

A wide-angle photograph of the main entrance to Roncalli High School. The foreground is a large plaza paved with red and tan bricks in a checkered pattern. A central walkway leads to the school's main entrance, which has a sign that reads "RONCALLI MAIN ENTRANCE". To the left of the entrance, there is a sign that says "RONCA". To the right, there is a sign that says "ROYALS". An American flag flies on a tall pole to the right of the entrance. The school building is a two-story brick structure with large windows. The sky is blue with large, white, fluffy clouds. There are green trees and bushes on both sides of the walkway. A red banner is overlaid at the bottom of the image, containing the text "RONCALLI HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR GUIDEBOOK CLASS OF 2026".

RONCALLI HIGH SCHOOL

SENIOR GUIDEBOOK

CLASS OF 2026

A NOTE FROM YOUR GUIDANCE TEAM:

CONGRATULATIONS SENIOR!

Your Roncalli Guidance Department is ready to assist you in planning for your future beyond high school! You have put in a lot of hard work to get to this point, but there is still more to do! The Guidebook contains materials to help you through the process that lies ahead. While much of the information is about the college application process, we have also included helpful information regarding career exploration, the workforce, apprenticeships, military and religious vocation options.

God has provided you with certain gifts, and we want you to continue to use those gifts in your future. Your counselor is your first point of contact regarding your options after high school, but you might also benefit from working with the College & Career Counselor! Both of these individuals are here to help you and your family with questions regarding the college search and application process.

The Guidebook is essential not only for the rest of your time at Roncalli but also contains information many students will need after graduation. Please keep it in an accessible but safe place. Our hope is that these resources will help keep you organized and informed and limit stress during this process. If you need help, do not hesitate to reach out or stop by the office!



GUIDE MY LIFE PRAYER:



O Lord my God, thank you that you are the source of all true joy in life. Help me to teach others well. Guide my thoughts, words and actions to enable me to carry out this important work that you have placed before me. Increase my faith that anything is possible in your power. Let the majesty of the Father be the light that guides me, the compassion of the Son be the love that inspires me and the presence of the Spirit be the power that empowers me. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I'M A SENIOR...NOW WHAT?

Senior year is an exciting time, but there is also a lot to do in order to finalize your plans for life after graduation. The checklist below is meant to serve as a guide but may not be a comprehensive list for every student in every situation. Talk with your School Counselor and the College and Career Counselor to make sure you stay on track with things!

CAREER/MAJOR AREA OF STUDY:

- ☐ Explore career opportunities using SCOIR or CollegeBoard - Big Future
- ☐ Arrange a job shadow. Contact your counselor if you need assistance
- ☐ Attend a career event at Roncalli

COLLEGE SELECTION:

- ☐ Arrange a campus visit (p. 7)
- ☐ Attend a 'College Rep Visit' at Roncalli during Semester I
- ☐ Attend Evening with the College Reps - August 21, 2025
- ☐ Keep your SCOIR account updated with schools you are interested in and applying to

ACT and SAT PLANNING:

- ☐ Retake either the SAT or ACT to achieve your highest possible score
- ☐ Talk with your School Counselor if you are considering applying to schools under their test-optional policies
- ☐ Make sure to take advantage of free SAT and ACT study resources (p. 13)

COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESSES:

- ☐ Update your resume and upload it to SCOIR
- ☐ Submit college applications and keep your SCOIR profile updated with which schools you apply to
- ☐ Request letters of recommendation through SCOIR
- ☐ Enter all college acceptances, waitlists and/or denials into SCOIR

FINANCIAL AID:

- ☐ Check the Guidance page of the Roncalli website for scholarship information
- ☐ Complete the FAFSA - it will be available on October 1, 2025. We recommend filing as soon as possible to maximize your chances of financial aid
- ☐ Consider using online scholarship engines such as FastWeb, GoingMerry or RaiseMe

NCAA & NAIA:

- ☐ Register with the NCAA at www.eligibilitycenter.org or NAIA at play.mynaia.org
- ☐ Send your ACT or SAT scores directly to NCAA (9999) or NAIA (9876) via ACT.org or CollegeBoard.org



You will receive a monthly 'Senior To-Do Newsletter' from the Guidance Team!
Make sure to read each of these messages carefully to stay on track with everything and avoid missing important deadlines.

COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

SEMESTER I

○ AUGUST - FALL BREAK: APPLICATIONS

Identify the top colleges that you are interested in and complete applications for each school. Many schools will open their applications in early-August, and you should work to complete these in a timely manner to stay on track with various admissions processes.

- *6 - First Day of the School Year*
- *20 - Last day for first semester schedule changes*
- *21 - Evening with College Representatives, 6 PM, Roncalli Auditorium*

○ SEPTEMBER -

Continue working on college applications. Request letters of recommendation. Visit the Guidance Office!

*Make an appointment with Mr. Freck or your counselor for help with college applications. Your parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

- *1 - Labor Day - No School*

○ OCTOBER -

The FAFSA should open on October 1. Work with your parents/guardians to complete this as soon as possible. Watch for opportunities to visit colleges during school 'preview days' and consider completing a job shadowing experience.

- *1 - Letters of recommendation forms due to teachers*
- *3 - Roncalli's recommended deadline for all college applications*
- *4 - 12 - Roncalli Fall Break*
- *20 - FAFSA Completion Night*
- *24 - Seniors to arrange a college visit or job shadow. No school for Seniors due to PSAT.*

○ NOVEMBER -

The 'Priority Deadline' for most colleges/universities is November 1 - make sure you have you updated your SCOIR account and submitted your college applications.

- *1 - Priority Deadline for college applications*
- *7 - Career Day, during the school day*
- *27 - 28 - Thanksgiving Break - No School*

○ DECEMBER -

*Make sure you have your graduation regalia ordered BEFORE Christmas Break!

