

# College Applications and SCOIR

Senior Connection Night  
CHS Counseling Department



# School Counselors

| Alphabet | Counselor         | E-mail Address                     |
|----------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
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| D-He     | Ms. Reder         | kacey.reder@ucps.k12.nc.us         |
| Hu-Mc    | Ms. Mills         | Kelly.Mills@ucps.k12.nc.us         |
| Me – Sb  | Mr. Ward          | Jacob.Ward@ucps.k12.nc.us          |
| Sc-Z     | Ms. Plank- Alonzo | Tara.Plankalonzo@ucps.k12.nc.us    |

# College Applications

*Ms. Mills*

# 3 Main Steps

- Your application
- Transcripts
- Test Scores

# How to Apply to College:

- There 3 main ways to complete your applications:
  - Common Application
  - Coalition
  - Individual College Website



# Common App & Coalition

- What is Common App/Coalition?
  - An undergraduate college admission application that applicants may use to apply to more than 850 member colleges and universities in the United States
- Advantage?
  - One application with possible other supplementary components for each school.
  - You don't have to enter demographic and academic info for every application.

\*\*\*\*You must enter your Common App, Coalition, etc. ID number into SCOIR in order for any documents to be sent.

\*\*\*\*DO NOT enter counselor or teacher emails into Common App or Coalition.

# Common App/Coalition FAQ

- Do I still need to mail a transcript?
  - No, your transcript will automatically be sent when you move a college into the “applying” column in SCOIR.
- Do I need to complete the brag sheet in SCOIR if I use Common App/Coalition?
  - YES!
    - If you plan on asking for a counselor or teacher letter of rec, you must complete the Brag Sheet and submit requests through SCOIR. Remember to give **20 business days** for all recommendation requests.
    - Brag Sheets are located in the “Survey” section of SCOIR.

# Early Decision vs. Early Action

- **Early Action plans are *nonbinding***-students receive an early response to their application but do not have to commit to the college.
- **Early Decision (ED) plans are *binding***-students who are accepted as an ED applicant must attend that college.
  - Top Choice
  - A student who is willing to withdraw ALL other college applications upon acceptance.
  - A student must meet or exceed the admissions profile. This deadline is very selective!
  - Contact the individual college(s) with specific questions.

# Transcripts & Test Scores

Ms. Brown

# Transcript Procedure

## All transcript requests will be sent through SCOIR:

You can track the submission of your transcript via your SCOIR account.

All transcripts will be processed and sent by the college deadline for which you are applying. You must list the college in your “***applying***” column 10 business days prior to the application deadline...20 business days if you are also requesting a letter of recommendation. Do not delay...list your colleges in the applying column as soon as you decide you are going to apply.

# Sending ACT and SAT Scores

- ACT and SAT scores are **NOT** part of your high school transcript and will not be sent by us.
- Many schools are currently test optional (be sure to check)
- There are two ways you can send your ACT/SAT test scores:
  - Bubble in the school code when you take the test to send scores immediately for free.
  - Send your SAT/ACT scores to the universities electronically, after the test date, through [collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org) and/or [actstudent.org](https://actstudent.org). There is a fee to send your scores.
- Please see their websites for more details.

# Viewing / Sending ACT Scores online

How to obtain ACT score reports if you have taken the test but do not know your ACT ID.

- Students who did not receive a hard copy report or misplaced it will need to call student services at 319-337-1270 to obtain their assigned ACT ID.
- Student services should not transfer students to the state and district testing department if it was a school administration.
- Students should not create a new account w/o first contacting student services as this will create a secondary account not connected to the score report.
- If a student created a second account, student services will need to merge the two accounts.
- Student services will need to know when and where student took the exam.

# SAT/ACT/Application Fee Waivers

- If you qualify for free/reduced lunch, you can qualify for an SAT/ACT fee waiver.
- Student who use SAT/ACT fee waivers also qualify for a limited number of application fee waivers.
- If you need further information about waivers, please see your counselor.

# Recommendations and Essays

Ms. Plank-Alonzo

- All letters of recommendation (from CHS staff members) requests must also be entered into SCOIR. **Do NOT** list their email in Common App or Coalition, etc.
- Everything sent, on your behalf, will only be sent through SCOIR.
- Detailed SCOIR instructions can be found on the counseling department's webpage OR the UCPS  
Career and College Readiness webpage

## Counseling

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### Cuthbertson School Counseling



Hello and welcome to Cuthbertson High School,

School Counselors at Cuthbertson High School are certified professional school counselors holding a minimum of a Master's degree in School Counseling.

