

# Class of 2025

Senior Year, Graduation & Beyond



# **Senior Year**

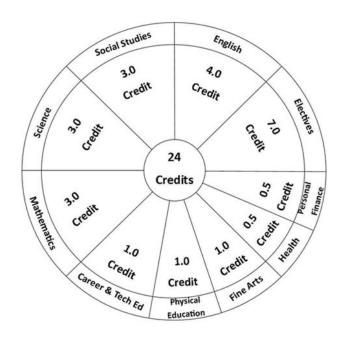
- Be engaged
  - Participate in class and our community
  - Keep up with emails and announcements
- Stay focused on the end goal
  - What do you still need to conquer to earn your diploma?
- Prepare for your future
  - Are your classes and grades setting you up for a successful future?





# **Graduation - Credit Requirements**

- 17 specific + 7 "free choice" = 24
  - 4 credits of English
  - o 3 credits of math
  - 3 credits of science
    - 1 must be Biology; 1 recommended physical science
  - 3 credits of social studies
    - 1 must be US history; 1 must be World history; 0.5 must be Government
  - o 0.5 Health
  - 0.5 Personal Finance
  - o 1.0 PE
  - 1.0 Fine Art (visual or performing art)
  - 1.0 CTE (Business, Marketing, FACS, Tech/Engineering)
  - o 7.0 elective or above and beyond credits
  - 24 total credits earned



# **Graduation - Assessment Requirements**

- Pass MO Constitution test
  - Taken in Government class
- Pass US Constitution test
  - Taken in Government class

- Pass American Civics test
  - Check your <u>EMAIL</u> for link to start
    - 104 seniors have "Not Started"
    - 20 seniors are "In Progress". Must pass all 5 sections.
  - Take as many times as needed to pass!

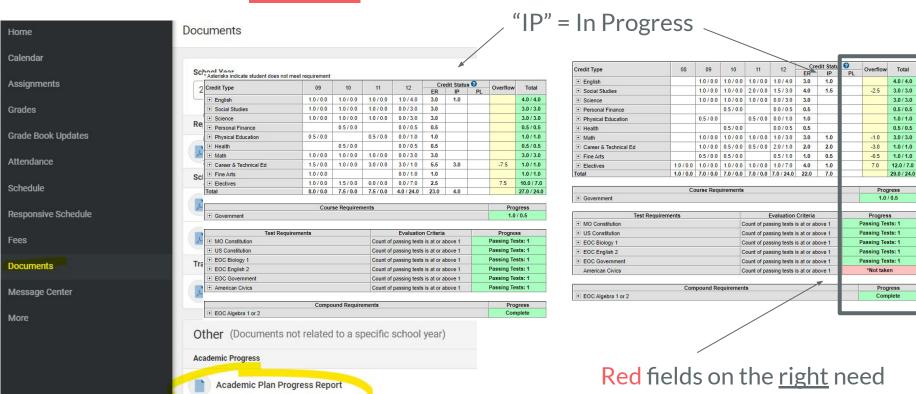
- Complete EOCs in:
  - Alg 1 or 2
  - Biology
  - o English 2
  - Government



39% •

If you can't find the email, reach out to me or your counselor for the link.

# **Graduation - Check Your Status in IC**



your attention!

# Life after PCH

What is your plan?

### PCH Matriculation:

- O 4 year College (75%)
  In-state = 62%
  Out-of-state/country = 38%
  Private colleges = 25%
  Public colleges = 75%
- 2 year College (16%)
- Employment or Training Programs (4%)
- O Gap Year (3%)
- O Military (2%)

# **Alternative Paths**

A few examples of alternative options PCH students have explored in the past:

Apprenticeship.gov

Job Corps

St. Louis Carpenters Union

**Electrician Apprenticeships** 

**Careers in Construction** 

ICATT Apprenticeship Program

<u>Police Dispatcher</u> - Ballwin (no previous experience required!)

IHM Academy of EMS Paramedic Program

**Total Access EMT Training** 

St. Louis County Fire Academy

Missouri Department of Corrections

Paul Mitchell the School (Cosmetology)

STLCC Accelerated Job Training Programs (includes personal training, Boeing pre-employment, coding, and more!)

