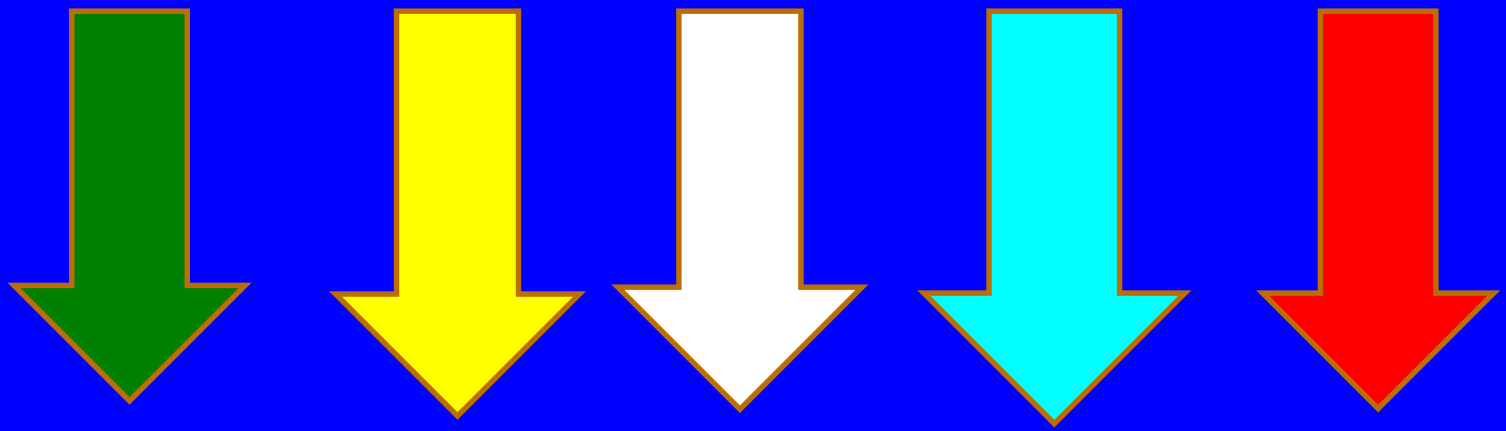
COLLEGE PLANNING

IT IS A PROCESS and NEEDS A PLAN

Where are our graduates now?
KRHS CLASS OF 2017



College
4 yr.- 50%
2 yr.- 38%

Military
4%

Trade School
1%

Employment
5%

Undecided
2%

89 % of our students attend college/trade school

START THINKING ABOUT LONG RANGE PLANS

STUDENTS SHOULD EVALUATE THEIR:

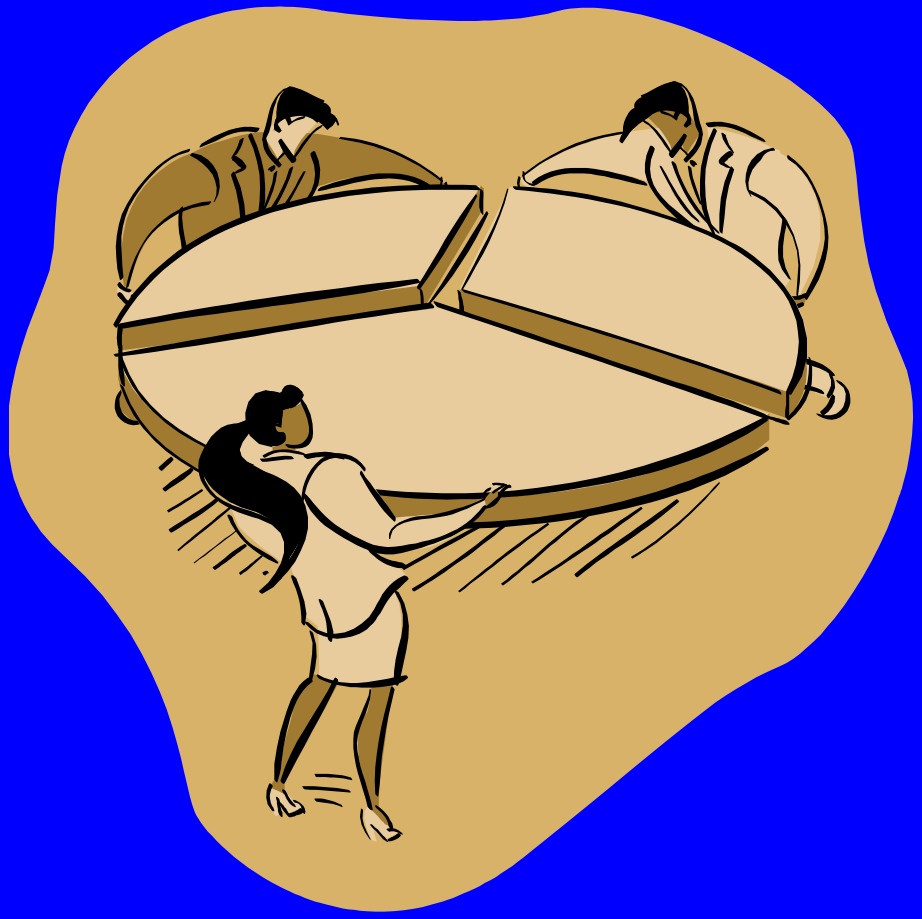
- GOALS
- VALUES
- INTERESTS
- ABILITIES

Match their ideas with a future that is right for them.