- *17 - 19 - First Semester Exams*
- *19 - Last Day of School prior to Christmas Break*

2025-2026 GUIDANCE CALENDAR

SEMESTER 2

JANUARY:

Begin checking your college portals at least every week! Colleges will often launch their housing processes in January or February, so make sure you are watching communications from each of the schools you have been accepted to for these important next steps. Scholarship processes are ongoing, and you should watch deadlines to ensure you do not miss any potential opportunities.

*Contact your School Counselor if you need to appeal an admissions decision from a college.

*Visiting schools during the winter can provide a different perspective of the campus. If you are able to take another visit, stop by to see what differences you can find!

- *5 - First Day of School Following Christmas Break*
- *19 - MLK Jr. Day - No School*

FEBRUARY:

- *16 - President's Day - No School (Unless Needed for In-Person Snow Make-up Day)*

MARCH:

March and April will often present opportunities to attend admitted student days or major-specific programs for you to learn more about your anticipated areas of study. Schools will often launch summer orientation registration after Spring Break and ask you to complete other benchmark items, like a health record or placement exams.

- *20 - 29 - Spring Break - No School*

APRIL:

- *6 - Easter Monday - No School*
- *15 - Indiana FAFSA Deadline*

MAY:

AP Testing and Senior Exit Appointments will both be held in May!

- *1 - Senior Field Day*
- *18 - Senior Mass*
- *19 - 21 - Second Semester Exams*
- *21 - Last Day of School*
- *22 - No School (Unless Needed for In-Person Snow Make-up Day)*
- *22 - Baccalaureate*
- *23 - Commencement*

SUMMER

JUNE & JULY

Make sure to request your transcripts for any dual credit classes and have them sent to your school. Summer is a great time to update your resume and begin applying for on-campus jobs. Look for a job that is interesting to you and will align with your class schedule. On-campus employment is a great way to build connections across campus and make a little extra money! All campuses will also have some form of social media platform that allows you to connect with other new, incoming students. Make sure to engage and start meeting folks.

CAREER PLANNING RESOURCES:

Not sure what you want to do with the rest of your life? Can't determine a major of study? If you're not sure where to begin, this list of career exploration resources should help you to narrow down your interests and find some direction for life after high school. Many of your counselors have worked personally with the career resources listed below. Feel free to reach out to them if you are unsure where to begin this process.

ROYALS IN RESIDENCE:

The Royals in Residence program is designed to connect Roncalli students with industry-certified professionals and allow them to learn more about a career in which they may be interested. Students may use one of their college visit days to complete a Royals in Residence job shadowing experience. Scan the QR Code to learn more.



RONCALLI CAREER EVENTS:

There are a variety of career events held at Roncalli each year!

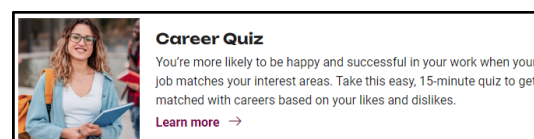


The Fall Career Day will allow you to learn about a variety of careers you will need a college degree to pursue.

Make sure to listen to the 'Daily Announcements' and read the weekly newsletter for a listing of upcoming 'Career Chats' students can attend during their Period 5 lunch.

COLLEGEBOARD - BIG FUTURE:

Through CollegeBoard, the BigFuture platform provides career exploration resources for students who are unsure of how their interests and passions might align with a future career. Students can take a career assessment that provides in-depth look at how their skills may align with the professional world, while exploring the fastest growing careers within a variety of industries. These resources are free with a student's CollegeBoard login credentials.



EXTERNAL RESOURCES:

NEXT STEP CAREER CONSULTING, LLC

After benefitting from the personal support of a career coach, Hannah Ford launched 'Next Step Career Consulting, LLC' to help people learn about their unique strengths and how they might translate into a career. She is a Certified Practitioner of the Myers-Briggs Strong Interest Inventory® and a member of the Career Development Professionals of Indiana. Hannah is available to help students interpret results from a number of personality and career assessments, as well as walk them through an entire post-graduation planning process. Scan the QR code to visit the Next Step Career Consulting website and learn more about available services and pricing.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE

THE COLLEGE SEARCH:

Choosing a college is an important academic and financial decision, and campus visits are the best way to determine whether a college may be a good fit for you.

Visits are often available on the weekdays, as well as the weekends. Many schools will offer special 'Preview Days' that highlight a particular program or area of study. It can be helpful if a parent/guardian is able to go with you on your campus visit, so that they too can learn more about the campus.

You will apply to colleges in August/September of your senior year, therefore we recommend:

- **Seniors:** Make two campus visits in the fall if you have not yet visited the school to which you plan to apply. Otherwise, save these visits for the spring.
 - Please note that if you need to take additional days to complete college-related business, they will be considered 'excused absences' but not be classified as 'college visits.' Excused absences may impact your ability to waive final exams.

PLEASE NOTE: If you plan on visiting a college campus, you will need to obtain a College Visit form from the Guidance Office. The completed paperwork is due to the Attendance Office by 2 PM the day **BEFORE** the visit.

College visits are **NOT allowed** on any of the following days: immediately before or after fall, Christmas, or spring break; any standardized test days such as PSAT Day, SAT Day for juniors; Walkathon or Walkathon Make-up days; immediately after prom weekend; R Family Day, Final Exams, Holy Days of Obligation: Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary, All Saints Day, Immaculate Conception, Archdiocesan Senior Mass, Ash Wednesday, nor during any school day in May.

**The
College
Tour ▶**

Watch an episode of 'The College Tour' to learn about a particular campus in which you are interested! Available on Amazon Prime and other streaming platforms.

**TIP FROM THE
GUIDANCE TEAM:**

Visit at least one big school and one small school, so that you can compare the two and see which you like more. Sometimes, students are convinced they want a large school until they experience a small campus and see everything it has to offer.