Nativ - Gap Year Program in Israel

**Gap Year Solutions** 

<u>TeenLife</u> - Gap Year Programs

Military Enlistment - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard



# A+ Program





### Scholarship

- Up to 6 semesters of tuition at any <u>MO Comm Coll or Public Tech School</u>
- May use this coming summer at STLCC for **2** free classes!
- Some smaller offers to a few MO 4 yr universities (Truman, MO State both have \$500 scholarships)

### Requirements

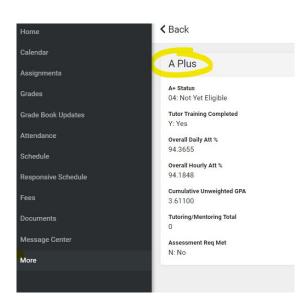
- US citizen or permanent resident (need SSN)
- Attend an A+ school for at least 2 years
- Cumulative unweighted GPA of 2.5
- 95% attendance
- 50 hours tutoring (may include up to 25 Comm Serv)
- Show math proficiency on Alg 1 or Alg 2 EOC or math section of ACT/PreACT
- Behavior/Citizenship (no major suspensions)

### Enroll Now

o Complete the <u>Tutor Training</u> & <u>Participation Agreement</u>

### Check Your Status

In <u>Infinite Campus</u> click on "<u>More</u>" and then "<u>A Plus</u>".



# Reps with Scheduled Visits to PCH in <u>September</u>

Missouri Western State University Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville Kansas State University Murray State Principia College Missouri S&T **Grand Canyon University** Wake Forest University University of Arkansas Savannah College of Art and Design Lake Forest College American University Indiana University-Bloomington University of Southern California The University of Alabama University of Mississippi

Case Western Reserve University **Drury University** University of Memphis University of Iowa **Truman State University** Missouri State University University of Kansas Southeast Missouri (SEMO) Illinois College Washington University in St Louis University of Missouri-Kansas City University of Tulsa **Denison University** Purdue University-Main Campus Lafayette College

# Register in SchooLinks (under EVENTS) & Grab a Pass from Counseling





### COUNSELING

Home

School Profile

Mental Health & Wellness

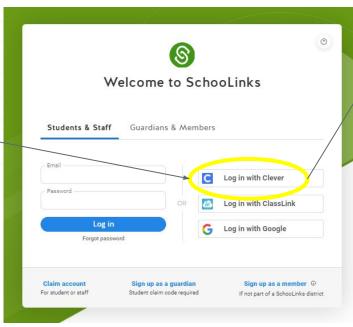
SchooLinks

Now Student Registration

Transcripts

A+ Program

Preparing for College Admissions



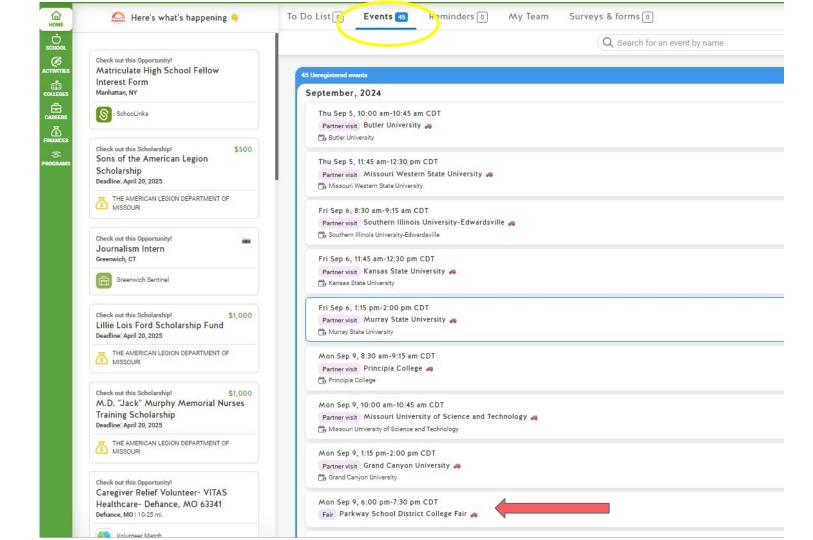
# Log in

### Search for your school

Parkway Central High

Central High School
Parkway School District, MO





# Parkway/Rockwood College Fair

Date: Monday, September 9, 2024

Time: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

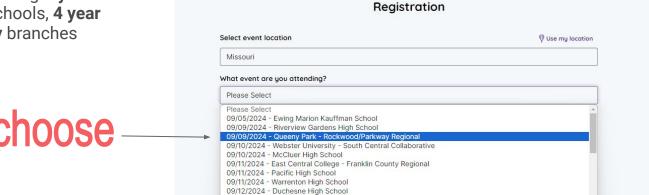
Location: Queeny Park - Greensfelder Recreation

