

RISING SENIOR CONNECTION

A brief overview of SCOIR
and how to prepare for the
world of college
applications.

April 27, 2023



WHAT TO EXPECT THIS EVENING ...

Important Things to Know

Junior/ Senior Year Timeline

SCOIR



THINGS TO KNOW: WHAT ARE COLLEGES LOOKING FOR?

The admission process varies from university to university. In general these factors are important when admissions offices consider your application:

- Grades (GPA): weighted vs. unweighted varies by school
- Rigorous course selection based upon what we offer at CHS (Honors and AP)
- Class Rank (May express as a top % of class)
- Extracurricular Involvement and leadership
- Community Service
- Essay responses, if applicable
- Letters of recommendation, if applicable



THINGS TO KNOW: GPA/ CLASS RANK

Unweighted GPA: Uses a 4.0 scale despite the level of rigor.

Weighted GPA: Takes into account the additional quality points for honors and AP level classes.

Many universities look at weighted GPA but some look at unweighted GPA! Check out the college website to find out which one they use.

-Class rank allows admissions counselors to see how your grades compare to others in your grade.

- Weighted GPA is used to determine rank
- Expressed as 1 out of 402. The closer to number 1, the better.



THINGS TO KNOW: TYPICAL PARTS OF AN APPLICATION

There are a few things you will want to make sure you submit with your application:

- **Application**
- **Transcript**
- **ACT / SAT Scores (CHS does not send these and check to see if the college is test optional or not)**

* It is the student's responsibility to follow up with colleges to make sure all components of the application are received. It can take up to 4 weeks for items to post to your student account.



THINGS TO KNOW: POTENTIAL PARTS OF AN APPLICATION

- Letters of Recommendation (if required)
- Personal Statement
- Essays
- Some majors within a university require a separate application, portfolio or audition.
- There may also be a separate application to apply to honors colleges and/or school-specific scholarships.
 - Call or email the admissions office with questions, they are there to help you!



THINGS TO KNOW: HOW TO APPLY

Colleges prefer that you apply online. You can use one of a variety of methods:

- You can access all colleges through SCOIR. CHS will utilize this program for the submission of all school application items.
 - University Website
 - Common Application
 - Coalition
 - You will need to enter your Common App ID in SCOIR so it links your paperwork with your application
 - Remember account rollover: August 1st
 - Since we are a SCOIR school, you will no longer enter recommendation requests via Common App OR Coalition.



THINGS TO KNOW: APPLICATION DEADLINES

Early Decision: Binding decision. If accepted, a student must enroll and withdraw all other applications. Students may apply early decision to one school.

Early Action: Non-binding. A student may apply early to several colleges and will receive a response during January or February.

(Acceptances for ED / EA applicants are more selective)

Regular Decision: Non-binding. A student applies during the regular application timeframe and receives a response in the spring.



WHY APPLY EARLY?

You may have more access to scholarships within the university.

You may have to meet an early deadline for honors college consideration.

You receive an earlier admission response.



THINGS TO KNOW: TRANSCRIPTS

All transcript requests will be sent through SCOIR:

- As soon as you move a college over to the “**applying**” column, it generates a transcript request.
- Do this as soon as you decide you are applying so we can prepare and send your documents.
- Some schools require you to upload your transcript, be sure to research this.
- Please allow 10 business days to process your request (20 business days if your request includes a letter of recommendation).
- There is no charge for transcripts.
- You can track the submission of your transcript via your SCOIR account.
- ***Counselors will not send transcripts prior to the 10th day of the fall semester.***



ADDITIONAL APPLICATION ITEMS

Test Scores

Essays

Recommendations

Brag Sheet



TEST SCORES

Test Scores

- Submission of test scores (ACT and SAT) to each university is the student's responsibility as part of their application.
- For scores to be considered official, they need to be sent directly to the college from College Board (SAT) or ACT.org (ACT).

CHS does not send test scores.



ESSAYS:

Essays allow the admissions counselor to get to know you. Think of the essay as an opportunity to help yourself stand-out; a chance for your application to come to life.

Essays should:

- Be unique to you, genuine.
- Be reflective (How did you grow? How did you change? How did you make a difference?)
- Be creative
- Be specific – it is better to zero in on a specific example than be broad and vague.



THINGS TO KNOW: RECOMMENDATIONS

Requirements vary –

You will request Letters of Recommendation in Scoir only for schools that **require them**. Some schools require that you send 1-3 recommendations, some schools are **optional** and some schools explicitly say **NOT** to send recommendations.