QUESTIONS TO ASK THE ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR OR YOUR TOUR GUIDE:

- If you could change one thing about your college or university, what would you change?
- What percentage of your students are employed or in graduate school within one year of graduation?
- What is the average debt load that your graduates carry when they leave the university?
- What is a campus tradition or annual event that most people look forward to?



SCOIR:

SCOIR is our one-stop shop for college and career exploration! You can find snapshots of colleges and what they offer, complete career assessments and track your college applications all within this one system.



<https://app.scoir.com/signin>

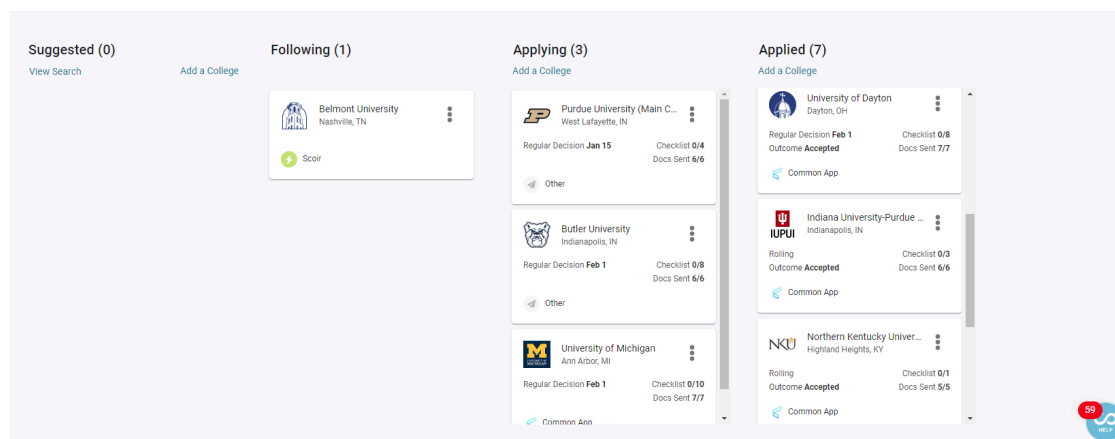
Parents can also create a SCOIR account to aid in the college search process.



DOWNLOAD THE
SCOIR MOBILE APP

KEEP YOUR 'MY COLLEGES' SECTION UPDATED:

It is critical that you move the colleges you are applying to into the correct category under the 'My Colleges' section of SCOIR. Your counselor will automatically send your transcript and letters of recommendation through SCOIR. Once a college has been moved to the 'Applying' or 'Applied' category, your counselor will be prompted to send the appropriate documents.



“What do I do if a college is saying they have not received a copy of my transcript?”

TIP FROM THE GUIDANCE TEAM:

Colleges and universities will often send informational emails out to everyone in their databases to communicate critical information. You may receive an email claiming your counselor has not yet sent a particular college/university a copy of your high school transcript. If this happens to you, double-check your SCOIR account to verify whether your counselor has sent your transcript. **You should also CALL THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE AT THAT PARTICULAR UNIVERSITY and confirm whether or not your transcript has been received. Roncalli sends all transcripts through SCOIR.**

REQUESTING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:



Students should only request letters of recommendation from Roncalli faculty and staff, if they truly need one for a college or scholarship application. Students **MUST** collect and complete a blue Letter of Recommendation form from the Guidance Office before asking a faculty or staff member for a letter. After the recommender agrees to write a letter, students should send them an invite to upload their completed document through SCOIR. Select 'Manage Documents' from the top of your SCOIR profile, and then you can select 'Invite a Recommender'. **MAKE SURE TO GIVE YOUR RECOMMENDERS AT LEAST 2 WEEKS TO WRITE A LETTER.**

MANAGING YOUR APPLICATIONS:

Applying to schools is an exciting part of the college search process. It is important to stay organized and track deadlines and requirements. We recommend using the tracking guide on the next page to help you track deadlines for each of the schools you are interested in and their various needs. You can also create a list of scholarships that you want to apply for and track their due dates in a similar fashion.

THE COMMONAPP VS. COLLEGE SPECIFIC APPLICATIONS:

Most schools offer students the option to apply through the CommonApp or a school-specific application that is linked on their website. **If you are applying to four or more colleges, the CommonApp will probably save you time and will allow you to easily send your application to multiple schools.** If you are applying to a couple of schools, it may be easier to apply directly through the schools' websites.



LEARN MORE AT COMMONAPP.ORG/APPLY/FIRST-YEAR-STUDENTS

TIP FROM THE GUIDANCE TEAM:

Many colleges will have school-specific questions you must answer when completing the CommonApp. Make sure you review and submit each of these by looking at the schools under your 'My Colleges' tab in the CommonApp.

MAKE SURE TO HAVE THESE THINGS PREPARED:

- Personal Information
- Resume or list of activities you are involved with
- High school transcript information (GPA, etc.)
- SAT/ACT test scores
- Contact information for references (if requested)
- Personal statement/writing sample (if requested)

REMINDER:

Remember to utilize a personal email account that looks professional for your applications. Do not use your Roncalli email as you will eventually lose access to this account after graduation.

BEHAVIOR/DISCIPLINE HISTORY QUESTIONS:

When colleges ask about your discipline history, they are trying to understand whether you have ever been in any legal trouble or have a criminal history. Check 'No' to this question if you have any Roncalli discipline issues (detentions, suspensions, etc.).

Before checking 'Yes' to one of these questions, confirm this is the correct approach with your counselor.