Complex

Participants: **100+** tables representing **2 year** community colleges, **technical** schools, **4 year** colleges/universities and **military** branches

Register at StriveScan:





# **College Applications**

### Application season is **NOW**!

- 1. Finalize your college list by mid September (if possible)
  - a. Ensure all schools are in Schoolinks (Colleges  $\rightarrow$  College Applications)
    - Match Common App account to SchooLinks and/or manually add schools
  - b. Do you have a range of selectivity?
    - A safety school isn't a backup if you don't want to go there!
- 2. Make a calendar of your deadlines (some as early as 10/15)
- 3. Create a checklist of what you will need for each school to apply
  - a. Application (!), transcript (?), test scores (?), rec letters (?), essays (?), application fee (?)
    - i. If you need a **counselor** recommendation, you need to have a conversation with Mrs. Prange, Dr. Flagg, Ms. Lange, Mr. Hussmann or Mrs. Greenwood.
    - ii. If you need a **teacher** recommendation, you need to have a conversation with that teacher.

# Should You Use "Common App" or Avoid It?

### Things to consider...

- If you are applying to 4+ schools and they are all on Common App, that might make the most sense.
- Some schools are Common App exclusive, so it's the only option!
- Use institutional applications if only applying to 1-3 schools.
- Most institutional applications take around 15 minutes to complete.
- Some schools do not accept the Common App. (UC schools, Georgetown, community colleges/technical schools)
- If you are applying to Mizzou <u>without</u> test scores, an essay and resume are required for either application. If you are applying to Mizzou <u>with</u> test scores, the Mizzou application doesn't require the essay or resume, but the Common App still would.

# **Submitting Applications**

- As soon as your application is complete and accurate, feel free to submit!
- Do not wait until the actual deadline date (ie, Nov 1) to submit - give yourself cushion!
- For Common App, you still submit to one institution at a time. You don't have to have everything finished for every school at once!
- When you submit, that is when you pay the application fee. Fee waivers available for those who are eligible for free/reduced lunch.
- Your transcript and any required forms/ recommendation letters do not have to be submitted for you to submit your application.

# **Test Optional vs Sending Test Scores**

### Things to consider...

- You can decide for each institution.
- Do your scores fall in the average range of admitted students for that school?
  - If you have a 26 and the average score is 33-34 (ie Wash U), then test optional would be best.
- Have you reviewed the automatic scholarship information for that school?

  Non-Residents

SCHOLARSHIP	TYPE	TRADITIONAL CRITERIA (UNWEIGHTED GPA)	TEST OPTIONAL CRITERIA (UNWEIGHTED GPA)	ANNUAL AMOUNT
Bluegrass Spirit	Academic	-	3.00	\$5,000
		3.00 & 25 ACT/1200 SAT	3.50	\$8,000
		3.50 & 25 ACT/1200 SAT	3.60	\$10,000
		3.50 & 30 ACT/1360 SAT	3.80	\$12,500

If I have: GPA = 3.18 ACT = 19 Send scores or not?

# **Sending Test Scores to Colleges**

- Review the <u>college's admissions website</u> for application requirements
  - Self-report
    - FREE; simply type in application or upload copy of your score report
    - Might require their <u>own</u> form (SRAR) ex: FLORIDA schools!
  - Include with high school transcript
    - FREE; contact Mrs. Prange to see if she can upload directly to the school
  - Send directly from testing agency
    - \$19 per request for ACT; \$14 for SAT
    - Can take time to deliver, so order well in advance
    - Often only needed once you have been admitted and have chosen to attend
- Note: you do not send AP scores until May/June!



