! Your transcript will include your final grades in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade. Colleges also see first semester grades during 12th grade; now is the time to pick up the pace.
7. College seems really expensive. Is this true?
Sometimes. There are a lot of financial options – scholarships, need-based aid, tuition discounts – to help you pay for college. Don't rule a school out just because the cost seems way too high.
8. When should I take the SAT and ACT?
You should take the SAT this spring. You will take the ACT this February at RTHS.
9. This year is really hard. I'm planning to lighten my course load next year. Is this a good idea?
Nope! Your course schedule senior year is extremely important; you should work extra hard this year so you can shine in tough classes next year.
10. I need some help with the college process. Can I schedule an appointment with a college advisor?
Absolutely! Send Mrs. Overman or Mrs. Haque an email or stop by our offices.

Grade 10 College Counseling FAQs

1. I'm just starting to think about college. Are there things I should be doing now to prepare?
Do the best you can in school; focus on your academic goals. Colleges will pay attention to your grades in 10th grade, so keep working hard.
2. My math grade is terrible. Does that mean I can't go to college?
No. One bad grade will not ruin your chances for college. Work with your teacher so that you continue to improve.
3. I know I want to go to Harvard so I'm not looking at any other colleges. Is this smart?
Nope! You don't want to only have one school in mind – there are so many great schools. Think about why you like Harvard and find other schools with similar characteristics (near a big city, in a cold area, strong academic programs, medium sized, far from home).
4. What should I do during the summer?
Something. Anything. It isn't important what you do, but it is important that you do something (playing video games all day doesn't count).
5. Clubs are boring; why do extracurriculars matter to college?
Colleges are curious about how you spend your time; if you are involved in activities in high school, most likely you will get involved in a variety of things in college (not necessarily the same things, but something). Colleges want to admit interesting students; find something you like to do.
6. I really only like drama and I know I want to major in that in college. Why do my other classes matter?
Colleges want to see students who have taken a well-rounded curriculum and who have challenged themselves academically. This means taking a variety of courses across the disciplines.
7. I'm really quiet and never talk in class. How will my teachers get to know me?
Talk with your mentor to create a plan to make connections with your teachers; it is important that your teachers get to know you.
8. Robotics is my life. I don't need to go to college, right?
Maybe, but maybe you should consider your college options; on average, college graduates make more money than high school graduates.
9. How will I afford college?
There are so many options out there: scholarships, grants, work-study, low interest loans, payment plans; college can be very affordable!
10. Will colleges know about RTHS?
Yes! Our college advisors travel to conferences every fall and spring to talk about the great things going on at RTHS. Colleges know about our rigorous graduation requirements and the type of learning that goes on in our community

Grade 9 College Counseling Top FAQs

1. Who are the College Advisors?
Mrs. Overman and Mrs. Haque are the school's college advisors. Their offices are in the Holodeck administrative suite on the second floor. Stop by and say hi anytime!
2. I'm only a freshman, why do I need to think about college?
It is never too soon to get started. Working with your mentor to create short term academic goals is a great place to begin.
3. 9th grade doesn't matter, right?
Oh, it matters! Your official transcript will include end of year grades in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade. It will also include your senior schedule. Your performance in 9th grade can influence the types of courses you are recommended for in 10th grade. Just do your best and it will come together.
4. Easy classes means easy As so I'm only going to take easy classes so my GPA will be awesome. That is a good plan, right?
Um, not really (plus we wouldn't consider any of our classes "easy" - RTHS challenges students at all levels). Colleges want you to challenge yourself. If you are recommended for Honors or AP courses, you should strongly consider taking that class.
5. Should I only apply to highly selective schools like Duke and Stanford?
No way! We'll work together to create a college list that reflects your interests, preferences, and passions.
6. How should I start my college search?
Take advantage of college tours at campuses in our area. Go check out UNC, NC State, Peace University, and North Carolina Central. Notice what you like and don't like about each school.
7. Will my family responsibilities hurt me when I apply to college?
Absolutely not. Colleges like to see you involved in family activities. You demonstrate maturity and discipline when you do things such as make dinner for your siblings, babysit, or work part-time in your community.
8. I'm struggling with the transition to 9th grade; are my college chances ruined?
Take a deep breath. Work with your mentor and ask for help. You will have plenty of college options!
9. Why do I need to make connections with my teachers?
Your teachers love to advocate for you and will write recommendation letters when it is time to apply to college. Learning how to make connections with the teachers you have now will prepare you to continue that process in the future.
10. Will colleges know about the PLP?
Yes! Mrs. Overman and Mrs. Haque tell colleges all about RTHS. They attend national conferences and meet with admissions officers. The colleges will fully understand our PLP program.