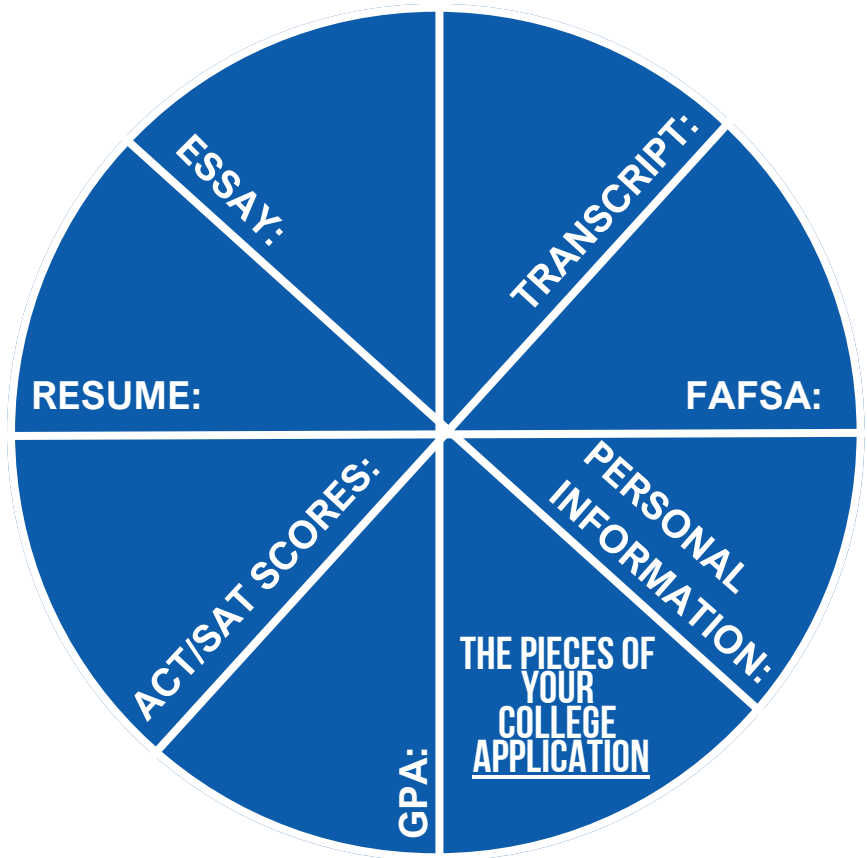
APPLICATION TRACKING:

MY COLLEGE APPLICATIONS						
COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	DEADLINE	TEST SCORES	ESSAY	LETTERS OF REC.	SUBMITTED:	SCORING UPDATED:

THE PIECES OF YOUR APPLICATION:

Most college applications will be comprised of a few different things, such as your official high school transcript, resume, personal demographic information, an essay, ACT/SAT scores and maybe a portfolio! Each piece of the college application should tell the admissions team something different about your story, so that they understand who you are as a person.

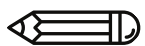
WHAT DOES YOUR COLLEGE APPLICATION SAY ABOUT YOU?



INVOLVEMENT:

Schools will want to know about your extracurricular involvement during high school. Just like an essay that you write, your involvement history should tell a specific story about who you are as a student.

You do not have to list every single thing that you have ever done, but you should highlight the passions you have worked to develop. If you are dedicated to community service work, talk about those experiences but do not attempt to name every place where you have ever completed a service hour.



ESSAYS & SHORT ANSWER RESPONSES:

Essays and short answer questions give you an opportunity to share a side of who you are that is not captured by your GPA or high school transcript. Do NOT regurgitate your resume - instead share something unique, personal or interesting about you! Ask your School Counselor or teacher if you need help selecting a topic.

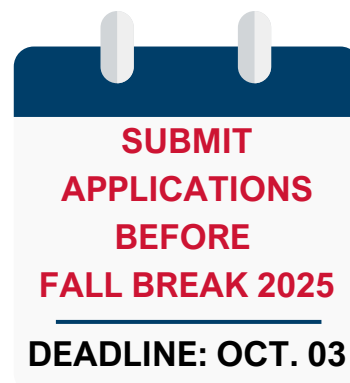
When all of the pieces are put together, the reviewers should have a complete view of your pizza...story!



APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS:

We recommend completing all of your college applications before Fall Break! This gives you a few weeks to finalize the materials you will need to submit your applications and will allow you time to work with the Guidance Team if you have any questions.

Many colleges offer an 'early action' application that is typically due by November 1. If you are passionate about a couple of institutions, you NEED to submit your applications in a timely manner. Schools have continued to admit an increasing number of students during their early-action timeframes and offer fewer and fewer spots to students applying during Semester II.



EARLY DECISION VS. EARLY ACTION PROCESSES:

Early Decision plans are binding. Early Action plans are non-binding.

You can only apply to one college through early decision. You agree to attend that college if accepted and offered an adequate financial aid package. If you want to compare the financial offers that you receive from multiple schools, do not apply anywhere under the early decision option.

You can apply to multiple colleges through the early action option and get priority acceptance over students who wait and apply during second semester.

TEST - WHAT:

Today, colleges have a diverse set of policies surrounding their requirements for ACT and SAT test scores. We always encourage students to take both the ACT and the SAT and then retake whichever test they scored better on initially. Unless a school is test-free, standardized test scores will impact some aspect of the admissions process, whether it is an admissions offer, scholarship eligibility or classes you qualify to take as a first-year student. Talk with your counselor about the best way to address this aspect of your application.

TEST-REQUIRED

The college requires the student to submit either ACT or SAT scores as part of the application process.

TEST-OPTIONAL

Students have the 'choice' to submit their test scores as part of the application process.

TEST-FREE

The college will not accept test scores and test scores influence no aspect of the admissions process.

STANDARDIZED TESTING:



PREPARING FOR THE EXAMS:

Unless a school is test-free, standardized test scores will impact some aspect of the admissions process, whether it is an admissions offer, scholarship eligibility or classes you qualify to take as a first-year student. It is important that you take these tests seriously and work hard to prepare for them.