# Sending Transcripts & Rec Letters

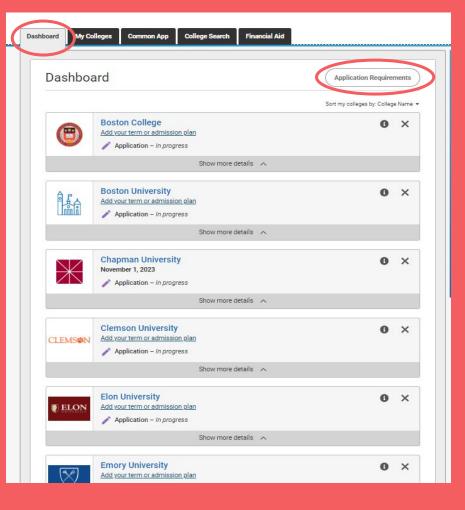
- Most colleges require you send an <u>official</u> transcript during the application process.
  - Some ask you to upload a copy of your transcript or self-report all of your high school courses and grades through the application or through a SSAR/SRAR (Self-Reported Academic Record) portal.
- Some colleges require recommendation letters from teachers and/or a counselor. Some
  will not accept letters at all. <u>Know what you need</u> and <u>don't over invite</u>! All letters are
  CONFIDENTIAL so you should never see or access them.
- Adding your application to SchooLinks automatically requests your <u>transcript</u>. You
  manually request <u>teacher recs</u> in SchooLinks. Always have a *conversation* with the teacher
  before inviting them in the portal! Explain where you are applying, their recommendation
  letter requirements and your earliest deadline. (Counselor info on next slide)
- Provide recommenders with gentle reminders as deadlines approach and be sure to THANK them once they have submitted.

# **Common App Forms**

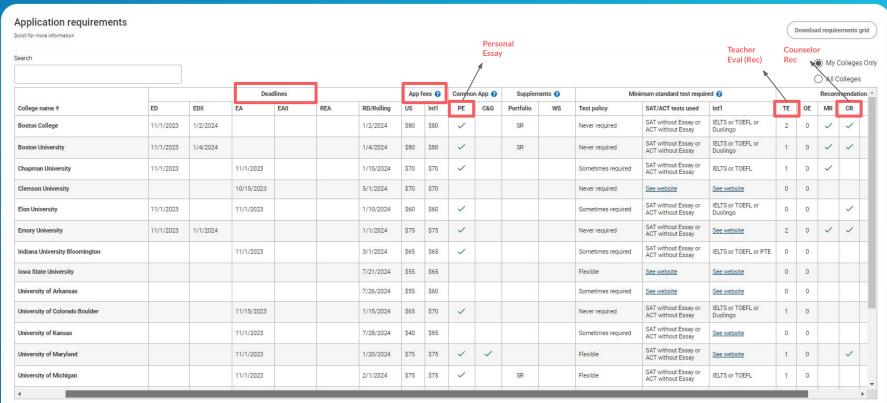
- Secondary School Report (Required)
  - Completed by Mrs. Prange and sent with your transcript.
- Senior Schedule (Required)
  - Must be uploaded and sent with your transcript, so if something doesn't look right for second semester, you'll want to get it fixed <u>now</u> before Mrs. Prange submits.
- Counselor Recommendation (Varies by School)
  - Some (not all) schools require this.
  - You can request this to be done by Mrs. Prange, Dr. Flagg, Ms. Lange, Mr. Hussmann or Mrs.
     Greenwood. (NO ONE WILL DO IT UNTIL YOU ASK!)
  - O Discuss if you need/want a full letter of recommendation to be attached.
    - A full letter request requires at least 3 weeks notice before a deadline and might require you to complete a survey for the counselor.
- Early Decision Contract (Optional)
  - If you are applying Early Decision to a school, the contract must be signed by the counselor after consulting with a parent/guardian. Discuss in advance to allow for that communication to happen. (NO ONE WILL DO IT UNTIL YOU ASK!)

# Teacher/ Counselor Rec Requirements?

Requirement Grid in Common App







# **Timeline**

- You should talk with a counselor and teacher(s) to complete any <u>required</u>
   <u>recommendations</u> at least <u>3 weeks</u> prior to your earliest deadline.
- Allow for at least 3 school days to process any requests. Be especially aware as deadlines approach!
  - Ex: Nov 1 is a Wednesday, so that means recommendation requests need to be in no later than
     October 10 and transcript requests in no later than October 28.
- Once again...you can submit your application before your supporting documents are sent.
- Nearly all submissions deliver electronically/instantly.

# PCH Counseling

**Senior Class** 

DENTS ATHLETICS LIBRARY

COUNSELING

FAMILIES STAFF DIRECTORY

CALENDAR

### COUNSELING

Home

### School Profile Mental Health & Wellness Resources SchooLinks New Student Registration Transcripts A+ Program Preparing for College Admissions Exploring Options Other Than College Testing (ACT, PSAT, AP) Volunteer & Enrichment Opportunities Senior Class Junior Class

Sophomore Class

Freshman Class

### **SENIORS**

### Resources for Seniors

### GRADUATION

Confirm you are on track with your graduation requirements. Use the Academic Plan Progress Report in Infinite Campus to view the status of your credits and required assessments (EOC exams, MO & US Constitution, Civics). Connect with your comprehensive counselor if you have any questions or concerns.

### COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

- · Seniors may begin submitting applications as soon as they become available (most launch on August 1).
- Most colleges offer their own school-specific application and/or are members of the Common Application. Students may choose whichever application is best for them, but should never submit more than one application to each school.
- Use SchooLinks (log in with <u>Clever</u>) to track applications and request supporting documents (transcripts, recommendation letters and forms)
  - Instructional Handout: SchooLinks College Applications
- Resources to help with the Common Application (\*only needed if you use the Common App to apply to colleges!)
  - O Top Tips for Common App
  - Common Application 2024–25
- Need Essay Help? Check out these sites:
  - Free Essay Editing Services
  - Free 4-Day Essay Writing Course
  - o College Essay Guy Resource Hub

Application Fee Waivers: If you have financial barriers and need assistance with application fees, waivers might be available for students who qualify for meal benefits. To see if you are eligible, fill out the district



### **Applying**

Information you will need when filling out the application.

	Education Section
Class Size	323
Class Rank Reporting	None
GPA Scale	4.0
Cumulative GPA	Enter directly from your transcript
GPA Weighting	Mark " <b>Weighted</b> " if you have ever taken any honors or AP classes. Otherwise, mark "Unweighted."

# Entering Resume Items (What you are balancing on your plate?) List up to 10 activities you are involved with outside of the classroom (in the order of their importance to you). Be sure to include commitments you have outside of PCH (employment, community/family), as well. List up to 5 honors related to academic achievements. This could include things like membership in honor societies or success in academic competitions (ie math, Speech/Debate, FBLA/DECA).

### Applying

Information you will need when filling out the application.

Cou	urses & Grades Section				
Grading Scale	A-F				
Schedule	Semesters				
Semester Grades	List as indicated on your transcript (including the +/-'s) in the semester they were earned. All "H" grades should be reported as "A+".  **The Find Semester grade column should be left blank!				
Semester Credits	List all credits earned as 0.5 in the semester they were earned.				

### Courses & Grades Example

×			Courses	& Grad	es							
Transcript #1 - Parkway Cent	ral High School											
School Name *			School Year *				Grading St	cale *			Schedule *	
Parkway Central High School	al	•	2021-22			*	A-F			*	Semesters	*
Subject *	Course Name *	Course Level *		Semest S1	er Grad	es *	Final	Semest S1	er Credits	Final	N/A	
English	+Honors English 1	Honors	*	В-	A-	٠	•	0.5	0.5			
Geometry	+Geometry	Honors	*	Α '	A+	٠	•	0.5	0.5		□ 0	
Physical Education/Hea *	Phys Fitness Concepts	Regular/Sta	ndard •	Α .		•	•	0.5			□ o	
Other/Elective *	Intro to Business	Regular/Sta	ndard *		Α-		•		0.5		□ 0	

### SchooLinks - College Applications

(Adding applications and requesting transcripts, recommendation letters and other supporting documents)

Step One: Log into SchooLinks using Clever

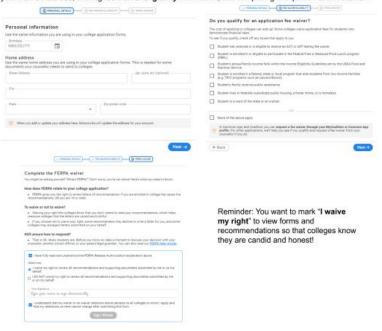


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### Step Two: Go to Colleges > College Applications



The first time you visit this section, you must complete a brief "set up" by verifying your **Date of Birth**, entering your **Home Address**, sharing **fee waiver eligibility** information, and completing a required **FERPA Waiver**.



Step Three: Add applications by either linking to your Common Application OR adding manually if using school-specific applications.

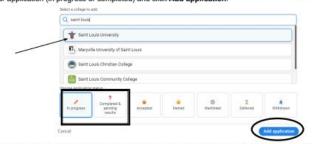
Option one: Linking to Common Application - click Connect, log in to your Common App account, and give permission to connect to School links. \*Do the manual refresh if it is not updating!



