

# Road Map to College

Navigating the Application Process

Mountain Brook High School

Class of 2024



# College Advising Team

Please contact us if you have questions throughout the application process.



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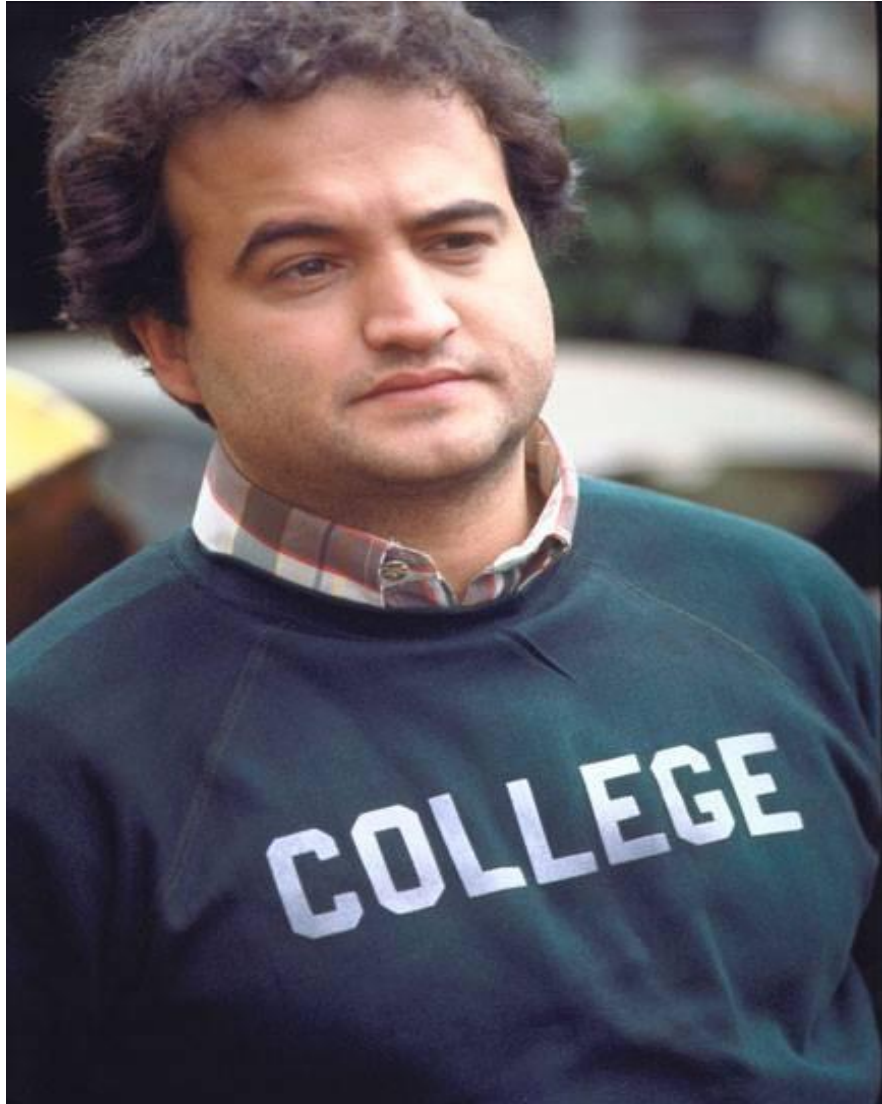
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# In Your Packet ...

1. Coversheet/checklist
2. Copy of the presentation
3. Student Brag Sheet
4. Parent Brag Sheet
5. Quick Facts: application stats for Auburn & Alabama
6. Group College Advising General Information



# Things to Consider

- Own your college search
- Take time to process
- Research colleges online
- Visit campuses
- Figure out what matters to YOU

# Planning Your Stops

- Visit and tour potential colleges.
- Research colleges to determine if you are likely to be admitted.
- Take ACT or SAT (again if needed).
- Develop a list of places you will apply.
- Check college websites for application deadlines.
- Over the summer ...
  - Attend a Summer Work Session to get started
  - Work on college essays
  - Begin applying - many applications are online by August 1<sup>st</sup>

# Packing Your Bag

## YouScience

The screenshot displays the YouScience website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the YouScience logo and links for Organizations, Home, Aptitudes, Careers, Describing You, and Colleges. A user greeting "Hi, Karen!" is visible on the right. Below the navigation bar, the main heading reads "Browse, Save and Rank Careers".