There are a lot of available resources available to help you study for the SAT or ACT. Here are few that we recommend:

- **Kaplan Online Prep** -
www.kaptest.com/sat/free/sat-practice
Complete online practice tests to help familiarize yourself with the questions you might experience on the ACT/SAT.
- **Khan Academy** -
www.khanacademy.org
Khan Academy has partnered with CollegeBoard to provide effective, efficient SAT prep at no cost. The test prep is individualized to each student by linking the student's PSAT score to Khan Academy.
- **Methodize Test Prep** -
www.methodize.methodlearning.com/join/h9idjs1
This resource is free to Roncalli students and is used by some Roncalli teachers as a classroom resource. The site provides ACT and SAT assessments, lessons, practice questions, timed practice tests and tips.

REVIEW KEY TESTING STRATEGIES:

Review key strategies like the best order to answer questions and how much time experts recommend spending on each question to maximize your testing results.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO CHECK OUT SOME TESTING STRATEGIES FROM THE PRINCETON REVIEW

ACT COMPOSITE SCORE	SAT COMPOSITE SCORE
36	1570-1600
35	1560-1530
34	1490-1520
33	1450-1480
32	1420-1440
31	1390-1410
30	1360-1380
29	1330-1350
28	1300-1320
27	1260-1290
26	1230-1250
25	1200-1220
24	1160-1190
23	1130-1150
22	1100-1120
21	1050-1090
20	1030-1050
19	990-1020
18	960-980
17	920-950
16	880-910
15	830-870
14	780-820
13	730-770
12	690-720
11	650-680
10	620-640
9	590-610

Use this chart to compare your ACT to SAT scores.

AP & DUAL CREDIT CLASSES:

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP):

Students who participate in the AP program gain college-level skills and experience college-level coursework. Students must earn a 'qualifying score' on the courses' AP exam in order to earn college credit, and it is up to the college on what they consider a 'qualifying score' and how they choose to award credit.

For Example: If you earn a 4 on the AP Calculus exam, some colleges will award you elective credit but still require you to take a math class during your undergraduate career. Another college may accept your 4 on the AP Calculus exam, and you may test out of any required math classes.

Students enrolled in an AP class will take the corresponding AP exam in May at Roncalli.

DUAL CREDIT (DC):

Dual credit courses are transferable to all public Indiana universities and colleges. If you choose to go out-of-state or to a private institution, the institution will decide how or if the credits will be counted. The majority of colleges do not list the grades that are earned in a dual credit class on your institutional transcript and the grade will not impact your GPA.

TRANSFEROLOGY:



Transferology.com is a free, online service that allows you to compare how your high school AP and dual credit classes will transfer to over 400 universities across the country.



TIP FROM THE GUIDANCE TEAM:

Your senior year is an exciting time, and there are a lot of fun celebrations to mark this milestone! If you are feeling overwhelmed by your schedule or the amount of work in your AP or dual credit classes, talk with your School Counselor.

Roncalli is proud to partner with several colleges to offer dual credit coursework. Did you know, that all of these classes count for dual credit?

RONCALLI CLASSES WITH DUAL CREDIT AT IVY TECH:

- *Advanced English 12, CP/DC*
- *Advanced English 12, HON/DC*
- *Anatomy & Physiology, HON/DC*
- *Calculus, AP*
- *Calculus, HON/DC*
- *Civil Engineering and Architecture, HON/DC*
- *College & Career Exploration (CCE), CP/DC*
- *Early Childhood Education I, CP/DC*
- *French, AP*
- *French 3, HON/DC*
- *Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry, ACC/DC*
- *Pre-Calculus, HON/DC*
- *Spanish 3, HON/DC*
- *Speech, CP/DC*
- *Trigonometry, HON/DC*
- *US Government, HON/DC*
- *US Government & Politics, HON/DC*
- *US History, AP*
- *US History, HON/DC*

**Students in some of Roncalli's internship programs will have earned additional dual-credit through Ivy Tech Community College.*

RONCALLI CLASSES WITH DUAL CREDIT AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY:

- *Chemistry, CP/DC*
- *Chemistry, HON/DC*
- *German III, HON/DC*
- *German, AP*

RONCALLI CLASSES WITH DUAL CREDIT AT BUTLER UNIVERSITY:

- *Cadet Teaching*

RONCALLI CLASSES WITH DUAL CREDIT AT VINCENNES UNIVERSITY:

- *Advanced Accounting, HON/DC*
- *World History, HON/DC*

RONCALLI CLASSES WITH DUAL CREDIT AT MARIAN UNIVERSITY:

- *Morality (CP/DC)*

UNIVERSITY STUDENT ID NUMBERS & ACCOUNTS:

When you enroll in a dual credit class with the participating college, you are considered a student at that school! It is important that you keep track of your university ID numbers and login credentials so that you can request transcripts and access your educational records.

- BUTLER UNIVERSITY STUDENT ID NUMBER: _____
- INDIANA UNIVERSITY STUDENT ID NUMBER: _____
- IVY TECH STUDENT ID NUMBER: _____
- VINCENNES UNIVERSITY ID NUMBER: _____

SENDING YOUR DUAL CREDIT TRANSCRIPT:

Any student enrolled in a dual credit course should request a transcript from the college/university they are earning the credit from. **You should submit the request after you receive your final Roncalli report card in June, after graduation. You will typically need your school specific university ID in order to request the transcript.**



MONEY MATTER\$:

Financing your college education may seem like an overwhelming hurdle to jump over, but there are many different resources to help you navigate the process and ensure that you set yourself up for financial success.

FAFSA:

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid form is used to assess financial need for students applying to college. **EVERY graduating student must complete the FAFSA, regardless of their post-graduate plans per the Indiana Department of Education.** The FAFSA will be available on **October 1, 2025**, and students should work with their families to complete the form as soon as possible.