Scoir requires that you have colleges in your “Applying” column before you can request letters of recommendation.

- Please allow ample time **(20 business days)** for teachers and counselors to write recommendations.
- **You must enter your teacher’s and counselor’s name in the “letters of recommendation” section of SCOIR or they will not receive your request.**



THINGS TO KNOW: BRAG SHEET SURVEY

- If you are asking **counselors** to write a recommendation, please be sure to complete the Brag Sheet Survey accessible via SCOIR.
- This information will help us write a more thorough recommendation for you, so elaborate and be specific.
- You must enter your counselor's name in the "letters of recommendation" section of SCOIR or we will not receive the request.
- The Brag Sheet Survey, and the request, must be received at least **20 business days** prior to your first deadline.
- This information can be completed prior to the start of your Senior year. Use your time now or over the summer to complete this.



JUNIOR/SENIOR YEAR TIMELINE

Things you can do now to mark items
off your to-do list



THE SPRING OF YOUR JUNIOR YEAR

- Keep your grades up.
- Research five to seven colleges that interest you and add them to your “following” list in SCOIR.
- Visit colleges and create a list of questions to ask on campus visits.
 - Be sure to ask for documentation from the college that you visited for attendance purposes. Submit to Ms. Miller within 3 days of your return.
- Start or update an academic resume, update your profile and activities/achievements in SCOIR.
- Maintain good relationships with your counselor and teachers, they will be writing your recommendations.
- Register for the SAT and ACT (Juniors took the ACT in March at CHS.)
- If you plan to participate in athletics in college, you will need register through the NCAA Clearinghouse and provide transcript.



THE SUMMER BEFORE YOUR SENIOR YEAR

- Continue to make college visits during the summer before your Senior year.
- Narrow down school choices to your top five and enter them into SCOIR. Be sure to adjust your application deadlines as well for ED, EA or RD. We prioritize the submission of college application items based upon the deadline listed in SCOIR.
 - Your list may include dream schools, competitive schools, and fall back schools.
- Finalize your resume, can be done in SCOIR.
- Begin or complete your Brag Sheet Survey.
- Complete your Common App, or school-specific, essays.
 - * Remember account rollover begins August 1st.



THE FALL OF YOUR SENIOR YEAR

- If you wish to test again, sign-up for and take the SAT / ACT.
- Be sure to record all application login information.
- Ask for recommendations from teachers, school counselors, or employers 20 business days prior to your first deadline (if needed).
- Visit with admissions counselors who come to your high school. Visits are posted in SCOIR.
- Confirm, with colleges of interest receipt, of all application materials.
- Find out if you qualify for scholarships at each college to which you have applied.
- Search SCOIR and the CHS website for current scholarship opportunities.
- Start the financial aid application process –you can complete your FAFSA in **October** of Senior year.



THE SPRING OF YOUR SENIOR YEAR

- Watch the mail for your Student Aid Report (SAR) after the FAFSA is filed and compare financial packages.
- Continue to look for scholarship opportunities.
- Keep track of important financial aid and scholarship deadlines.
- Decide which college to attend, and notify the school of your decision.
- Update admission decisions in SCOIR and indicate the school you will attend.
- Notify schools you will *not attend* of your decision.
- Keep track of and observe deadlines for sending in all required fees and paperwork.
- Send thank-you notes to individuals who completed letters of recommendation on your behalf as well as those who awarded scholarships.
- Drop off copies of acceptances and scholarship notifications to Guidance...even the ones you do not plan to accept.



SCOIR

A general overview






SCOIR

- One-stop shop for all things college and career related.
- Students can search, request letters of recommendations for colleges, search scholarships, create a resume and register for college visits held at CHS directly through this program.
- Students can also complete career interest inventories to determine majors/careers of interest.
- Senior survey will be completed and final transcripts will be sent through SCOIR.
- Instructional slides are posted on the CHS website.



UPDATE YOUR PROFILE/INVITE PARENTS






 College Search My Colleges **My Profile** 





UCPS Demo

Personal Details
Academic Overview
Personal Bio
Activities & Achievements
College Preferences



Personal Details



UCPS Demo 
 400 N. Church St
Monroe, NC 28110
 —
 (123) 555 - 5555
 Apr 1, 2002


Sex: Not specified
Race: Not specified
Ethnicity: Not Specified
Citizenship: Not specified

 demostudentucps@gmail.com
(Primary)
[+ Add Alternate Email](#) 

Parents

John Doe  

Jane Doe  

Sarah May 


[+ Invite a Parent](#)

I will be a first-generation college student.
☐ Yes
☐ No


You are a first-generation student if neither parent or guardian has received a 4-year college degree.

