



Briarwood Christian School College Advising Process

What should seniors be doing?

- Update “Accomplishment Sheet” on Family Connection/Naviance.
- Visit colleges.
- Take or retake the ACT/SAT, if needed.
- Apply to colleges.
- Create a separate email account for scholarship purposes.
- Search for scholarships (Scholarship list in Family Connection, BCS website, college websites, National Scholarship Search in Family Connection).
- Apply for scholarships.
- Be aware of and meet all deadlines for applications and scholarships.
- Regularly check Family Connection/Naviance for news regarding visits by college admission reps, special visit days on college campuses, scholarship opportunities, and other school counseling news.
- Keep up your grades. Senior grades do matter!
- Be aware of your “social media” profile. Many colleges are checking.
- Stay involved in sports/extracurricular activities and continue service hours.

What should parents be doing?

- Complete the Recommendation Form for Parents on their Family Connection accounts.
- If possible, visit colleges with your senior.
- Consider finances and share with your senior whatever you consider important and are comfortable with.
- Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)--available October 1, online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- Some colleges (mostly private ones) also require the completion of the CSS Profile in order to apply for non-federal financial aid.
- Help your senior search for scholarships. Check with colleges, employers, churches, civic clubs, and the National Scholarship Search on Naviance.
- Help your senior “stay on track”--meet deadlines, keep up grades.
- Regularly check Family Connection/Naviance for news regarding visits by college admission reps, special visit days on college campuses, scholarship opportunities, and other school counseling news.
- Do not complete applications for your senior. He/she is the one going to college and should take responsibility for applying. Do proofread the application.

How will the school counseling department assist you?

- Conduct individual college advising appointments upon request with students and parents during junior and senior years.
- Evaluate transcripts to ensure that students are earning the necessary credits to graduate.
- Publish all scholarships received to Family Connection/Naviance and the scholarship calendar on our website.
- Complete letters of recommendation for applications.
- Process transcripts through Family Connection/Naviance.
- Coordinate on-campus college representative visits.
- Assist students in using Family Connection for college search, interest inventories and scholarship search.