

Lowell High School
**College &
 Career Center**



"Always aim for the moon, even if you miss, you will land among the stars."

Announcements: January 6, 2020

http://lhs.lowell.k12.ma.us/pages/Lowell_High/School_Departments/Guidance___Counseling

1. NAVIANCE:

- Online college and career planning tool that students, grades 9-12, can access for FREE anytime
- **To log in:**
 - Visit the LHS Homepage: http://lhs.lowell.k12.ma.us/pages/Lowell_High
 - Click on the Naviance link in the top right hand corner
 - Select student Log-in
 - Enter LHS Student ID for both the username & password
- **Benefits:**
 - Personalized high school plan: map out your courses, set goals, track your progress
 - Career & personality surveys: explore career choices that match your interests
 - Research colleges & scholarships
 - And so much more---CHECK IT OUT!

2. College & Career Representative Visits:

- College representatives will be available during the school day to meet with any 11th/12th grader who would like to research their college options. Sign-ups are required, by logging onto your Naviance account or visiting Rm. 116.
- The following college & career representatives will be available in Room 116:

<i>Tues.</i>	<i>1/7/2019</i>	<i>All Lunches</i>	<i>US Army National Guard, Café Visit</i>	<i>Cafeteria</i>
<i>Wed.</i>	<i>1/8/2020</i>	<i>9a-12p(Appt. Only)</i>	<i>MassHire Greater Lowell Job Appointments, 16+</i>	<i>Rm. 116</i>
<i>Mon.</i>	<i>1/13/2019</i>	<i>All Lunches</i>	<i>US Army Café Visit</i>	<i>Cafeteria</i>

<i>Tues.</i>	<i>1/14/2020</i>	<i>9:30-10:30am</i>	<i>JobCorps Info Session (New Students)</i>	<i>Rm. 116</i>
<i>Wed.</i>	<i>1/15/2020</i>	<i>9a-12p(Appt. Only)</i>	<i>MassHire Greater Lowell Job Appointments,16+</i>	<i>Rm. 116</i>
<i>Thurs.</i>	<i>1/16/2020</i>	<i>9:30-10:30am</i>	<i>Middlesex CC App Days, Session 1 of 2</i>	<i>Rm. 116</i>
<i>Thurs.</i>	<i>1/16/2019</i>	<i>All Lunches</i>	<i>US Marines, Café Visit</i>	<i>Cafeteria</i>
<i>Wed.</i>	<i>1/22/2020</i>	<i>9a-12p(Appt. Only)</i>	<i>MassHire Greater Lowell Job Appointments,16+</i>	<i>Rm. 116</i>
<i>Thurs.</i>	<i>1/23/2020</i>	<i>9:30-10:30am</i>	<i>Middlesex CC Finance Your Future, Session 2 of 2</i>	<i>Rm. 116</i>
<i>Mon.</i>	<i>1/27/2020</i>	<i>8-11:00am</i>	<i>UML Application Days-stop in anytime</i>	<i>Rm. 116</i>
<i>Tues.</i>	<i>1/28/2020</i>	<i>9:30am</i>	<i>JobCorps Orientation (Returning Students)</i>	<i>Rm. 116</i>
<i>Wed.</i>	<i>1/29/2020</i>	<i>9a-12p(Appt. Only)</i>	<i>MassHire Greater Lowell Job Appointments,16+</i>	<i>Rm. 116</i>

3. Naviance College Application Information (SENIORS):

- Any senior who plans to apply to college will use their Naviance accounts to build a college list and request letters of recommendations and transcripts from counselors and/or teachers
- College applications will be sent separately, by using Common Application (for those who accept it) or the college's specific admission application; most applications are submitted online
- For those using Common Application, you must link this account to your Naviance account, using the Common App Match; watch the video on the guidance website, which explains how to do this
- If you are using Common App, you MUST indicate this in Naviance, by answering the question, Are You Applying via Common App?—if you do not complete this section, teachers & counselors cannot send their letters
- Fee waiver eligible students will find their college app fee waivers in their CollegeBoard account; Common App colleges do not require fee waiver eligible students to send the card, unless instructed to do so, double check your application status online or contact admissions to know for sure
- Print out the **Naviance College Application Procedures** handout on the guidance website & stop by the CCC, Rm. 116 for additional help