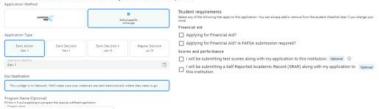
Option two: School-specific applications (ex. college website, Common Black College App, Coalition, Apply Texas, etc.) - click "+Add Application"



Type out the full name of the college (ensuring that you <u>choose the correct campus</u>, then mark the status of your application (in progress or completed) and click **Add application**.



Select how you are applying (school-specific application) & choose your intended deadline. Remember that Early Action does not require you to attend if admitted, but Early Decision includes a binding contract that you, a parent, and a counselor must sign. You are encouraged to check priority scholarship deadlines for each school to guide your decision. If you are applying to a specific program that requires a separate application (ex: BA/MD program), you may list that in the "Program Name" field. You may also list if you plan to apply for financial aid and whether or not you intend to send test scores to this school. These fields are optional and are used to create a checklist of items you need to complete.



After saving the application, you will see a checklist of items based on the requirements of the college and your responses to fields regarding financial aid and test scores. Notice the 3 separate columns for "Student checklist," "Teacher Recommendations," and "Counselor Documents". You may add requirements and mark items as complete in your student checklist.



### \*NOTE: Adding the application to SchooLinks automatically requests your transcript!

If you need <a href="test-scores">test scores</a>, many schools will require that your order scores directly from the testing agency, but some will accept self-reported scores or scores with your high school transcript. Contact Mrs. Prange directly if you need test scores sent from Central High.

### TEACHER & COUNSELOR FORMS/RECOMMENDATIONS

### Parkway Teacher Recommendation(s)

If teacher recommendations are required or optional for the college, you will invite and assign your teachers in SchooLinks. If required, click "+Add Recommender". Colleges typically prefer using core teachers from junior/senior year for required recommendation. If optional, click "+Request Teacher Recommendation". Do not request in SchooLinks until <u>after</u> the teacher has agreed to write for you! Provide at least 3 weeks advance notice before your earliest deadline. Monitor their completion status and provide friendly reminders as deadlines approach.

Add Recommender	Required ()
Instructions from college: We require you to submit one is a member, if you can added in a billing such as a member, if you choose, you can also submit a billing such as a member, if you choose, you can also submit a billing such as a mempioyer, coach, research member, or indicate the engineering or encouraged to obtain a fetter of the control of th	i a teacher, school counselor, or faculty riof recommendation from an additional nmunity leader, or clergy. Students with an firecommendation from a math or science
1 Required • 1 Optional	
Remember to update your student profile and communica as a recommender on SchooLinks.	ne with your teachers before adding them

If you would like to invite a teacher who has retired or works outside of Parkway (ex STLCC), you will need their first name, last name and current email address. In the teacher search field type "other" and then click the link "Add them manually."



### Counselor Recommendation

You do not have access to request a counselor document in SchooLinks, so you must have a conversation with Mrs. Prange or your comprehensive counselor to request a <u>counselor recommendation</u> and/or <u>form completion</u> (le Early Decision contract). The chosen counselor will let you know what they need from you to fulfill your requests. Provide at least 3 weeks advance notice before your earliest deadline.

### Common App "Other Recommenders"

If you would like a person outside of Parkway (employer, youth group leader, research partner, etc) to serve as a recommender for the Common Application, you must invite them directly in Common App.

 In your Common App, go to the "Recommenders and FERPA section" of a school in the "My Colleges" tab.



Ensure you have completed the FERPA Release Authorization (you want to waive your rights to review recommendations and supporting documents).

✓ FERPA	Release Authorization
View Details	^
	norized the release of all requested records. You have also waived your right acommendations and supporting documents.
View Rele	see Authorization

Scroll down to "Other Recommenders" to see if that school will accept additional
recommendations. If so, click "Invite Other Recommender" and enter the contact information for
your recommender.

A christis	commender
submitted to	and assign the Other Recommender(s) below whose recommendation(s) will be this college on your behalf. You must invite an Other Recommender using the 'Invite mender' link before you can assign them for this college.
Recommende	r types accepted by this college:
Arts Teach	ner .
· Clergy	
· Coach	
. College A	coess Counselor
<ul> <li>Employer</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Other</li> </ul>	

4. After sending the initial invitation, you may then assign that recommender to additional schools.

# FAFSA & CSS Profile



### **FAFSA**

<u>Free Application for Federal Student Aid</u>

Financial aid (need-based grants) for college coming from the federal government, Missouri, or the college.

