

WELCOME TO THE
ECFS College Office
Class of 2027 Monthly Newsletter

Dear Form V Parents and Guardians,

We hope you are excited for our **College Symposium** next week, **Monday, April 27!** The day promises to offer some really great insight from seniors, their parents and college representatives alike. You should have already received your schedule for the event; if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to collegeoffice@ecfs.org.

Right now, the juniors are in the thick of college research--whether that is visiting colleges in person, attending virtual tours and information sessions or speaking with current college students. Students are exploring who they are and what they may desire in the next phase of their academic journey. The next few months is a collective effort among parents, college counselors and students to support and guide them through this exciting and sometimes challenging process in cultivating a well-balanced college list. Together, we'll help students reflect on their strengths, explore new possibilities, and make informed decisions about their college applications.

Please read this month's newsletter for updates and information on the work we're doing with the juniors next month!

Sincerely,
The College Office

WHERE WE ARE

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT MEETINGS

It has been wonderful getting to know your children both in our individual student meetings and through campus wide events. In April, our meetings have consisted of the following priorities:

- Confirming who your children will ask for teacher recommendations.
- Introducing the Personal Statement and discussing potential essay topics, beginning the writing.
- Checking in on standardized testing plan, if applicable.
- Discussing any college visits/research since our last meeting.

One current junior shares the following about her experience thus far:

"My experience with the college office so far has been so helpful. I've always been so stressed about college, and my college counselor has been so great with calming my nerves. I love popping into the office during my frees even if it's just to hang out and eat candy. I'm excited to continue this experience throughout next year!"

SCOIR

Students must utilize [Scoir](#) to keep track of colleges that they are interested in learning more about and potentially applying.

It is here that students (and parents, if your child invites you) can view the colleges on your child's list so far and also view colleges that have been suggested by your child's counselor.

As a reminder, most of the counselor's suggestions will aid in identifying colleges in the "target" and "likely" categories, as this is the part of the process where families typically need more assistance.

Juniors should continue to visit their counselor and share their reflections on colleges that we've suggested, as well as that of those they've identified on their own; this feedback is invaluable as it helps us further tailor our suggestions to meet the needs and preferences of the student.

Note: Some topics are relevant over a span of time and may be repeated in several issues for your reference.

WHAT'S NEXT

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

After the **College Symposium** on **Monday 4/27**, students will receive a comprehensive email regarding the logistics of requesting their teacher recommendations. Our timeline will be as follows:

Starting May 1 (NOT BEFORE): students may begin asking teachers for recommendations. As mentioned above, they would have already had a conversation with their college counselor about who they plan to ask.

By May 15: students should have confirmed their teacher recommenders by this time. If there are extenuating circumstances that prevent students from meeting this deadline, they must speak with their college counselor ASAP.

COLLEGE PREP DAY

On Friday 5/15, the College Office will host a **College Prep Day** for juniors. This day will consist of:

- Specialized panels for juniors to learn about application experiences in athletic recruitment, visual & performing arts, international applications and various breakout sessions.

We will also complete some important tasks including:

- Ensuring all students have input their recommenders in Scoir.
- Updating Scoir with 5-7 colleges that students have thoughtfully researched and intend on applying to.
- Begin fleshing out Personal Statement topic.
- Draft Common App Activities List.

WAIT! THERE'S MORE!

Continue meeting with College Counselor (remember, we write a letter of recommendation, too!)

SUMMER RECESS "EXIT TICKET"

In order to scaffold the process, reduce stress and the work that students have to do in the fall, **we require the following from each student prior to leaving for Summer Recess:**

- **Confirm Teacher Recommenders and input in Scoir by May 15**
- **Submit Common App Activities List to Counselor at the end of College Prep Day** (counselor will provide feedback to students)
- **Submit rough draft Personal Statement by June 10** (counselor will provide feedback to students by June 30th so that they can work on this essay over the summer. The end goal is to complete the personal statement prior to the first day of school).
- **Input 5-7 colleges** that the student feels confident about applying to on the **Following list in Scoir**.



STANDARDIZED TESTING

Standardized testing is probably one of the least favorite part of the college application process for most students, but it is important to note the following:

- Though many colleges remain test-optional, many have moved to required testing, so we recommend that all students try to prep and take either the SAT or ACT.
- Students will receive guidance on which colleges should receive scores. We give guidance on this AFTER final junior grades are available and depending on which colleges are on the student's list in the fall.
- If your child took both the practice SAT and ACT at Fieldston over the last year, they received a comprehensive report from Bespoke Education which outlines which test might be the most productive option.
- Most students test officially for the first time in the spring of junior year, however, each student is different and earlier or later testing may be appropriate.
- Group test prep has already commenced; for information on individual tutoring, please email Tiffany Grant at tiffany@bespokeeducation.com.

Important Fieldston Contacts for Standardized Testing:

Raquel Maldonado: for questions pertaining to SAT or ACT registration at Fieldston

Adaury Rodriguez: for questions pertaining to SAT or ACT accommodations support

For your reference, a list of upcoming test dates and registration deadlines are listed below:

Test Date	Test	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
February 14, 2026	ACT	January 7, 2026	January 21, 2026
March 14, 2025	SAT	February 27, 2026	March 3, 2026
April 11, 2026	ACT	March 6, 2026	March 24, 2026
May 2, 2026	SAT	April 17, 2026	April 21, 2026
June 6, 2026	SAT	May 22, 2026	May 26, 2026
June 13, 2026	ACT	May 8, 2026	May 27, 2026
July 11, 2026	ACT (Not Offered in NY)	June 5, 2026	June 24, 2026



(images are hyperlinks to relevant websites)

ACT[®]



FINANCING COLLEGE

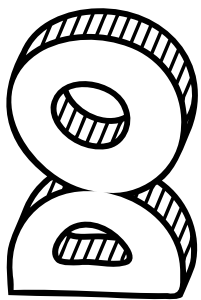
Our live webinars with **College Money Method** have concluded for this academic year.

Please feel free to visit **College Money Method website** (password: ecfscmm) for webinar recordings and accompanying resources.

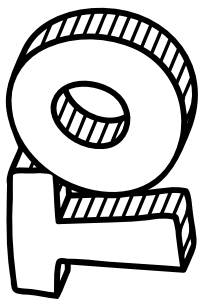
If you receive financial aid at Fieldston and paying for college visits or application materials presents a financial hardship for your family, please contact Zoraida Montanez at **zmontanez@ecfs.org**. *Limited funds are available.*

For any additional questions pertaining to College Money Method and/or financial aid processes/resources, please contact Ms. Akosua Yeboah at **ayeboah@ecfs.org**.

MAY STUDENT CHECKLIST



- **Starting on May 1:** ask two academic teachers for recommendations.
- **Due May 15:** teacher recommendation requests must be confirmed and input into Scoir.
- Attend **College Prep Day** on **May 15** (no classes for Form V) and complete all tasks assigned on this day.
- Maintain engagement and performance in academic classes and extracurricular activities.



- **Continue meeting with College Counselor.** Students must book meetings with Z!
- Continue to make progress on your standardized testing plan (if applicable).
- Begin working on **Personal Statement** (working draft will be **due on June 10**).