The interface includes a search bar and a filter section. The filter section is titled "Filter by Educational Investment" and "Sort by Fit Type". It features buttons for "All", "0-3yrs", "4yrs", and "5+yrs" under the educational investment filter, and buttons for "Overall Fit", "Aptitude Fit", and "Interest Fit" under the sort by fit type filter.

Four career cards are displayed in a grid:

- Speech and Language Pathologist**: Edu. Investment 6+YRS, Proj. Openings 63k, Avg. Salary 77k. Strong Overall Fit.
- Architecture Professor**: Edu. Investment 7+YRS, Proj. Openings 2500, Avg. Salary 85k. Strong Overall Fit.
- Instructional Coordinator**: Edu. Investment 6+YRS, Proj. Openings 25k, Avg. Salary 65k. Strong Overall Fit.
- Genetic Counselor**: Edu. Investment 6+YRS, Proj. Openings 1200, Avg. Salary 75k. Strong Overall Fit.

Each card includes a representative image, a "Save Career" button, and a "Strong Overall Fit" indicator with three green dots.

## MBHS Website

### COLLEGE ADVISING

#### MBHS College Advising Team

- Elizabeth Lowman
- Karen Svetlay
- Whitney Voltz

#### MBHS School Profile

#### Class of 2022 Results

#### Researching Colleges & the Application Process

#### Applying To College

#### College Advising Communication

#### Scholarship/Financial Aid Resources

#### Scoir

#### Tools, Resources & Presentations

- ACT
- College Board (PSAT, SAT, AP)
- "Road Map To College" Presentation
- YouScience: Career Aptitude and Interest Inventory

#### Spartan Crest Application



# Packing Your Bag



## Good Afternoon, Johnny!

### Let's find your best fit colleges

Take 2 minutes to share your preferences and we'll match you with colleges, and even customize your discover experience.

Start Quiz



### See if you qualify to apply for free

Answer a few quick quiz and we'll let you know if you're eligible for fee waivers when you apply with Scoir.

Find Out





# Staying Organized











*with the help of Scoir*

Discover / For You

## My Matches

Based on your preferences









[Edit Preferences](#)

 <p>Kennesaw State University Kennesaw, GA</p> <p>Meets 8 Preferences Public Suburban</p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	 <p>The University of Tennessee (Chattanooga) Chattanooga, TN</p> <p>Meets 8 Preferences Public City</p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	 <p>Middle Tennessee State University Murfreesboro, TN</p> <p>Meets 8 Preferences Public City</p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>
 <p>The University of Tennessee (Knoxville) Knoxville, TN</p> <p>Meets 8 Preferences Public City</p> <p></p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	 <p>The University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, AL</p> <p>Meets 8 Preferences Public City</p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	 <p>University of Georgia Athens, GA</p> <p>Meets 8 Preferences Public City</p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>
 <p>Georgia Institute of Technology (Main Campus) Atlanta, GA</p> <p>Meets 8 Preferences Public City</p> <p></p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	 <p>University of Southern Mississippi Hattiesburg, MS</p> <p>Meets 8 Preferences Public City</p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	

