

Welcome to Senior Year Class of 2019

This booklet has been created to help you plan for an awesome senior year! There are many activities and opportunities, but your senior year will only be what you make of it. The main bit of advice that we can give you in preparation for this year is the same as for your first year of college:

- ★ Be prepared financially
- ★ Pay strict attention to deadlines
- ★ Don't guess--ask!
- ★ Have a great time.

Update your e-mail address to a more professional sounding address. "MSolkoff" would be a much better way for colleges to recognize you rather than "The8treTcha."

Yearbook Office Room 360 North
(718) 361-8786 ext. 362
Yearbook Advisor: Ms. Tuite
E-mail: DTuite@schools.nyc.gov

Senior Advisor: Mr. Randle
JRandle@schools.nyc.gov
Room 12 South
(718) 433-2556 x1003

College Advisor: Mr. Canela
College Office Room 357 North
E-mail: JCanela2@schools.nyc.gov
(718) 361-8786 x375

Join Senior Committee! Have a voice in what fun things will be available for your senior class. You will be required to fundraise and attend monthly meetings.

See Mr. Randle or Class President Sophia Rodriguez for more information.

Sign Up Here: <https://tinyurl.com/seniorcommitteas>

Possible Expenses for Senior Year

AP Exams--\$91 each (unless you have a waiver)
 SAT--\$43 (with essay \$54.50) / SAT II--\$26 / ACT--\$56.50 (with essay)
 College Applications--varies by school (check the websites)

Trips:

Fall Day Trip--\$50-\$100
 Spring Washington DC Trip--\$250-\$300
 NYSTEA Student Theatre Conference--\$300 (January)
 Other Trips--around \$25-\$50 each--Senior Committee will organize and plan other excursions for the senior class. These trips have included bowling, ice skating, baseball games, etc.

Class of 2019 Expenses:

Senior Dues \$95/\$130--Are mandatory and cover

the costs of the graduation ceremony, cap and gown, printing, senior activities, etc. Senior dues will be collected from everyone regardless when your actual graduation date occurs. Due date: December 1, 2019.

Prom \$130--Prom will be held on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at Leonard's of Great Neck. Limousine expenses are usually around \$75-100 per person, and dress/suits usually average around \$150.

Yearbook \$85 (depending on personalization)

Senior Pictures--packets vary in price based on what you want to purchase
 Senior Class Ring \$75 and up

These prices are just approximations. They can be more or less. In order to make these prices less than what they are, **you must help as much as you can in fundraising events such as the purchase of sweatshirts and other senior items.**

MOST IMPORTANTLY--HAVE SPIRIT!!

COLLEGE APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Register for the SAT/ACT –

Anticipated SAT Dates Fall 2018 – www.sat.collegeboard.org:

- June 3, late registration deadline May 24
- August 26, registration deadline July 28
- October 7, registration deadline Sept 8
- Nov 4, registration deadline Oct 5
- Dec 2, registration deadline Nov 2
- SUBJECT TESTS OFFERED ALL ABOVE DATES
- FEES \$43 (with essay \$54.50 – Late fee--add \$28)
- Subject tests \$26
- ACT Dates for fall 2016– www.act.org:
- Sept 9, registration deadline August 4
- Oct 28, registration deadline Sept 22
- Dec 9, registration deadline Nov 3
- Fees \$56.50 (\$23 late fee)

Prepare for your SAT/ACT exams- Check the College Office Website for information and phone numbers for programs. Prepare on your own as well. Visit the following for online test prep:

- SAT – Collegeboard.com (sign up for question of the day)
 - www.khanacademy.org
- ACT - www.act.org
- www.princetonreview.com
- www.kaplan.com
- www.freerice.com (vocabulary practice)

Fee Waivers – If you qualify for free or reduced lunch, you may get fee waivers for SAT , subject tests (SAT II) and ACT Exams. You may also get fee waivers for some college application fees. You MUST complete your lunch form at the start of the year to be eligible.