FERP:
[Release](#)
[Signed I](#)
[Waive](#)
[Signed I](#)







Appli
Commr
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UPDATING PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS



College SearchMy CollegesMy Profile





UCPS Demo

Personal Details

Academic Overview

Personal Bio

Activities & Achievements

College Preferences

Work Experience

Chick-Fil-A Employee

Junior, Senior
10 hours/week, 52 weeks/year

Athletics

Varsity Soccer Player

Freshman, Sophomore

Community Service

Habitat For Humanity

Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Clubs and Activities

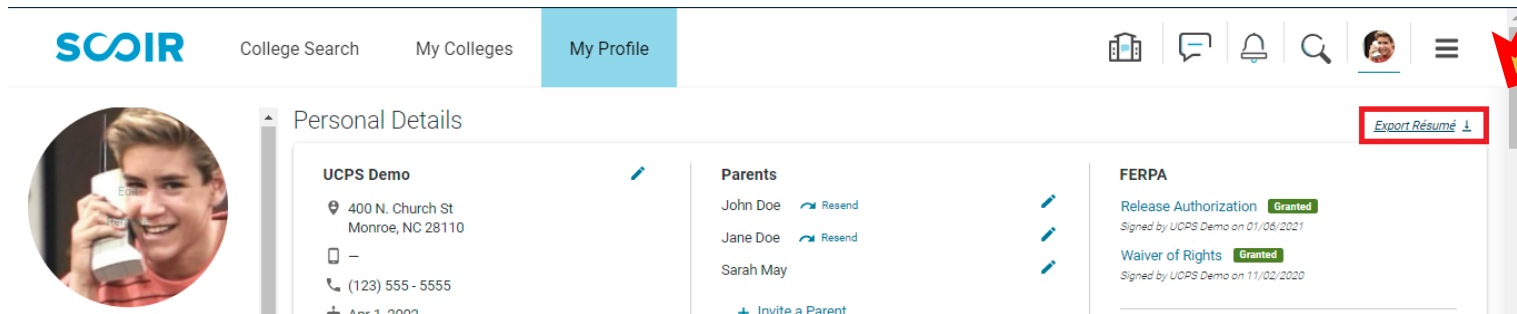
Use the pencils on the right to update your information.

You can add Work Experience, Athletics, Community Service, and Clubs & Activities.



DOWNLOAD A RESUME

Once you have populated your Activities & Achievements, you can download a copy of your resume.



The screenshot shows the 'My Profile' page on the SCOIR website. The navigation bar includes 'College Search', 'My Colleges', and 'My Profile' (which is highlighted). On the right side of the navigation bar, there are icons for a calendar, messages, notifications, search, and a user profile. A red arrow points to the 'Export Résumé' button, which is located in the top right corner of the profile section. The profile section itself is titled 'Personal Details' and contains three main areas: 'UCPS Demo' (with address, phone, and email), 'Parents' (with names and 'Resend' buttons), and 'FERPA' (with 'Release Authorization' and 'Waiver of Rights' both marked as 'Granted').

Remember to keep your Activities & Achievements updated so you can always download the most recent copy of your resume.

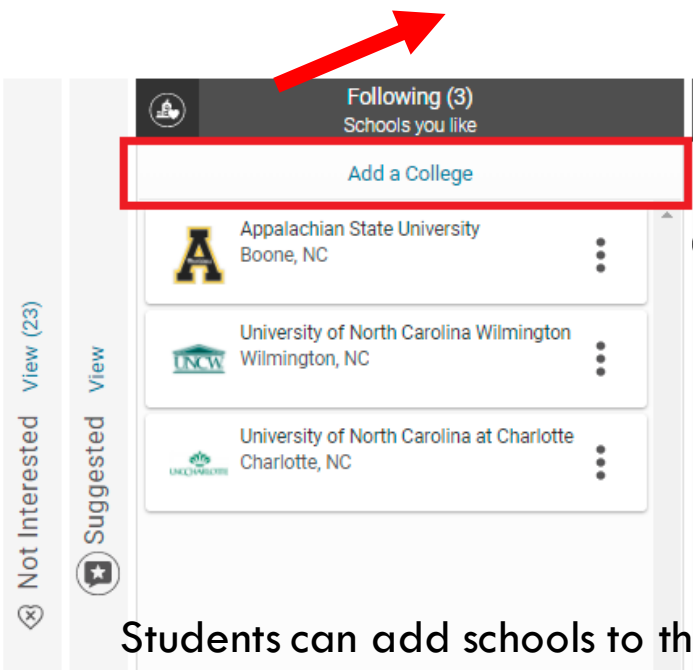


FOLLOW COLLEGES (OF INTEREST)

