



Girard College & Career Counseling Department

Tammi Schulman, College & Career Counselor

College Success Road Map

Class of 2021

August & September 2020

- Meet with Ms. Schulman, College & Career Counselor, for individual post-secondary coaching and advising sessions (www.collegeresults.org)
- Attend the SAT School Day (1) at Girard College – September 23, 2020 (www.collegeboard.org)
- Register with Scoir (www.scoir.com) the college admissions network
- Attend a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) parent & student workshop, led by Ms. Schulman (www.studentaid.gov), (<https://fsaid.ed.gov>)
- Participate in Virtual College Admissions Information Sessions and Tours (<https://virtualcollegefairs.org>)
- Complete and submit (ongoing), with the help of Ms. Schulman, a minimum of 10 Scholarship applications (www.careeronestop.org)
- Encourage seniors to request letters of recommendations in a thoughtful and timely manner (2 core subject – math, science, social studies, English) teachers from junior year
- Complete the required college essay/personal statement to submit with your college applications (submit a rough draft to your English teacher and a final draft to Ms. Schulman)
- Ms. Schulman will ensure student credits and courses are aligned for graduation
- Ms. Schulman will ensure students meet minimum college course requirements for most colleges and universities with NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling) (www.nacacnet.org)

October

- Meet with the College & Career Counselor to review college options (www.collegeresults.org)
- Actively work on completing a maximum of 10 Early Action (EA), Early Decision (ED), Rolling Decision and Regular Decision college applications with the College & Career Counselor
- Attend the SAT School Day (2) at Girard – October 14th (www.collegeboard.org)

- Apply to college with College & Career Counselor through the common application, if applicable, (www.commonapp.org) or directly with the college/university exclusive application
- Participate in Virtual College Tours www.youvisit.com
- Attend a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (<https://fafsa.gov>) student/parent completion workshop
- Meet with the College & Career Counselor to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (www.fafsa.gov) - application opens October 1st and available through May 1st, 2021
- Meet with the College & Career Counselor to complete the CSS profile (if applicable) (cssprofile.collegeboard.org)
- Complete and submit (ongoing) a minimum of 10 scholarship applications (www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

November

- Meet with College & Career Counselor – review college options www.scoir.com and www.collegeresults.org
- Continue to complete and submit (maximum of 10) Early Action (EA), Early Decision (ED), Regular Decision (RD) and Rolling Admissions college applications
- Apply to college with the College & Career Counselor through the common application (www.commonapp.org), if applicable, or directly with the college/university exclusive application.
- Meet with College & Career Counselor to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (www.fafsa.gov) - application opens October 1st and available through May 1st, 2021.
- Meet with College & Career Counselor to complete the CSS profile (if applicable) (cssprofile.collegeboard.org)
- Complete and submit (ongoing) a minimum of 10 scholarship applications (<https://www.aie.org/scholarships/>)

December

- **Complete and submit college applications deadline. The College & Career Counselor will ensure 100% of student college applications are submitted by December 15th**
- **Complete and submit Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Ms. Schulman will ensure 100% of student and parent FAFSA's are submitted by December 15th.**

January 2021

- Complete and submit (ongoing) a minimum of 10 scholarship applications (www.uncf.org) (www.philafound.org)
- Request mid-year grade report cards from Ms. Schulman to send to colleges pending decisions.

February & March

- Meet with Ms. Schulman to discuss college options and next steps.
- Revisit college campuses and speak with college admissions representatives (where admitted) to make a college selection for **May 1st deadline**
- Review financial aid award packages with Ms. Schulman
- Complete and submit (ongoing) a minimum of 10 scholarship applications (www.myscholly.com)
- Participate in College Transition, Navigation and Persistence, part 1 workshop with students and families led by Ms. Schulman

April

- Review and compare college acceptances with Ms. Schulman
- Review and compare financial aid award packages for respective colleges and universities with Ms. Schulman
- Complete and submit (ongoing) a minimum of 10 scholarship applications (www.studentaid.gov/scholarships)
- Prepare and submit, with the assistance Ms. Schulman, financial aid award appeal letter(s)
- Request extensions for College/University deposits
- Apply for the Girard College Scholarship

May

- Participate in **College Decision Day May 1st**; choose the college/university you will attend and make a deposit to secure your spot for the fall.
- Prepare and submit, with Ms. Schulman, financial aid award appeal letter(s)
- Review financial aid award packages and meet with the Ms. Schulman to solidify college decisions
- Complete financial aid verification, if selected, with Ms. Schulman
- Create student portal account for respective college or university.
- Ms. Schulman will ensure students are positioned for graduation and fall enrollment
- Complete and submit (ongoing) a minimum of 10 scholarship applications (StudentAid.gov/scholarships)
- Participate in College Transition, Navigation and Persistence, part 2 workshop with students and families led by Ms. Schulman

June

- Complete financial aid verification, if selected
- Complete entrance counseling and sign Master Promissory Note (MPN) for student loans
- Ensure students participate in new student orientation, take placement tests, and meet with College Counselor to register for courses
- Arrange payment plan with college or university for remaining need or net cost.
- Ensure outside scholarships do not offset institutional aid for students at their respective colleges
- Submit financial aid appeals with Ms. Schulman

- Request final high school transcript be sent to respective college or university attending, sent by Ms. Schulman
- Complete the senior exit survey questionnaire provided by the College & Career Counseling Department

July & August

- Speak with various offices on the college campus to confirm everything is in order
- Attend new student orientation and take placement test if need be.
- Create a summer checklist in preparation for transitioning to college
- Complete entrance counseling and sign Master Promissory Note (MPN) for student loans
- Ensure students participate in new student orientation, take placement tests, and meet with College Counselor to register for courses
- Arrange payment plan with college or university for remaining need/net cost.
- Ensure, with help of Ms. Schulman, outside scholarships do not offset institutional aid for students at their respective colleges
- Organize and plan for college move in day.