TOEFL Exam – If you were not born in this country, you may be required by some colleges to take the TOEFL exam. Visit www.ets.org/toefl for more information. The test is \$180 (if you qualify for a fee reduction – the cost will be \$90). Must see Mr. Canela.

Explore Colleges- Research good fit colleges and their requirements by utilizing resources such as:

- www.collegeboard.com (www.BigFuture.Collegeboard.org)
- www.petersons.com
- www.collegenet.com
- www.collegeview.com
- www.usnews.com
- www.ny-college.com
- www.campustours.com

Amazon.com and the Library will have books that can help guide you as well. You will have your SAT/ACT scores. Compare your scores with the published averages of a particular college. Continue to create a balanced list of schools that include REACH SCHOOLS – highly competitive schools which generally accept students with GPA's and SAT scores slightly above your own. TARGET SCHOOLS – Schools which generally accept scores comparable to your own. SAFE SCHOOLS – Schools at which your chance of being accepted is GOOD and at which your application will MOST LIKELY be accepted.

Applications – All applications are completed online. There are basically TWO ways to apply, directly through the website of each school OR with the Common Application.

Common Application (www.commonapp.org) entails completing ONE application to apply to multiple schools. This may be the best way to apply if you are applying to multiple schools. Many colleges accept the common app. Visit the www.commonapp.org to see which schools use it. Familiarize yourself with the Common App. It goes live on August 1st. BEGIN IT IN AUGUST!!! SUNY Schools accept the Common App. CUNY schools do not accept the Common App.

Visit college websites for deadline and application requirements.

- CUNY – visit www.cuny.edu/apply. View individual campuses and programs. Apply through the **SEEK** program if your GPA and SAT scores fall below the averages on the CUNY profile received during advisement. Macaulay Honors will have a December 1 deadline.
- SUNY – visit www.suny.edu to view individual campuses and programs. Apply through **EOP** if your GPA and SAT scores fall below the SUNY profile received during advisement.
- Private Schools – Visit their websites to view campus and program information. Apply through the **HEOP** Program if your GPA and SAT scores fall below the published averages.

Early Action/Early Decision (EA/ED) – EA is non-binding, ED is binding. Application Deadlines - November 1st. All EA/ED applications are completed with Ms. Drescher. Make an appointment by mid-October to ensure that deadlines are met.

Letters of Recommendation – Most schools require letters of recommendation (explore admission requirements for your schools). Schools generally will not ask for more than one or two teacher recommendations so you need not ask all of your teachers for a letter. Guidance Counselor Letters of Recommendation will be written only upon proof of requirement and must be requested by October 26th. Recommendation request forms can be obtained at school and should be submitted to your teacher in person. Teachers and counselors work very hard on these letters. Please acknowledge their hard work on your behalf by thanking them. Request your letters early. There is a two-to-three week turnaround time to get them back.

Essays – Most schools will require that you write an essay or personal statement. This is your opportunity to 'talk' to the admissions committees. Use this opportunity to show them your writing skills as well as enable them learn a little more about you. Research the requirements of your selected schools to learn more and visit www.commonapp.org for essay prompts to help the thinking process. For additional help visit: <http://collegeboard.com/student/apply/essay>. If you have not already begun your essay, do so during the summer and have it completed in the fall.

Financial Aid – The FAFSA (Free Application For Student Aid) will be available Oct 1, 2018. This is FREE, do not pay for the filing of your FAFSA. Parent tax returns for **2017** will be required in order for the FAFSA to be officially submitted. You may begin the FAFSA early by using the FAFSA

Forecaster. Some schools will also require the **CSS Profile** found through Collegeboard. For additional help visit:

- FAFSA - www.fafsa.gov (only use .gov not .com)
- CSS PROFILE – www.collegeboard.com (some colleges require)
- Federal and State – www.hesc.com
- Financial Aid Counselors – www.finaid.org
- Loan Information – www.salliemae.com
- FAFSA Forecaster <https://fafsa.ed.gov/FAFSA/app/f4cForm?execution=e1s1>

Scholarships – Are sent out on a regular basis via Pupilpath.

Create a profile through Fastweb. They will e-mail you scholarships. Search the Internet.

