

Class of 2026 Rising Senior Checklist

- Start writing your **college essay**.
 - CommonApp Essay Prompts: [Common App Essay Prompts](#)
- **Visit college campuses** over the summer months. Come to school in the fall with a list of **8 to 12 schools** including 2 “reaches,” 2 “safeties” and the rest “probables.” Refer to resources for finalizing your college list.
- Visit **Naviance** and keep your list up to date - *Colleges I'm Thinking About*. <https://student.naviance.com/marblehead>
- Register for the **SAT** at www.collegeboard.com
 - *Fall Test Dates:*
 - August 23th - Registration deadline is August 8th
 - September 13- Registration deadline is August 29th
 - October 4th - Registration deadline is September 19th
 - November 8th- Registration deadline is October 24th
 - Marblehead High School Code: 221-325
- If you are planning to take the **ACT**, sign up at www.actstudent.org
 - *Fall Test Dates:*
 - September 6th- Registration deadline is August 1st
 - October 18th- Registration deadline is September 12th
 - December 13th - Registration deadline is November 7th
 - Marblehead High School Code: 221-325
- Check all **Standardized Testing Requirements** for your colleges
- If interested in **SAT/ACT test prep options**, refer to the last page
- Create a **Common App Account** (www.commonapp.org)
 - *Please note that counselors will be assisting students with this process in the fall and will go through the Education section and matching with Naviance*
 - You may use your personal or school email address
- NACAC **College Fairs**
 - <https://www.nacacnet.org/nacac-college-fairs/>
 - Upcoming Dates:
 - *Virtual* September 14th - 1:00pm - 6:00pm
 - *Virtual* October 19th - 1:00pm - 6:00pm
 - *Virtual* November 9th- 1:00pm- 6:00pm
- Finalize / update your **Resume**/Activities list
- If you have not already, complete the **Student Information Sheet** (brag sheet) and submit it to Class of 2026 School Counseling Google Classroom
 - Students are able to update the Student Information Sheet and resubmit

- Follow up with your teacher(s) in the fall regarding your **letter(s) of recommendation** and inform them of your earliest college deadline.

Helpful Websites

Marblehead High School Counseling Website	https://www.marbleheadschoools.org/Page/1413
College Board	www.collegeboard.com
ACT	www.actstudent.org
Common Application	www.commonapp.org (rolls over August 1st, 2025)
FairTest (List of test optional colleges/universities)	www.fairtest.org
MEFA (Financial Aid Information)	http://www.mefa.org/
Colleges That Change Lives	www.ctcl.org
Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges	https://masscc.org/
Niche - College Search	www.niche.com
NCAA Clearinghouse	https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/

SAT & ACT Test Prep Options

<https://thebestschools.org/resources/best-online-sat-test-prep-services/>

<http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation.html>

- o Khan Academy (SAT Prep)
- o The Princeton Review (SAT & ACT Prep)
- o PrepScholar (SAT & ACT Prep)
- o ePrep (SAT & ACT Prep)
- o Magoosh (SAT & ACT Prep)
- o Kaplan (SAT & ACT Prep)
- o Private Prep (SAT & ACT Prep)
- o Kranse Institute (SAT & ACT Prep)
- o Testive (SAT & ACT Prep)
- o Peterson's (SAT & ACT Prep)
- o CollegeVine (SAT Prep)

All students, regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or homelessness, have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any educational programs offered by Marblehead Public Schools.