CREATE AN INDIVIDUALIZED PLAN OF ACTION WHICH INCLUDES A SCHEDULE FOR ACCOMPLISHING YOUR GOALS

SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Student should…
- Parent should…
- Counselor will…



PARENTS SHOULD:

- Share your ideas and communicate with your child.
- Discuss financial concerns.
- Listen to your child's wants, needs, and dreams.

STUDENTS SHOULD:

- Study and get the best grades they can!
- Talk to their family, friends and guidance counselor about what they would like to do in the future.
- Talk to past Kittatinny graduates or students who are currently attending college.
- Talk to people who are already in a career they are interested in.

PARENTS & STUDENTS SHOULD FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH:

WELCOME TO THE KRHS GUIDANCE WEBPAGE

CollegeBoard

NAVIANCE

The ACT®

RESEARCH, RESEARCH, RESEARCH

- Check out schools on the web.
- Take a virtual tour.
- Also check out these websites:
  - www.collegeboard.com
  - www.princetonreview.com
- Read through your "College Planning Guide"
- Students should attend "Junior Class" college meetings.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK ON….

- Academics
- Geographic Location
- Setting
- Size
- Make up of Student Body
- Admissions Policy
- Safety/Security
- Campus Life
- Athletics
- Special Programs
- Services
- Housing
- And more…

Keep notes on each school for future reference.

CLARIFY YOUR OPTIONS

- College vs. University
- Private vs. Public
- Service Academies
- Technical Institutes
- Career/Trade Schools
- Christian Colleges or Religious Based Institutions
- Two Year Colleges—Sussex County Community

LIST OF COLLEGES

STUDENTS SHOULD:

- Create a list of potential schools that they are interested in.

  As the year goes on, start narrowing down the list.

- By next September, refine the list to include 2-3 “reach” schools, 2-3 schools “on target” schools, and 1-2 “safety” schools.

VISIT, VISIT, VISIT

STUDENTS SHOULD:

- Attend college fairs and Kittatinny College Representative visits days.
- Take a summer course at a college they are interested in.
- Attend college “Open House” days.
- Schedule an appointment with a college admissions office for an official visit.
- Stay over with a friend who attends a school they are interested in.

WHAT COUNTS MOST…

- High School Course Load & Grades
- Class Rank and Grade Point Average
- Test Scores (SAT or ACT)
- **Other Considerations**
  - **Essay or Writing Sample**
  - **High School Resume**
  - **Letters of Recommendation**

ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING (NACAC)

RESUME

STUDENTS SHOULD:

- Create a resume which includes:
  - School and Personal Information
  - School and Community Activities
  - Honors and Awards
  - Work Experience
- Resume is a work in progress on student's P drive.
- Email resume to the guidance secretary to be posted on Naviance account by September of Senior year.
- Student resumes may be sent along with college applications and potential scholarships.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

STUDENTS SHOULD:

- Ask at least **2** academic teachers for letters of recommendation in the **spring**.
- Letters of recommendation from coaches, specialty areas and employers can also be included.
- Provide them with a copy of your resume.
- In addition to the asking verbally, an electronic request must be sent through Naviance.

PREP FOR THE TEST

- STUDENTS SHOULD LOG ON TO collegeboard.com:
  - Review their PSAT scores in December and create a plan for improvement on their Khan Academy account.
  - Utilize Collegeboard to access free SAT practice materials.
  - Sign up for the "Question of the Day."
- Students should also take an SAT prep course and/or practice exams offered throughout the year.

SIGN UP FOR THE COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM

- Counselors will review how to sign up for the SAT/ACT at our January junior group meeting.
- We recommend that juniors that plan on going to a 4 year college take the test at least 1-2 times during the winter/spring of their junior year, and 1-2 times during the fall of their senior year.
- It is the student's responsibility to sign up on-line at www.collegeboard.com or www.actstudent.org. Please ask for help if you need it.
    - Please be aware of deadlines.
    - Fee waivers are available to students receiving free or reduced lunch .

OFFICIAL SAT/ACT SCORES

SAT scores are not listed on the high school transcript.