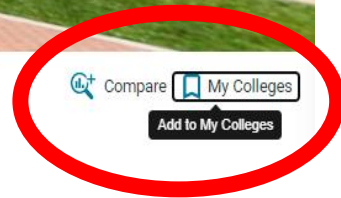
SOIR

College Search

My Colleges



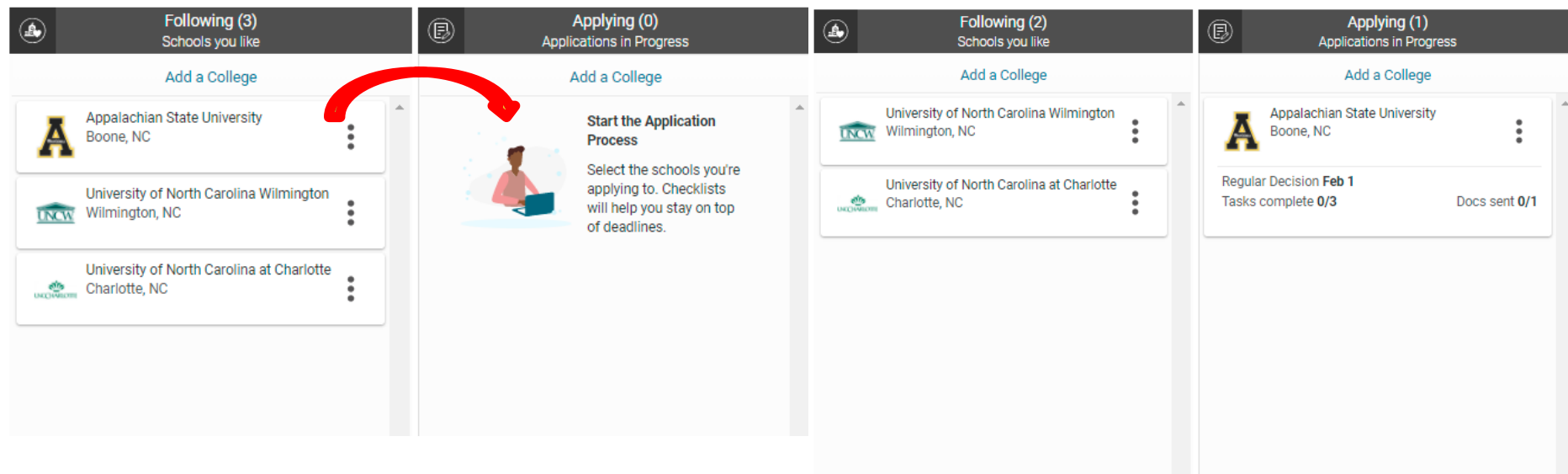
My Profile



Students can add schools to the “Following” category from the “My Colleges” page or by selecting the “Add to My College” icon when exploring different colleges.



WHEN YOU'VE DECIDED TO APPLY



When you move a college from “Following” to “Applying” this will notify your counselor of the documents that need to be sent to that particular college (if required).

Be sure to do this at least **10 business days prior to your first deadline, 20 business days if your request includes a letter of recommendation.**



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION LINKS

Students will be sent home with an informational packet Wednesday and they will have a recording of this presentation on their homeroom page.

Please visit the Counseling page of the CHS website for additional SCOR information links!

Follow us on Instagram:
Cavs_Counselor_Connect



UPCOMING SENIOR CONNECTIONS

Senior Connection and College Applications

FAFSA Night

College Panel Night

Senior College Labs



Counselor's Caseloads:

A-Cro	Ms. Brown
Cru-Hi	Ms. Preddy
Ho-Mc	Ms. Mills
Me-Sb	Mr. Ward
Sc-Z	Ms. Plank

QUESTIONS?