Discover / For You

## You May Also Like

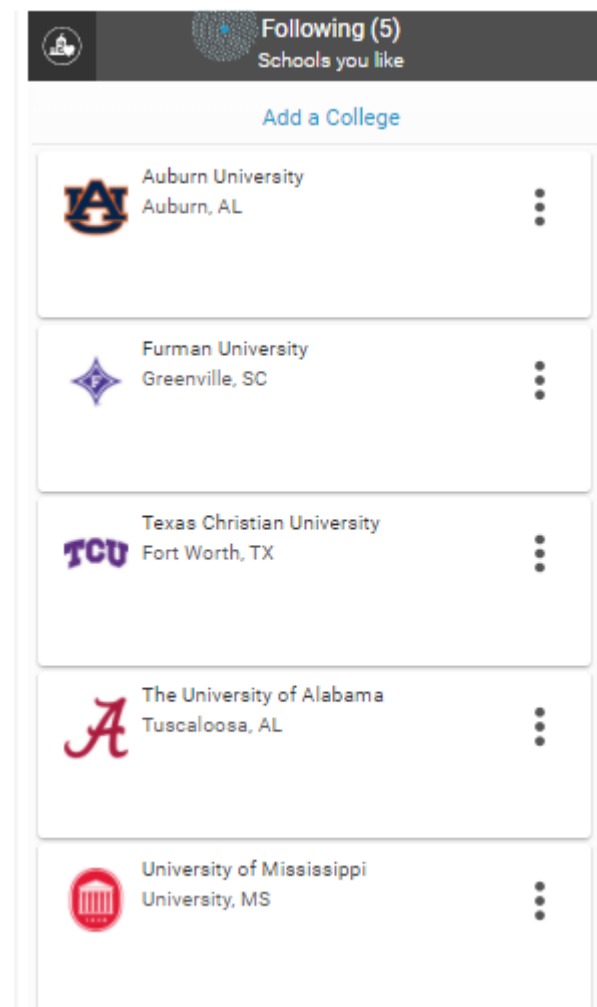
Similar to My Colleges

 <p>Auburn University Auburn, AL</p> <p>Public City</p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	 <p>Southern Methodist University Dallas, TX</p> <p>Private - Not For-profit Suburban</p> <p>Methodist</p> <p></p> <p>Finding a Home in the Commons   Day i... Stepping into your first semester of college opens a new ...</p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	 <p>University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI</p> <p>Public City</p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>
 <p>Wofford College Spartanburg, SC</p> <p>Private - Not For-profit City Methodist</p> <p></p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	 <p>Baylor University Waco, TX</p> <p>Private - Not For-profit City Baptist</p> <p></p> <p>🔖 + ▾</p>	

# Staying Organized *with the help of Scoir*

**FOLLOW** colleges you are considering to see application deadlines, scholarship information, and more.

What else can you do in Scoir?  
Check out the Scoir links on the College Advising website.



# Standardized Testing

## ACT • SAT

- Test-Optional – based on individual student & college requirements
  - Superscoring
  - Reporting
- 
- Check the college's website for specific testing requirements.
  - College representatives are great resources for testing questions!



# Application Types

**APPLY NOW**

## **INCOMING FRESHMAN**

You have finished, or are set to finish high school, and will be entering college as a first-year student. You are also a domestic, international or online student.

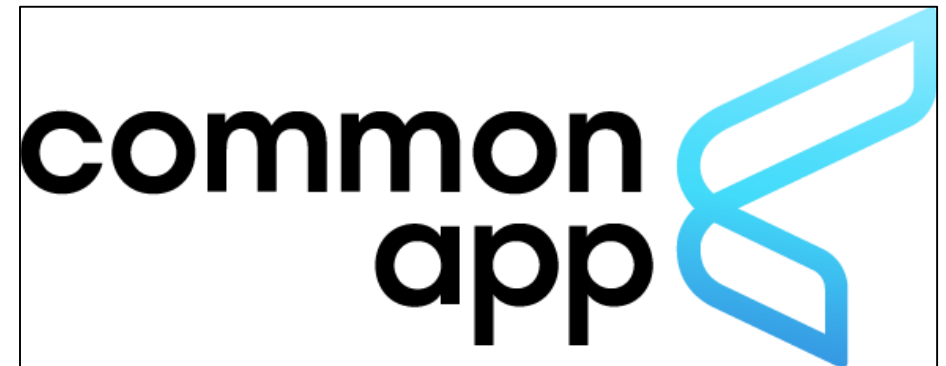


Here are a few things to keep in mind before you start your application:

- UA is incorporating the scholarship application into the application for admission. Complete your application and have official transcripts submitted by January 15 to be considered for competitive scholarships.
- A credit/debit card is required to pay the non-refundable \$40 application fee.
- You will be asked to create a login with the UA Application.
- Once your application is submitted you will not be able to make changes.
- You can check your application status online at any time.
- A valid email address is required. Secure information concerning your application will be sent to this email address.
- If you lose your login or PIN, this information will be sent to the email address you provided in your application.

**APPLY WITH THE UA FRESHMAN APP**

**APPLY WITH THE COMMON APP**



**APPLY VIA UA UNDERGRADUATE APP**

# Completing College Applications: FERPA

## Action Steps for All Students

FERPA Release



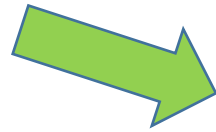
FERPA Waiver

**FERPA** – Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

# Completing College Applications: First Steps in Scoir

## FERPA Release

Students - sign the FERPA Release in Scoir so we are authorized to send your transcript on your behalf.



