

# COLLEGE CHECKOFF 2021

► **Creating your college list.** It is recommended you have an average of six colleges on “your list”:

- two safety schools,
- two target schools,
- and two reach schools. For more information, refer to <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search?navid=gh-cs>

Please do your research. Look at the college’s website, conduct an in person or virtual tour, if possible.

► **CHOOSING A COLLEGE WHEN YOU CAN’T VISIT CAMPUS**

- <https://www.npr.org/2020/04/01/825486336/heres-how-to-pick-a-college-during-coronavirus>
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/williamjeakle/2020/03/18/how-to-visit-colleges-when-you-cant-visit-colleges/?sh=3b98b2105e0e>

► **Send transcripts:** create an account at <http://www.parchment.com>. If you do not have a Parchment account and need a registration code, please contact Mrs. Balow at [cbalow@birmingham.k12.mi.us](mailto:cbalow@birmingham.k12.mi.us)

► **Send ACT scores,** create an account at <http://www.actstudent.org>

► **Send SAT scores** <http://collegeboard.com>

NOTE: Many schools have moved to test-optional. Please refer to the school’s website for updated admission information. Additionally, The National Center for Fair & Open Testing (FairTest) is keeping a database of schools that have moved to test-optional. To learn more, visit <http://www.fairtest.org/university/optional>

► **Complete Student Brag Sheet** - - available on the Counseling Dept website or click on the link below. Please email your responses to your counselor by October 8<sup>th</sup>.

<https://www.birmingham.k12.mi.us/cms/lib/MI01908619/Centricity/Domain/1679/Brag%20Sheet%20Prompts%202021.pdf>

► **Applications** – many colleges have multiple ways to apply. Please refer to their website. If you choose to use the Common App – create an account at <http://www.commonapp.org> In Common App, Invite counselor AND teacher(s) by October 8th.

Here is a video on how to invite your counselor or teacher in the Common App.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4qXDmfuR3A>

► **Essays** – many colleges require an essay(s)/personal statement. Check out Seaholm’s College Essay Writing 101 Presentation - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8vBlkCmJcGM&t=74s>

► **Secure 1 – 2 letters of recommendation.** Many colleges do not require a teacher and/or counselor recommendation. Please check that school’s admission requirements. Letters of recommendations are sent directly to the college. Teachers and counselors will upload their letters to the institution in accordance to the application deadline.

► **Athletes** - - If you plan to play a competitive sport at the college level, you may need to register with NCAA Clearinghouse <http://www.eligibilitycenter.org> or NAIA <http://www.PlayNAIA.org>

**Relax and enjoy your summer!**