4. Letters of Recommendation for 12th Graders:

- Students should make their teacher request in person, followed by the Naviance request, which will generate an email to the teacher

- Students should use the Teacher Recommendation Request Form to help with the letter writing process, available in guidance & College & Career
- Students must list their colleges in Common App & complete the Common App Match in Naviance before staff can send documents
- Students will need to notify their teachers when they have added a new college to their list to request the teacher resend the letter to the new school

5. Common Application:

- **12th graders will need to complete the Common App Match before teachers/counselors can send documents to your colleges**
- If you add an additional college to your list, you MUST SEE YOUR TEACHER/COUNSELOR TO RESEND LETTERS OF REC AND TRANSCRIPTS
- Be sure to add your colleges in your Common App list or your teachers/counselors cannot send your letters of rec
- If you are using Common App to apply, you must indicate this in your college list in Naviance

6. Financial Aid/Scholarship Information:

- **FAFSA:** Students should log on beginning Oct. 1 to **fafsa.gov** to begin the 2020-21 FAFSA financial aid application & create their FSA ID number; transfer 2018 tax information directly into your FAFSA application using the IRS retrieval option; check FAQ's for required documents
- **CSS Profile:** If you are applying to a private college you may need to submit the CSS Profile financial aid form; beginning **Oct. 1** this form is available online at **collegeboard.org**; fee waivers are automatically granted to eligible students; for additional info, please view the 2020-21 CSS Profile Guide online
- **Scholarships:** A list of general scholarships is available in students' Naviance accounts; to apply you must log-in, click on the colleges link, then "**Scholarships & Money**" to review each scholarship's eligibility criteria
- **12th Grade LHS Honors Night Scholarships:** Honors Night applications will be available to all eligible 12th graders beginning **Tues. Jan. 21, 8:45am, LHS Cyrus W. Irish Auditorium**. Students who have a 2.5 GPA or higher, attended LHS junior year, and plan to continue their education in the Fall 2020 will be invited to attend the Honors Night Info Session. Students will receive the scholarship bulletin and review the online application procedures.

All scholarship applications must be submitted online no later than Friday, Feb. 7, 4:00pm; no late applications will be accepted, unless noted by the individual scholarship. Completed scholarship applications must include all HN scholarship materials, including completing all required fields in the online application (ID

only transcripts will be loaded by the House office for eligible students), completing the primary essay & other writing requirements as stated by the specific scholarship. Letters of recommendation are only required by those scholarships that request them.

HN application materials will be available in students' Naviance accounts and posted on the Guidance Department website page. For additional information, please contact Karyn Cassidy, College & Career Ctr., Rm. 116 or kcassidy@lowell.k12.ma.us

- **11th Grade Scholarships:**

- **QuestBridge College Prep Scholars Program** (*summer program*): QuestBridge College Prep Scholars Program gives outstanding, **low-income** high school juniors in the top 5-10% of their class with 1280+ PSAT/SAT scores an early advantage in college admissions with their summer program; College Prep Scholars are uniquely prepared to gain admission and full scholarships to top-tier colleges through QuestBridge; the majority are also selected as Finalists for the [National College Match](#), a full, four year college scholarship during senior year

- <https://www.questbridge.org/high-school-students/college-prep-scholars>

7. PSAT Information:

- All 10th/11th grade students who tested on the PSAT should have received an email in Dec. with their access code to log into collegeboard.org to check scores
- Don't forget to link your collegeboard account with Khan Academy--once your PSAT scores are loaded, you will have a personalized study guide & FREE SAT prep
- FREE PSAT/SAT Prep: www.khanacademy.org
- Questions? Please contact Mr. Smith, Rm. 116

8. SAT Information:

- The **registration deadline for the Mar. 14 SAT is Feb. 14**; register at collegeboard.org; fee waivers can be used to cover the late fee
- Remember to add your colleges to your registration- you have 4 free score reports from the time you register until 9 days after you test, thereafter you will pay an \$12 fee; fee waiver eligible students unlimited lifetime score report credits in your SAT account, check this before you pay the fee
- Visit Rm. 116 to register for a collegeboard.org account, and/or request a fee waiver (available to eligible students)
- Log onto www.khanacademy.org for FREE SAT Tutoring