SCAN THE QR CODE
FOR FAFSA UPDATES



TERMS TO KNOW:

Master Promissory Note: The Master Promissory Note (MPN) is a legal document in which you promise to repay your loan(s) and any accrued interest and fees to the U.S. Department of Education. It also explains the terms and conditions of your loan(s). This document **MUST** be signed in order for your loans to disburse and requires students to complete some brief loan counseling activities. Your school should help you navigate this process if you plan on accepting loans to finance your education.

Loan Entrance Counseling: Entrance counseling ensures you understand the terms and conditions of your loan and your rights and responsibilities. You'll learn what a loan is, how interest works, your options for repayment and how to avoid delinquency and default. Students must complete their entrance counseling before loans can be disbursed.

CONSIDER THESE 3 THINGS:

TIMELINE:

Most schools will send their fall bills out in July with a due date in early August.

CREDIT CARD FEES:

Many schools will assess a credit card convenience fee that adds significant costs to your overall bill.

EXTRA EXPENSES:

Textbooks and other academic expenses are not normally included in tuition costs, and students should plan to cover these out of their own pocket.

SAMPLE AID LETTER:

This sample aid letter was adapted from a local Indiana college and is meant to give you an idea of what you can expect any school to provide after you apply and are accepted.

Remember to ask your admissions counselor about departmental scholarships based on your intended area of study. These may have separate applications and deadlines but can help reduce overall costs.

ESTIMATED DIRECT COSTS For full-time enrollment living on campus		ESTIMATED TOTAL COSTS \$48,552 TOTAL GIFT AID \$17,000 ESTIMATED REMAINING BALANCE \$31,552
Tuition	\$34,416.00	
Fees	\$1,720.00	
Campus Housing	\$6,436.00	
Meal Plan	\$5,980.00	
Total Estimated Direct Costs	\$48,552.00	
GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS		
University Scholarship	\$17,000.00	
TOTAL GIFT AID	\$17,000.00	
Estimated Annual Out-of-Pocket Balance		\$31,552.00
Consider these other financial aid options to assist with your educational costs.		
LOAN OPTIONS		
Federal Direct Subsidized Loan	\$3,500.00	
Fed Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$2,000.00	
Total Loans (Before Federal Fees)	\$5,500.00	
FEDERAL WORK-STUDY OPTIONS		
Estimated Federal Work-Study	\$1,500.00	

PAYMENT PLANS:

Most universities will offer several different payment plan options for you to break annual tuition costs up over a given number of payments. Many of these plans will begin the summer before school starts and have registration deadlines. Ask the Accounting & Bursar's Office at your school for more information about the available options.

PRIVATE LOANS:

After considering the various financing options for your education, you may need to cover the remaining costs through a private loan. Most universities will work with local banks and credit unions. They should be able to recommend a trusted partner if you do not already have a company you have worked with previously.

FINANCING YOUR COLLEGE EDUCATION:

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Scholarships provide students with money to finance their college education, and there is no obligation to pay the money back! There are many different kinds of scholarships based around common identities, interests, heritage, talent/skills etc. It is important that students do their own independent research to identify scholarships they may be interested in applying for.

Visit the Roncalli Guidance website for to view a listing of available scholarships. These scholarships represent a diverse set of opportunities and have all been vetted by members of the Guidance Team.

The listing will be continually updated throughout the academic year, so it is important that students and families check the link for the latest updates.



SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
[RONCALLI.ORG/ACADEMICS/GUIDANCE](https://roncalli.org/academics/guidance)
FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you are an undocumented student and need help discovering college resources specifically for you, please contact your School Counselor!

TIP FROM THE GUIDANCE TEAM:

Watch for scholarship opportunities from local businesses or organizations with which you have a relationship. The College and Career Counselor will keep you updated on opportunities through your county's local community foundation.



Unfortunately, there are people trying to take advantage of students in search of scholarships, and you need to be careful about the scholarship offers you pursue. You should **never** have to pay to complete a scholarship application. Make sure scholarships are listed on legitimate websites. If you are questioning whether something is real, talk to your School Counselor.

LOANS:

Loans are a valuable resource available to assist you in meeting the cost of education and allow you to defray tuition costs over a longer period of time - typically 10 years. These are some of the most widely-used types of loans that people may consider to help cover college costs.

TYPE OF LOAN	FEDERAL DIRECT STUDENT LOAN	FEDERAL PARENT PLUS LOAN	PRIVATE LOAN
WHO IS ELIGIBLE?	Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at least half time in a degree program. Students must complete the FAFSA to be considered.	Parent borrower must be credit-worthy; must not be in default on student loans; must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. Student must have a FAFSA on file.	Student or parent/guardian is the borrower; must be creditworthy or have a creditworthy co-signer.
HOW MUCH CAN I BORROW?	The maximum amount you can borrow each year is based on your year in school and your dependency status. Undergraduate Students Max • Freshmen-\$5,500 • Sophomores-\$6,500 • Juniors and Seniors-\$7,500 *Independent students or dependent students whose parent has been denied for a PLUS Loan can borrow an additional \$4,000 during their freshman/sophomore years and \$5,000 during their junior and senior years.	Up to total cost of attendance minus other aid received.	Up to total cost of attendance minus other aid received.
WHAT IS THE INTEREST RATE?	Federal loans have a fixed interest rate. Visit studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/interest-rates for current rates.	Federal loans have a fixed interest rate. Visit studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/interest-rates for current rates.	Varies based on lender and borrower. Check with your private loan lender for more info.
WHAT ABOUT FEES?	The government assesses an origination fee of approximately 1% on all student loans. Visit studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/interest-rates for current fees.	The government assesses an origination fee of approximately 4% on all PLUS loans. Visit studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/interest-rates for current fees.	Varies based on lender and borrower. Check with your private loan lender for more info.
WHEN WOULD I START REPAYING THE LOAN?	Payment begins six months after a student graduates or drops below half-time enrollment.	Repayment typically begins 60 days after loan has been fully disbursed for the year. Payments may be deferred while student is enrolled at least half-time.	Varies. Some private lenders may require payments while the student is still in school.
HOW DO I RECEIVE THIS LOAN?	Available loans will be included in your school aid offers.	Apply online at studentaid.gov .	The application process varies by lender.