Includes student loan eligibility.

Must be US citizen or permanent resident to apply.

**Aug-Nov:** you and a parent should create your username/password, called the **FSA ID**.

Dec: application opens; submit as soon as possible.

### **CSS PROFILE**

Non-federal financial aid provided by individual colleges.

You only need to complete a CSS profile if you are applying to colleges and universities that require it.

Some institutions use for students applying as international students.

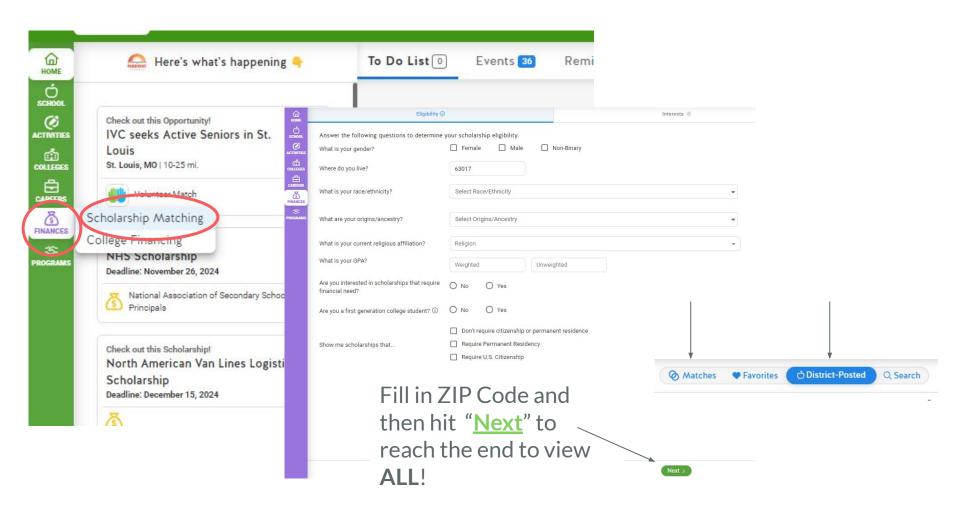
It is \$25 to submit the initial application to one institution, and \$16 for each additional institution. Might be eligible for fee waivers.

Application opens October 1 and colleges will have individual deadlines for submission.

# **Finding Scholarships**

### Scholarship season is ALWAYS!

- Largest source of scholarship funds come from the colleges.
  - Meet their "priority" deadlines for full consideration
  - Check their portals once you apply for additional competitive scholarship opportunities
  - Most highly selective colleges only award <u>need</u>-based aid, so if you want/need **MERIT** aid, you
    might need to consider some less selective institutions
- SchooLinks
  - $\circ$  Finances  $\rightarrow$  Scholarship Matching (database & everything WE have been asked to advertise)
- My Scholarship Central (database of LOCAL scholarships for STL metro students)
- Going Merry (national database)



# **Importance of Email**

- Check your email <u>regularly</u>!
  - I will always communicate to your Parkway email
  - Colleges will communicate to the email address you list on your application
- Missing an email could mean missing an opportunity...



# What Should You Do Now?

### **ALL SENIORS:**

Check diploma requirements - credits and assessments!

### **SENIORS EXPLORING COLLEGE:**

- ☐ Connect with college reps at fairs and PCH.
- ☐ Add colleges to SchooLinks.
  - \* match Common App or manually add
- ☐ Talk with a counselor if you will need a recommendation.
- ☐ Invite required teacher recommenders.
- ☐ Make sure senior year schedule is ready for submission to colleges.
- ☐ Submit applications (and test scores, as needed).
- ☐ Create your FSA ID now for FAFSA (parent also). Application launches in Dec. See if you need CSS Profile.
- ☐ Search and apply for scholarships.
- ☐ Schedule appointments with Mrs. Prange, as needed.



### **SENIORS EXPLORING OTHER PATHS:**

- ☐ Research opportunities available.
- ☐ Connect with local military recruiters, if desired.
- ☐ Explore job shadowing opportunities.
- ☐ Learn about local unions or apprenticeships, and their application requirements.
- ☐ Schedule appointments with Mrs. Prange, as needed.

# **Accessing Mrs. Prange**

- Reach out with any questions you have along the way
  - Email <u>nprange@parkwayschools.net</u>
  - I will offer workshops during Ac Lab
  - Schedule 15, 30 or 45 minute appointments any school day between 7:15a-3:15p