- www.fastweb.com
- www.collegeboard.com
- www.princetonreview.com
- www.scholarships.com

Career Exploration –

Occupational Outlook Handbook www.bls.gov/oco

Quintessential Careers www.quintcareers.com/career_exploration.html

Career Browser www.collegeboard.com

Career Descriptions www.careerexplorer.net

Careers and Industries www.wetfeet.com

Job Profiles www.jobprofiles.org

Occupational Profiles www.vault.com

New York Career Zone www.nycareerzone.org

Senior year is an important one. Report card grades, mid-year grades and end-year grades will be sent to colleges so you must maintain good grades ALL YEAR and continue with a full senior course load.

Good luck with your exploration. Keep in mind that all college related questions can be directed to the College Advisor, Mr. Canela at JCanela2@schools.nyc.gov. Room 357N

COLLEGE OFFICE CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Register **early** for SAT/ACT (deadline, September 8!!! **Register in early August**)

If applying for Questbridge Scholarship deadline late September (TBA)

Finalize College List

The Common Application is available August 1, 2018 (www.commonapp.org)

Consider carefully your responsibilities if applying for Early Action or Early Decision. See your College Advisor for Appointment.

Work on essay drafts. Meet with English teacher for help.

Request recommendations from teachers and others

Get off to a good start academically

Plan college visits and interviews (remember to send thank you letters)

Visit college websites, open houses and college fairs

Attend information sessions at the school and College Fairs

Listen to daily announcements and visit the school's college webpage

(www.academyofamericanstudies.com/teachers/drescher)

Inquire about TOEFL exam if a school requires it

OCTOBER

Mandatory senior meeting for college application process--Mid-October, in the auditorium

Review for SAT/ACT – Take Exam – Send Scores

Register for November SAT by deadline Oct 5 (Register way earlier)

Review transcript with counselor

Request recommendations from teachers and others

If you are applying Early Action or Early Decision, be aware of DEADLINES. Make an appointment with College Advisor no later than October 15, 2018

Continue to work on and finalize college essay. Ask English teacher for help.

Begin filling out applications

Make appointment with College Contact Person

Visit college websites, open houses and college fairs

Attend information sessions at the school

Listen to daily announcements and visit the school's college webpage

Register for TOEFL exam if required

NOVEMBER

SAT/ACT – Take Exam – Send Scores

Complete and finalized applications

Make appointment with College Contact Person

Research and gather scholarship options throughout the year

Submit scholarship applications in a timely fashion

Set a personal application deadline for all applications for Thanksgiving

Visit college websites, open houses and college fairs

Attend information sessions at the school

Listen to daily announcements and visit the school's college webpage

DECEMBER

SAT/ACT – Take Exam – Send Scores
 Complete and finalize applications
 Check all application deadlines
 Make appointment to do mailing with your College Contact Person (come prepared!)
 Log onto FAFSA Forecaster to begin Financial Aid Process
 Listen to daily announcements and visit the school's college webpage

JANUARY

Attend Financial Aid Seminar
 File FAFSA (Federal Financial Aid Form) as early as October 1, 2018. Log onto FAFSA.gov
 --this is a free service! Do not go onto websites that you have to pay for.
 Submit mid-year reports and stamped/addressed envelopes to College Office
 Finish other/late college applications
 Listen to daily announcements and visit the school's college webpage

FEBRUARY

Continue to fill out scholarship applications
 Seek help for the appeals process with College Advisor
 Check deadlines for AP Test fees or fee waivers
 Be sure FAFSA Form is completed and submitted
 Listen to daily announcements and visit the school's college webpage

MARCH

Submit any new material to colleges which may help
 Seek help for the appeals process with College Advisor
 Listen to daily announcements and visit the school's college webpage

APRIL

Submit any new material to colleges which may help
 Seek help for the appeals process with College Advisor
 Listen to daily announcements and visit the school's college webpage
 Finalize college plans and prepare deposit for May

MAY

College Deposit Day--5/1/2019 (most colleges have this deadline)
 Take AP Exams
 Submit any new material to colleges which may help
 Listen to daily announcements and visit the school's college webpage

JUNE

Fill out and return Senior Packet with stamped/addressed envelope

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

REGENTS RETAKES

In order to ensure that all students are college ready, you will be signed up to retake Regents exams under the following circumstances:

- You have received a grade of less than 65
- You have received a grade of less than 79 on an English Regents
- You have received a grade of less than 80 on a Math Regents

Questions? Speak with your guidance counselor.