Subsidized v. Unsubsidized Loans:

Unsubsidized loans are available to all undergraduate students enrolled at least half-time, while students must demonstrate financial need to qualify for subsidized loans. These two loan types also differ in how interest is accrued and assessed. Direct Subsidized Loans have slightly better terms to help out students with financial need.



**SCAN THE
QR CODE TO
LEARN MORE**

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

DEPOSITS:



After you have been accepted, most colleges and universities will ask you to pay a deposit to demonstrate your continued interest in the school. There may be a deposit for tuition and a deposit for housing, if you plan to live on campus. Deposits are typically refundable through May 1; however, each school is unique in the amount they charge and their refund timeline, so make sure you understand the specifics for each school.

ORIENTATION PROGRAMMING:



All colleges and universities will offer some type of orientation program to welcome new students and families to campus. While most schools are going to offer a summer program in June or July, some schools may ask new students to arrive early on campus. If you are trying to plan a family vacation or senior trip, consider how your school's orientation may impact date availability.

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY:



Most students find having a laptop is necessary to navigate the many academic requirements of college coursework. Typically, there are not requirements for a specific type or brand of computer, but if you plan on majoring in a field like art, engineering or nursing, your program may need specific types of software. Ask your school's IT department and the Chair of your academic program for information on technology specifics.

*Schools will often give students some form of printing allowance to use at campus printers, but ask your school's IT department if this type of program exists before investing in a personal printer.

COLLEGE STUDENT DISCOUNTS:



Once you get your college student email and/or ID, consider how you can leverage it to receive discounts on supplies you may need. Many stores, including Apple and Microsoft, will offer college student discounts on popular products. Restaurants and businesses near your school may also offer special discounts that you can enjoy.

LIVING ON CAMPUS:



If you plan to live in a residence hall or campus housing, you may want to start planning for some of the larger purchases students typically take with them.

- TV
- Mini-refrigerator (*some schools will have size restrictions*)
- Microwave
- Comforter/bedding set

Other things to consider taking that many people do not consider include:

- Personal safe/lock box for important documents and valuables
- Rug or carpet remnant (*many carpet stores will offer discounts or give carpet remnants away for free*)
- Laundry detergent and a laundry bag/basket
- Extra-long twin sheets (*most schools offer extra-long twin beds*)
- Surge protectors

TIP FROM THE GUIDANCE TEAM:

Consider writing down the serial numbers of all electronic devices before leaving for school in case something gets lost or stolen.

COMMUTING TO CAMPUS:



If you are planning to commute to campus, you will save some money on your room and board fees. Ask your college admissions counselor whether or not there is a live-on requirement for the school or if you might be able to commute.

TIP FROM THE GUIDANCE TEAM:

Schools should offer some form of 'commuter lounge' for students who drive to and from campus each day. Next time you take a college visit, ask your tour guide if they can show you where the commuter-designated spaces are!

ATHLETICS PLANNING:

If you are planning on participating in sports post-high school, please see your counselor to sign a transcript release form for coaches.

NCAA CHECKLIST:

- Complete your final NCAA-approved courses as you prepare for graduation.
- Take the ACT or SAT and submit your scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center using code 9999.
- Ensure your sports participation information is correct in your Eligibility Center account.
 - If you have not signed-up for a Profile Page or Certification Account with the NCAA Eligibility Center, go to eligibilitycenter.org.
- Request your final amateurism certification after April 1 in your NCAA account.
- After you graduate ask your counselor to upload your final official transcript with proof of graduation to your NCAA account.
 - If you attended high school anywhere besides Roncalli, you must also request a transcript directly from each school you attended.

DIVISION I AND DIVISION II ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Core Courses: Must total 16 NCAA Core Courses by graduation
 - 4-years English
 - 3-years Math
 - 2-years Science
 - 2-years Social Studies
 - 1-year additional English, Math, Science, or Social Studies
 - 4-years additional courses (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, or Foreign Language)



10 of these course **MUST be completed by the start of your senior year.*

- Visit ncaa.org/test-scores for specific test score requirements
- The NCAA calculates your core-course GPA based on the grades you earn in NCAA approved core courses
 - This means that your grades in classes such as Theology, Business, Engineering etc. do not count when calculating your NCAA GPA
 - DI requires a minimum of a 2.3 GPA
 - DII requires a minimum of a 2.2 GPA

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REVIEW THE NCAA COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT-ATHLETE GUIDEBOOK



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS (NAIA):

Student-athletes who wish to participate in athletics at an NAIA institution need to be certified by the NAIA Eligibility Center to qualify academically and be cleared as an eligible student-athlete. NCAA and NAIA are two separate associations with two different sets of rules and certification processes.

NAIA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Register with the NAIA Eligibility Center at playnaia.org
- For NAIA eligibility, the following 2 criteria must be met:
 - Earn a minimum of 2.000 grade point average on a 4.0 scaled upon graduation
 - Earn a minimum of 18 on the ACT or 860 on the SAT (critical reading and math total)
 - Test scores must be achieved in one sitting; scores from different test dates may not be combined to meet requirements.
 - Send your official ACT or SAT scores to the NAIA Eligibility Center using code 9876.
- After you graduate, ask your counselor to upload your final official transcript with proof of graduation and final GPA to the NAIA Eligibility Center.



TIP FROM THE GUIDANCE TEAM:

Student-athletes struggling to find scholarship opportunities with an NCAA program may have a better chance of securing financial funding from an NAIA program.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NAIA



IS COLLEGE FOR ME?

