Senior Year

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How many credits are needed to graduate?

***24 credits are needed: 4 English credits, 4 Math credits, 3 Science credits, 4 Social Studies credits, 1 Health/PE credit, 8 elective credits and CPR certification. Each counselor keeps a credit checklist on each student to ensure all requirements are met.***

1. Do I need an Art credit to graduate?

***No, to graduate from high school in CMS, students do not need an art credit.  In the state of South Carolina, students do have to have an art credit to graduate, and therefore many colleges within that state require an art credit from their students.  Colleges in South Carolina know Myers Park High School well, and know that our students are not required to obtain an art credit.  Students who are competitive for admission at USC or Clemson have been admitted to these two schools in the past without an art credit on their transcript.  College of Charleston stated to us on the phone that an art credit is not required but recommended.***

1. How do I request a transcript?

***If the transcript needs to be sent electronically, make the request through Naviance. If you need one mailed, Mrs. Eddington, our counseling secretary, has forms on her desk for you to complete. Please allow at least 10 business days for processing. KEEP IN MIND THAT WE CANNOT SEND TRANSCRIPTS UNTIL AFTER THE 1ST 15 DAYS OF SCHOOL.***

1. How do I know when my transcript has been sent?

***Go to Naviance and select the colleges tab. Then select Colleges I’m Applying to. You will then see each school that you are applying to, with headers across the top. Find the one that says Office Status and underneath for each school it should read, INITIAL MATERIALS SENT. That lets you know that your documents (including your transcript) have been sent to your schools. Although this has been done, it takes a few days for your college to upload and add them to your file. If you are concerned that your items have not been received, you can always contact the admissions office directly to double check.***

1. How do I link my Naviance account to Common App?

***You will do this under the Colleges I’m Applying to tab by clicking MATCH in the red bar at the top of the screen. Then you must enter your email used to set up your Common Application as well as your birthdate. You must sign the FERPA waiver on your Common Application under My Colleges prior to linking your accounts.***

1. What if I am using the Coalition to complete my applications?

***Your counselors and teachers will still submit your materials electronically via Naviance.***

1. Will my counselor automatically write me a letter of recommendation?

***Counselors complete secondary school report forms for many schools that students apply to. This verifies your rank, GPA and allows us to add any other additional information that schools may find helpful. We will write an actual letter for students who specifically request one. (Please allow at least 10 business days for us to do this)***

1. What do I do if the teacher that I want to write my letter of recommendation no longer works at MP?

***See your counselor and they will determine the best plan of action for this situation.***

1. What should I do when I receive an automated email that my colleges that I have applied to are missing information?
	1. ***Is your counselor aware that you were applying to the school? If so, then your materials should have been sent and you would need to follow up with the college directly.***
	2. ***If you did not inform your counselor that you were applying to the school, then once they are notified, they will send your materials within 10 business days. Allow the college at least a week to process the materials and add them to your file.***
2. I have decided to apply to more schools since I last met with my counselor, what should I do?

***PLEASE notify your counselor via email or by stopping by their office when you add schools to your Naviance list. We are not automatically notified by Naviance when schools are added, so please be sure to follow up with your counselor when your list changes. This is often the reason materials have not been sent because we are simply unaware that the school was added. In addition, students cannot delete schools from their list, so if you end up not applying to a particular school, be sure to let your counselor know this so she can delete it from your list.***

1. Should I apply early action or regular decision?

***This is contingent upon the school that you are applying to and the research that you have done. Check the minimum requirements and scores of incoming freshmen for the colleges of your choice to help you make that decision.***

1. Do I have to waive my rights on the FERPA waiver?

***No, however, a recommender may decline to write you a letter of recommendation. When waiving your rights, colleges know that you do not intend to read recommendation letter(s); this indicates that the letters of recommendations are more candid and are taken more seriously.***

1. Can I use my October ACT/SAT scores when applying early?

***The timeframe for score delivery depends on the way a college chooses to receive scores. Once colleges receive your scores, processing could take a week. This can sometimes put you pass the deadline. Your file may not be reviewed until all components are received. Be sure the school has some scores to review, then have your October scores sent directly from either testing facility. Scores have to be sent from the College Board website for SAT and*** [***www.act.org***](http://www.act.org) ***for ACT. Counselors do not send scores to colleges for students.***

1. What is the FAFSA?

***The FAFSA is the FREE Application for Federal Student Aid and is used to determine how much money your family can qualify for to help pay for college. The FAFSA opens on October 1, 2018 for all current seniors to complete the application. You will be completing the application for the 2019-2020, which would be your freshmen year of college. The website is*** [***www.fafsa.ed.gov***](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)***. Any website that asks for a payment to complete the FAFSA is unauthorized.***

1. Where do I go to learn about scholarships?

***A GREAT website for scholarships is*** [***https://www.moneysavingpro.com/scholarships/***](https://www.moneysavingpro.com/scholarships/) ***Here you will find many scholarship resources compiled at one general location. Be sure to bookmark it on your computer! ☺ You can also find scholarships on Naviance under COLLEGES and then selecting SCHOLARSHIPS AND MONEY.***