SENIOR SPEAKER

Would you like to be the Senior Speaker at graduation? Auditions will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at noon in room 12 South. Please be prepared with a 3-5 minute speech to be presented to the senior committee.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Seniors are required to have accomplished a minimum of 45 community service hours which must be logged and handed in by May 24, 2019.

VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN POLICY

The Valedictorian will be selected under the following criteria:

1. The top-ranked student as determined by STARS at the end of their seventh semester.
2. The student must have passed all classes NOT averaged by STARS.
3. A panel of teachers will review the students' records to verify satisfactory citizenship.
4. Completion of the senior year community service requirement.
5. The student must have entered the Academy by the first day of the second semester of their sophomore year.

The Salutatorian will be the second-ranked student selected under the criteria mentioned above.

In case of a tie: If two students tie for the honor of valedictorian the award will go to the student who has taken and passed the greatest number of New York State Regents. If the students are still tied the award will be given to the student with the highest Regents average on the exams needed for a New York State Advanced Regents diploma. The student with the higher average here will be valedictorian and the other student will be salutatorian. If two students tie for salutatorian the tie will be broken in the same manner as above. The student with the higher average will be salutatorian and the student with the lower average will be ranked third.

If the honor is refused the next highest ranked student by the above criteria will take his/her place.

Any discrepancies with the above policy will be handed to a panel that consists of the principal, assistant principal, senior class advisor, one guidance counselor and the dean.

WE WISH EVERYONE MUCH ACADEMIC SUCCESS!!

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation is tentatively set for Monday, June 24, 2019 at Colden Auditorium at Queens College.

There will be 4 graduation rehearsals before graduation day. Attendance for all graduation candidates is mandatory. These days are tentative and will be confirmed in September. You must arrange your work schedules on the following days:

Thursday, October 11, 2018--8:30 in the auditorium

Wednesday, March 27, 2019--9am for students, 6pm for parents in the auditorium

Tuesday, June 11, 2019--9:53 in the auditorium

Monday, June 24, 2019--8:30am-12 noon in the auditorium

Students need at least 44 credits to graduate

2 credits for most courses are granted on your June transcript since we are annualized.

<p>8 English--(1 English class each year for 4 years) 8 Social Studies--Global 1 & 2, US History, Government, Economics 6 Math 6 Science 2 Foreign Language (6 to take the Regents) 2 Arts 1 Health .50 x 8 semesters for Physical Education 7 Sequence Courses / Electives</p>	<p>I need to get at least 65+ the following exams: English Math Social Studies Science Plus 1 more exam in math, social studies, or science</p>
<p>If I plan on getting an Advanced Regents Diploma, I need to get 65+ on the following exams: English Integrated Algebra Geometry Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry Global Studies US History Living Environment 1 Additional Science Foreign Language (local exam)</p>	<p>If I plan on getting an Academy Honors designation on my diploma, I need to receive an Advanced Regents Diploma, received a passing community service grade in grades 10-12, and get 65+ in the following classes: Freshman American History Sophomore American History Law Senior Thesis</p>

A student may not participate in the graduation ceremony if s/he has not passed all required New York State sequences and exams.

According to Department of Education policy, all seniors must have a full program of 7 classes.

If you have questions about any of the criteria above, please make an appointment to see a guidance counselor.



Sign up for important updates from Mr. J. Randle.

Get information for **Academy Of American Studies** right on your phone—not on handouts.

Pick a way to receive messages for **11th Grade CLASS OF 2019**:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/aas2019

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @aas2019 to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @aas2019 to (951) 374-1639.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/aas2019 on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.