Cavalier School Counselors are uniquely trained to address the social, emotional,

and academic developmental needs of our students. Aligning their practice with the American School Counseling Association's National Model while providing students, families, and our school as a whole through:

- Individual Counseling
- Mediations (to alleviate conflict, resolve concerns with peers and teachers)
- Crisis Management
- Collaboration with teachers and other staff members
- Consultation and coordination with parents & families
- Classroom Lessons
- College & Career Readiness - including advising students throughout the college application process and writing recommendation letters

Additional Responsibilities of CHS counselors:

- Student Support Services team members
- Support students when conferencing with teachers

# Recommendation Advice

## 1) What do you need to provide?

- Provide a resume & complete the Senior Brag Sheet in SCOIR as it will allow recommenders to provide more concise and consistent content.

## 2) Always waive your right to access the recommendation letter (FERPA).

- It raises a red flag that you may be worried about them finding something out about you and conveys that you do not trust the individual you chose to write a letter on your behalf.
- Letters of recommendation are confidential and they are not written to harm a student.

## 3) Provide ample time for the recommender to complete the letter (20 business days).

- More time equates to a more thought-out and planned recommendation.
- Always send a thank you note.

# Top 5 Essay Tips

**Not all schools require an essay.**

**1) BE PREPARED**

**2) BE YOURSELF**

**3) BE CONCISE**

**4) SHOW YOUR PERSONALITY**

**5) BE UNIQUE**

**6) PROOFREAD**

# Deadlines!

- All required applications components must be submitted for your application to be complete. All parts must be in by the **college deadline!**

- Application
- Application Fee
- Transcript
- Test Scores
- Essays



It is the student's responsibility to make sure all parts have been received. You can submit your application when it is complete, you do not have to wait for the school to submit items. Application deadline is driven by when you click submit.

# Scholarships & College Visits

Mr. Ward

# General Scholarship Info.

- School-Specific vs. Non-School Specific Scholarships
  - Non-school specific scholarships can be applied to any of the schools to which you are applying
- National vs. Local Scholarships
  - Local scholarship information received will be posted on the CHS website
  - National scholarship information is available via several search engines; some of which are listed at the bottom of our scholarship page.
- Scholarship opportunities are located on:
  - the Counseling Department's page of the CHS website.
  - Let us know us know when you receive any and all scholarship offers (even if you don't use them) by giving Ms. Morton a copy of the offer. We want to celebrate you at the end of the year!

# CHS College Visits

- We have many visits scheduled with college representatives (some virtual, some in-person)
- Juniors and Seniors only
- Sign up in SCOIR
- Must sign up for each school
- College Representatives during Cav Time
- Responsible for work you miss while at the presentation
- Visits fill up quickly and space is limited
- Check back weekly for newly added colleges

# General Announcements

Ms. Reder

# Counselor Availability

- Counselors are available during all lunches, every day of the week. Stop by with your questions, we are happy to help!
- Stop by before/after school or during your lunch to see your counselor
- College Labs

Follow us on Instagram:  
[@cavs\\_counselor\\_connect](https://www.instagram.com/cavs_counselor_connect)

# Upcoming Senior Connections

## College Panel Night

**October 1st**

Please join us to learn about the admissions process from representatives from a private, public, out-of-state and community college perspective.

# Upcoming Senior Connections

## **Virtual Financial Aid Information Night**

**November TBD**

Guest speaker from Appalachian State University

Please join us to learn about different types of financial aid available and be prepared to submit your FAFSA application.

# Senior College Lab Days

**Thursday, September 12th**

**Friday, September 13th**

**Monday, September 16th**

**Tuesday, September 17th**

**Thursday, September 19th**

**Friday, September 20th**

Seniors may sign up to spend CAV time with the counselors to get their questions answered regarding college applications and SCOIR or work on application components.

# Additional Announcements

- Students have been sent home with a copy of their unofficial transcript
- Senior SCOIR directions have been emailed to student and parent emails with College 101 newsletter
- It is extremely important for seniors to check their email regularly for important information
- More College Readiness Information
  - <https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Page/7744>

# College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC.org)

- College Application Week: October 21st -27th
- Certain colleges in NC waive their application fee, but you **MUST** register through CFNC in order to apply
- Students can complete their residency determination through CFNC
- List of colleges waiving application fees will be released in early October

**CFNC**

College  
Foundation  
of North Carolina

## Helpful FAQs

Find answers to frequently asked questions to help you plan for college.

Planning FAQs

College Application FAQ

Financial Aid FAQ

# Questions?

# CHS Website Navigation

<https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/domain/845>



**Cuthbertson High School**

Jeff Stout, Principal

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- Individual Counseling