**RELEASE AUTHORIZATION**

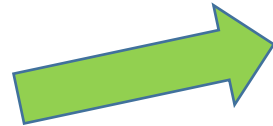
**Granted**  
I hereby authorize my high school counselors and administrators to release all academic transcripts, letters of recommendation, and other reasonably requested educational records to (i) all colleges and postsecondary institutions to which I indicate that I intend to apply and (ii) all other institutions, such as athletic governing associations and organizations offering scholarships, to which I request that they be sent.

**Not Granted**  
I DO NOT CONSENT to the release of personally identifiable information contained in my education records. I understand that my not agreeing to this release might preclude the high school from providing certain application-related documents requested by colleges and other institutions.

# Completing College Applications: First Steps in Scoir

## FERPA Waiver

**Should I waive my rights? YES!**  
Choosing “granted” waives your right to review confidential letters of recommendation.



This tells colleges you do not intend to read your recommendations and reassures colleges that the letters are candid and truthful.

RELEASE AUTHORIZATION

**Granted**  
I hereby waive my right to inspect and review any confidential letters and confidential statements, such as letters of recommendations, assessments, and application review notes that relate to my admission to an educational institution. I understand that I may revoke this waiver at any time by providing written notice to my high school counselor and that such revocation will only apply to actions occurring after the date of my written notice.

**Not Granted**  
I DO NOT WAIVE any of my right to inspect and review confidential information relating to my admission to an educational institution.



# Completing College Applications

## *General Application Requirements*

- ✓ Biographical information
  - ✓ Transcript
- ✓ Application fee

## *Supplemental Materials (for **some** colleges)*

- ✓ Test scores
  - ✓ Essay(s)
  - ✓ Resume
- ✓ Counselor recommendation
- ✓ Teacher recommendation(s)

# Completing College Applications: The Essay

- Seniors write college essays in English in the fall.
- Tutors in the Spartan Writing Center can help.
- Tell the college something new about you.
- What makes you unique?
- Search for “Essays that Worked” for tips and examples.



# Completing College Applications: Teacher Recommendations

- Stop by the College Advising office to **pick up a yellow form** once school starts.
- **Ask your teacher** if he or she will write you a recommendation.
- **Return signed form** to College Advising office.
- Your teacher will upload the rec into Scoir for you.
- **Give the teacher at least 3 weeks** to complete your recommendation.



Teacher Recommendation Request  
Mountain Brook High School

STUDENT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO **Mrs. Lowman** in the  
Counseling Office at least three weeks before any college  
applications are due to the college.

**Recommender:** I have agreed to write a letter in support of college applications  
for the above named student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Recommender's Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recommender's Signature

**Recommender:** I have agreed to write a letter in support of college applications  
for the above named student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Recommender's Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recommender's Signature

# Completing College Applications: Counselor Recommendation

## SENIOR BRAG SHEET MOUNTAIN BROOK HIGH SCHOOL (CONFIDENTIAL)

Because the letter of recommendation is a crucial part of your application, it is necessary to know as many details of your life as you can share. Please respond honestly and thoughtfully to the items below. Please attach additional pages if needed. Don't sell yourself short. BRAG!!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Year and grade entered the Mountain Brook system: \_\_\_\_\_

Your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

1. List three activities that mean the most to you:

1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Explain your reasons for choosing the above activities.

3. Do you have any leadership positions or responsibilities in any of these activities? Explain:

4. Describe your community and/or church involvement (if not explained above):

5. Have you performed volunteer service in the community? If so, share any special anecdotes that may have been significant during these services (if not explained above):

6. Describe any summer and/or part-time jobs you may have held:

7. What would you like to study in college? If you are unsure of a specific major, what subjects do you enjoy most?

## PARENT BRAG SHEET

Mountain Brook High School  
(For College Advising Office Use Only)

As a parent of a rising senior, you know your student better than anyone else. Therefore, we wish to request a few moments of your time to provide insights about your student. Please complete this form and return to the College Advising Office. Our goal is to have the Student and Parent Brag Sheets on the file before college applications are submitted. Thank you for your time.

STUDENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TODAY'S DATE \_\_\_\_\_

1. HOW DOES YOUR CHILD LIKE TO SPEND TIME OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL?

2. TELL ME ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S OUTSTANDING PERSONALITY TRAITS?

3. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO TELL A COLLEGE ABOUT YOUR CHILD THAT WOULD SET HIM/HER APART?

4. DESCRIBE ANY UNUSUAL PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES THAT HAVE AFFECTED YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES OR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT.