9. ACT Information:

- The **registration deadline** for the **Feb. 8 ACT is Jan. 10**; register online at www.act.org; fee waivers are available for eligible students, but will not cover the late fee
- The **registration deadline** for the **April 4 ACT is Feb. 28**; register online at www.act.org
- Visit Rm. 116 to pick up your free study guide, register for an act.org account, and/or request a fee waiver (available to eligible students)

10. TOEFL Information:

- Computer based English-language test for non-native English speakers who have taken ELL courses in high school
- Ongoing registration and test dates available; register online <http://www.ets.org/toefl>
- Visit Rm. 116 for free study materials, register for an toefl.org account, and/or request a fee waiver (available to eligible students)

11. UMASS Lowell Application Days:

- **Jan. 27, Feb. 24, Mar. 30, & *Apr. 27, 8-11am, Rm. 116**- UML will be available to help 12th graders with their UML/Common Application & 11th graders who have questions about the process
- **Apr. 27, 9:30am, 11th Gr. Early Action Info Session**- open to any 11th grader who wants to learn more about EA, all Nursing majors are encouraged to attend

12. MCC Application & Finance Your Future Days:

- **Jan. 16- App Day, 9:30am, Rm. 116**- MCC will be available to help seniors complete the MCC application
- **Jan. 23- Finance Your Future, 9:30am, Rm. 116**- MCC will be available to help seniors register for their FAFSA FSA ID#

13. 11th Grade Parent MEFA College Planning Night

- **Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 6pm, Helen Gilbride Droney Little Theater**
- All 11th grade students and families are invited to attend the **Junior Parent MEFA College Admissions Planning Seminar** to learn more about current trends in admissions, college applications, the college essay, and financial aid process

14. Volunteer Opportunities:

- United Way of Massachusetts Bay & Merrimack Valley
<https://supportunitedway.galaxydigital.com/need/>
- Volunteer Match
<https://www.volunteermatch.org/search?!=Lowell,%20MA,%20USA>

15. Pre College Summer Programs

- <https://blog.prepscholar.com/pre-college-summer-programs-for-high-school-students>
- **MA 4 Yr. College Summer Programs (visit admission website)**
Babson, Bentley, Berklee College of Music, Boston University, Brandeis, Emerson, Hampshire, Harvard, MIT, Smith, Springfield College, Tufts, WPI
- Check listings in Naviance under Colleges Home/Enrichment Programs

16. Career Information:

- **MassHire Greater Lowell Career Center** is available every Wednesday, from 9-11:45am, ages 16+, for part time job assistance; sign up in the College & Career Center in Rm. 116 or see your guidance counselor
- **Career Speaker Day, Jan. 28- 25** guest speakers from across the greater Lowell community will meet with preregistered classes to talk about their career path & inspire students' future career aspirations
- **10th/11th Gr. Pathway Drop In Days, Jan. 29-31, 10:45am-1:40pm, Rm. 116-** students are invited to visit the College & Career Ctr. to learn more about the LHS Pathways
- Indeed.com:
<https://www.indeed.com/q-Teen-l-Lowell,-MA-jobs.html>
- Snagajob.com
<https://www.snagajob.com/job-search/w-lowell,+ma/q-teen>
- Simplyhired.com:
<https://www.simplyhired.com/search?q=teen&l=lowell%2C+ma&job=IzxtKmcIe9VzNBONI7xKWTA0AIT7MNL-xNCXsfKU6Mop3ut5GF4PgA>

17. Military Information:

- US Navy, Army, Marines & Army National Guard available each month in the cafe Jan-May; see dates listed in Naviance
- Serious about joining? Study now for your ASVAB test which includes Arithmetic Reasoning, Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension & Mathematics

Knowledge—a higher score improves your chances of getting the specialty/job & signing bonus you want

- ASVAB test prep: <https://www.march2success.com/main/index>- login to create an account & focus on the “high school math & verbal skills” section

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