It is the responsibility of the student to have their scores sent to the colleges that they are interested in.

*Students are provided 4 free scores to send when they sign up.

Cost is approximately $12.00 per score report for the SAT and $13.00 per score report for the ACT.

Go to www.collegeboard.com or www.actstudent.org

SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- Convenient location.
- Reasonable priced.
- Variety of majors and certifications.
- Everyone who applies is accepted. However, you must take a placement exam and may need to take remedial courses.
- SAT/ACT is not required, but it can exempt you from taking the placement exam.
- Check out www.sussex.edu for more information.

NJ STARS PROGRAM

- Get a free education at our local community college by being in the top 15% of your class at the end of your Junior or Senior year.
- Maintain a 3.25 average or higher and be eligible for up to a $2,500 per year NJ STARS II scholarship at any New Jersey public or independent NJ TAG-participating four-year college or university (must make less than $250,000)
- Check out the Higher Education website at www.hesaa.org or call 1-800-792-8670 for more information.

POTENTIAL ATHLETES DIVISION I OR II

STUDENTS SHOULD:

- **See their counselor to make sure they are on track with course requirements for the NCAA Clearinghouse.**
- **Create packets which include a letter of interest, highlight DVD, resume, letter of recommendations from their coach, teachers and counselor, and a high school transcript.**
- **Send packets out over the summer.**
- **Check out www.eligibilitycenter.org for more information on college athletics.**

FINANCIAL AID

IS A

PROCESS

COLLEGE COSTS

Tuition & Fees

Transportation

Housing

Textbooks & Supplies

Meals

Personal Items

CHANGES TO THE FAFSA
(Free Application For Student Aid)

- **The FAFSA will be available for applicants to fill out beginning on Oct. 1st of their senior year.**
- **The FAFSA will request information from applicants' tax returns from 2 years prior.**

FSA ID

- The FSA ID replaced the Federal Student Aid PIN.
- Confirms your identity when you access your financial aid information and electronically signs Federal Student Aid documents.
- Create at fafsa.gov

DEFINITION OF NEED

College Budget (variable)
(Cost of Attendance)

\- EFC (constant)
(Expected Family Contribution)

= NEED (variable)

WHAT IS EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION?

PARENT CONTRIBUTION

(% of Assets & Income from previous year)

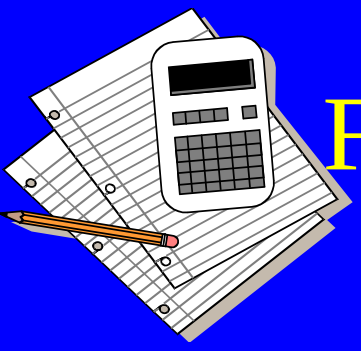
+

STUDENT CONTRIBUTION

(% of Assets & Income from previous year)

=

EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION

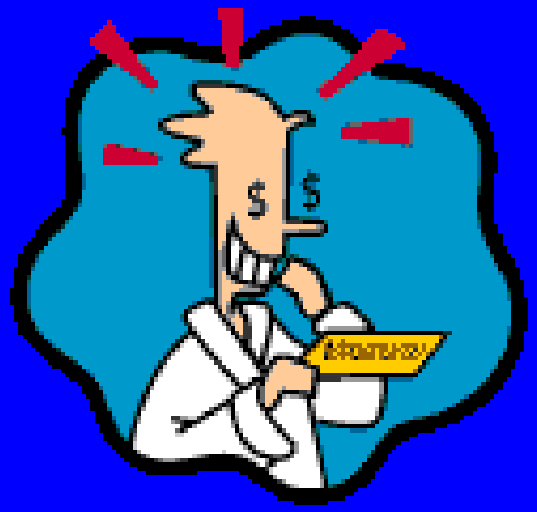


FILE YOUR FINANCIAL AID FORMS

- FAFSA (October 1 or thereafter of your student's Senior year).
- CSS PROFILE (October 1st or thereafter-if required).
- SCCC offers FAFSA help. They will work with you even if your child does not plan on attending SCCC.
- Meet all deadlines.
- Check for other financial aid forms from the specific colleges your child plans on attending.

Role of the Financial Aid Office

- Determines final eligibility for need-based aid
- Puts together a personalized aid package
- Sends an award letter to you which details:
  - Costs
  - Expected Financial Contribution
  - Types of Aid and Amounts
  - Disbursement Procedure
  - Conditions of the Award



Financial Aid Information

- Do not be afraid to reach out to the financial aid offices at SCCC and other colleges/universities.

- Kittatinny will be holding a Financial Aid Night during the September of your student's senior year.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

BEST OF LUCK IN THIS PROCESS!

PLEASE KEEP THE LINES OF COMMUNICATION OPEN.

DO NOT BE AFRAID TO ASK QUESTIONS.