5. WHAT ARE YOUR CHILD'S GREATEST STRENGTHS?

6. WHAT DO YOU HOPE YOUR CHILD WILL GAIN FROM HIS/HER COLLEGE EXPERIENCE?

ANECDOTES ARE APPRECIATED!  
PLEASE USE THE BACK OR ATTACH  
ADDITIONAL PAPER TO PROVIDE  
INTERESTING CHARACTERISTICS THAT  
MAY ILLUMINATE MY RECOMMENDATION.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE NUMBER E-MAIL ADDRESS

# Completing College Applications: MBHS Form Checklist

<u>Title of Form</u>	<u>When To Complete the Form</u>
Student Brag Sheet (Blue)	End of junior year (provide updates at beginning of senior year, if necessary)
Parent Brag Sheet (Purple)	End of junior year (provide updates at beginning of senior year, if necessary)
Teacher Recommendation Form (Yellow)	Beginning of senior year

# Submitting Your Application

- ✓ Submit your application online.
- ✓ Send test scores to the college, if needed, through testing agency's website.
- ✓ Use Scoir to tell us you have completed your application.

# Submitting Your Application

- ✓ Move the college from “Following” to “Applied” in Scoir.

The screenshot displays the Scoir application interface with three columns: "Following (5) Schools you like", "Applying (0) Applications in Progress", and "Applied (1) Submitted Applications".

**Following (5) Schools you like:**

- Auburn University, Auburn, AL
- University, SC
- Texas University, Fort Worth
- The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- University of Mississippi, University, MS

**Applying (0) Applications in Progress:**

Do not use the "Applying" column.

**Applied (1) Submitted Applications:**

Where are you enrolling? Move your choice here.

Auburn University, Auburn, AL

Early Action Sep 15 Tasks complete 0/6 Pending apps sent 0/1

Move only after application is complete and submitted.

# Summer Work Session Agenda

- Get organized.
- Create a Common Application account.
- Start your college applications.
- Use Scoir to tell us you have applied.
- Send ACT/SAT scores to colleges.
- Work session dates will be announced later this spring.





The Fall Is Busy!

# The Fall is Busy!

- Talk with the College Reps that visit MBHS.
- Visit colleges one more time if needed.
- Start working on applications early (August).
- Keep up with college deadlines.

September 2022

23  
Fri

 The University of Tennessee (Knoxville)  
Knoxville, TN


**Time:**  
08:00 AM – 08:50 AM

**Location:**  
Conference Room 203

 Millsaps College  
Jackson, MS

**Time:**  
09:00 AM – 09:45 AM

**Location:**  
Conference Room 203

 Lipscomb University  
Nashville, TN

**Time:**  
09:45 AM – 10:25 AM

**Location:**  
Conference Room 203

 Wake Forest University  
Winston-Salem, NC

**Time:**  
12:05 PM – 12:45 PM

**Location:**  
Conference Room 203

# Deadlines



Submit your application and notify the College Advising office  
know at least 3 weeks before it is due to the college.



# Most Common Deadlines



Application Due to College by:	Application Submitted and College Advising Office Notified by:
<b>October 15, 2023</b>	<b>September 22, 2023</b>
<b>November 1, 2023</b>	<b>October 11, 2023</b>
<b>November 15, 2023</b>	<b>October 25, 2023</b>
<b>December 1, 2023</b>	<b>November 9, 2023</b>
<b>December 15, 2023</b>	<b>November 27, 2023</b>
<b>Before January 15, 2024</b>	<b>December 1, 2023</b>

# Financial Aid & Scholarships

- University/College Scholarships
  - Every college has different parameters
  - Check college websites and complete applications if needed
- FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid
  - Application is available beginning on October 1<sup>st</sup>
  - State requirement
- Outside Scholarships
  - Search engines like [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com) and [goingmerry.com](http://goingmerry.com)
  - e-Newsletter

# What Should I Do Now?

- **Continue working hard** – junior year grades are very important!
- Keep a list of usernames and passwords.
- **Research colleges.**
  - Programs (majors, Honors programs, scholarship opportunities)
  - Admission profiles
  - Application
  - Deadlines
- **Finalize testing** by the end of summer.
- Sign **FERPA Release** and **FERPA Waiver** in Scoir – this can be completed now!
- Familiarize yourself with **Common App**.
- **Turn in brag sheets** to the College Advising office.
- **Athletes**
  - ✓ Register with NCAA and check eligibility.
  - ✓ Submit test scores to NCAA, if applicable.

# College Advising Team

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