Everyone's journey through life is different, and you may not feel like attending college right after high school graduation is the correct path for you...that is GREAT! Talk with your counselor about other paths after graduation, whether it is an apprenticeship, military service or full-time employment.

APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRADE SCHOOLS:

Check out these local organizations that are in search of talented workers to help them meet industry demands. Reach out to the company directly or contact your counselor with questions.



MACALLISTER MACHINERY:

- Paid while you work education in Diesel Technology
- Two-year program
- Leave program earning an average of \$22/hr
- Contact tammieaustin@macallister.com for more information

PETERMAN TOP TECH ACADEMY:

- HVAC and plumbing certification in as little as four months
- Paid to learn
- Job placement guaranteed upon completion of training
- Contact toptech@petermanhvac.com for more information



INDEPENDENT ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR SCHOOL (IEC INDY):

- For students who are interested in becoming a certified electrician
- IEC Indy will visit Roncalli a couple of times throughout the academic year to help students understand their program
- Contact kameis@iec-indy.org for more information



COSMETOLOGY & BARBER SCHOOLS:

- There are a number of cosmetology and barber schools in Indianapolis that will allow students to pursue their licensure through the State of Indiana
- Roncalli encourages students to use one of their 'College Visit' days to visit these schools, so that they can see what makes each of them unique



AVEDA
FREDRIC'S INSTITUTE



ENDRESS HAUSER:



Endress+Hauser
People for Process Automation

- Endress+Hauser offers students opportunities to pursue a formal apprenticeship or full-time employment
- The apprenticeship program application process begins in late-January each year
- Endress+Hauser will visit Roncalli during the academic year and interested students should attend a brief informational session
- Contact nicole.otte@endress.com for more information

MILITARY SERVICE:

ENLISTMENT:

Service in one of United States military branches provides students with a variety of options to help them kickstart their professional careers. There are a variety of ways to enlist, so make sure to find the approach that works best for you!

- Standard Enlistment: Sign-up and start immediately
- Delayed Entry Program (DEP): Enlist now and delay starting your training for up to 365-days
- Delayed Training Program (DTP): Allows you to delay your Basic Training for up to 365-days
- Split-Option: As a junior in high school, you can enlist in the Army National Guard and not interrupt your high school education. You start by attending basic training in the summer after your junior year. You will return home in time for your senior year in the fall.



LOCAL RECRUITMENT OFFICE:

Stop by the local recruitment office to learn more.

Address: 1108 E Stop 11 Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46227

Army Phone: 317-888-3410

Air Force Phone: 317-954-2224

Marines Phone: 260-740-6929

Navy Phone: 317-888-0263

MILITARY ACADEMIES:

If you are interested in attending one of the U.S. Military Academies, please contact the College and Career Counselor at sfreck@roncalli.org.

These highly-selective institutions have a unique set of application guidelines that require students to apply for and receive a Congressional Nomination. The Congressional Nomination application process is separate from the admissions processes that each individual school requires.



VOCATIONS:

Discernment is the process of listening to the voice of God, who calls us to follow Him. In vocational discernment, a person listens to hear God's call to priesthood, consecrated religious life, marriage or a sacred single life. Ultimately, discernment is about growing in discipleship - in a daily, intentional relationship with Jesus Christ.



REASONS TO START SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:

- To discern one's vocation in life
- To discuss a major life change/event
- To navigate one's involvement in ministry
- To deepen one's relationship with God and the Church
- To learn how to pray

FINDING A SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR:

Suggested places to begin your search for a spiritual director, or a referral to one, would be your parish Priest or Parish Life Coordinator, Deacon or High School or College Chaplain or Campus Minister.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO TAKE A DISCERNMENT QUIZ

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis Office of Worship has a process to help those seeking spiritual direction. Email the Secretariat for Worship and Evangelization at sprtualdirection@archindy.org. Emails are forwarded to a Discernment Companion. A Discernment Companion assists people looking for trained/formed Catholic spiritual directors by providing a referral service.

Feel free to contact the Vocations Office if you have any questions, need help choosing a spiritual director or want to know more about what to expect.

WOMEN'S COMMUNITIES SERVING THE ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS:

- Sisters of St. Benedict, Beech Gove
- Sisters of St. Benedict, Ferdinand
- Discalced Carmelite Nuns, Terre Haute
- Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary of the Woods
- Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul
- Little Sisters of the Poor
- Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg
- Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Tipton
- Missionaries of Charity
- Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

MEN'S COMMUNITIES SERVING THE ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS:

- Order of St. Benedict, Saint Meinrad Archabbey
- Dominican Friars of the Province of St. Albert the Great
- Order of Friars Minor Conventual, Province of Our Lady of Consolation
- Order of Friars Minor, Cincinnati Province of St. John the Baptist
- Order of Friars Minor, St. Louis Province of the Sacred Heart
- Society of Jesus, Chicago Province
- Society of the Divine World, Chicago Province

BECOME A FRIAR:

- St. Francis found much joy in living the Gospel and, in his day, inspired thousands of men and women to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. In today's troubled world, Franciscans continue to share the good news of God's love in ways that we hope will inspire people of our time.
- Vocation Director Br. Tim Lamb, OFM can help answer your questions about the Franciscan way of life. Contact him at becomeafriar@gmail.com or 513-218-3547.
- The first step. The length of this stage depends on your individual needs and discernment. Those 18-21 years old are invited to consider being a part of the Lateran Program at Saint Bonaventure University to complete their college education.

VOCATION EVENTS:



Sign-up for a vocation event at
heargodscall.com/vocation-events-sign-up

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES:

- One Bread, One Cup - St. Meinrad
- Missionary Disciples Institute, Marian University
- Summer Seminary Immersion Program, Holy Cross
- ND Vision, University of Notre Dame
- Steubenville Conferences



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