

## Wilson High School

# COLLEGE APPLICATION GUIDE 2018-19

Use this guide alongside the ECMC Opportunities handbook to find everything you need to know about applying to college!

- APPLICATION TIMELINES
- SCHEDULES
- TESTING REQUIREMENTS
- COLLEGE CHECKLISTS
- FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS
- AND MORE!

## WILSON COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

- COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS
  - COLLEGE APPLICATION MENTORING SUPPORT
  - FINANCIAL AID FORM HELP
  - FINDING & APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS
  - COLLEGE & FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS
  - COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING WORKSHOPS
- COLLEGE PLANNING CHECKLISTS

We provide a dedicated space, resources and assistance for students to research colleges and careers. We help students explore their options and plan a path forward for life after high school.

Our goal is to help all students leave Wilson High School with a solid post-secondary plan.

Visit us in room 149!

THIS COLLEGE APPLICATION GUIDE BELONGS TO

# WELCOME!

Applying to college is an exciting time in your life filled with new experiences and self-discovery. The Wilson College Application Guide, used alongside the ECMC Opportunities handbook, will help you navigate the college application process. Familiarize yourself with the information provided here and refer back to it as you make your choices. We are here to support you and help you stay on track and organized—please don't hesitate to visit us in the College Center in room 149

—Kelly Milford, College Coordinator  
kmilford@pps.net

## COMMUNICATION

STAY INFORMED ABOUT THE MANY COLLEGE APPLICATION ACTIVITIES AT WILSON AS WELL AS SCHOLARSHIPS, COLLEGE VISITS AND CAREER DAYS

### NAVIANCE

Most of your important notifications from the College Center will come via email through Naviance. Log in to Naviance, go to About Me/Account and make sure we have the best email address for you.

### WILSON DAILY BULLETIN

If you are not receiving the Bulletin via email, send a message to [wilsonhs@pps.net](mailto:wilsonhs@pps.net).

### REMIND.COM

Sign up for text message reminders and announcements just for your class! Text 81010, include the code for your graduation year:

@2020trojan @2021trojan @2022trojan

## COLLEGE & FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

There are many options for researching college information. If you are overwhelmed by the choices, here is a streamlined list that will get you what you need:

### Naviance

Local admission data using **your** test scores and GPA!

### Oregon Goes To College

[www.oregongostocollege.org](http://www.oregongostocollege.org)

### Oregon Student Aid

[www.oregonstudentaid.gov](http://www.oregonstudentaid.gov)

### Big Future

[bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

### Scholarships

[www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

## 2018-19 YEAR AT A GLANCE WILSON COLLEGE PLANNING CALENDAR

### MARCH

#### Junior Year

- ◆ Wilson College Night (All Grades)
- ◆ Start to explore colleges online using Naviance, Big Future, Cappex. What kind of college do you want—size, location, academic programs?
- ◆ Visit colleges over spring break

#### Senior Year

- ◆ OSAC, PCC Foundation, Future Connect due March 1, 2019

### APRIL

#### Junior Year

- ◆ Continue to explore colleges, create a college list
- ◆ Use net price calculators on college websites, discuss finances with guardians
- ◆ PNACAC Spring college fair, University of Portland, April 28, 2019

### MAY

#### Junior Year

- ◆ Apply for summer jobs/ internships
- ◆ Applying to private schools? Attend Wilson Letter of Rec workshop
- ◆ Ask teachers to write your letter of rec over summer
- ◆ Research scholarships online: [scholarships.com](http://scholarships.com), [fastweb](http://fastweb), [bigfuture](http://bigfuture), CIS
- ◆ Get started early with an essay-writing workshop

#### All: AP Exams

#### Senior Year

- ◆ College Decision Day May 1. Commit to your school and celebrate your next steps!
- ◆ Complete Senior Survey in Naviance; final transcript will be sent to the college you will attend

### JUNE

#### Junior Year

- ◆ Visit colleges, narrow down your list
- ◆ Understand the application requirements of the schools you are applying to

#### Senior Year

- ◆ Oregon Promise Deadline or by June 1

# 2018-19 YEAR AT A GLANCE

## WILSON COLLEGE

### PLANNING CALENDAR

#### JULY

##### Senior Year

- ◆ Oregon Private Colleges Week, July 29-August 2, 2019
- ◆ Visit colleges
- ◆ Begin drafting college essays/personal statement
- ◆ Register/retake SAT/ACT if needed in summer or early fall
- ◆ Research scholarships online

#### AUGUST

##### Senior Year

- ◆ Visit colleges
- ◆ Update resume with summer activities
- ◆ Narrow down your college list
- ◆ Continue to work on college essays/ personal statement

#### SEPTEMBER

##### Senior Year

- ◆ Work on college applications
- ◆ Wilson Financial Aid Night
- ◆ Letter of Rec workshop
- ◆ Watch for essay-writing workshops at Wilson

#### OCTOBER

##### Senior Year

- ◆ Work on college applications
- ◆ FAFSA opens October 1
- ◆ Performing & Visual Arts Fair, October 1, 2019
- ◆ National College Fair October 28-29, 2019
- ◆ Early Action Letters of Rec in development
- ◆ PCC Fall Getaway during PSAT
- ◆ Attend a Letter of Rec workshop

#### NOVEMBER

##### Senior Year

- ◆ College Application Week at Wilson
- ◆ Work on college applications
- ◆ Early apps due starting November 1
- ◆ Watch for FAFSA support workshops at Wilson

#### DECEMBER

##### Senior Year

- ◆ Work on college applications
- ◆ File FAFSA!
- ◆ Apply for Scholarships

#### JANUARY

##### Senior Year

- ◆ Wilson Alumni College Panel
- ◆ Most college applications are due this month!
- ◆ Correct/verify FAFSA as needed
- ◆ Continue applying for scholarships

#### FEBRUARY

##### Junior Year

- ◆ ACT at Wilson
- ◆ Register for spring SAT (recommended) and subject tests (if your schools require them)
- ◆ Continue to explore colleges online

All: Register for AP Exams

##### Senior Year

- ◆ Correct/verify FAFSA as needed

## NAVIANCE

Naviance is an important tool that all students at Wilson will use for college and career planning, college application, and to fulfill graduation requirements. Naviance is a great research tool, with links to useful websites relating to colleges, financial aid, NCAA eligibility, and a resume-building tool. Students will also use Naviance to order official transcripts, prepare for requesting a counselor letter of recommendation, sign up for college visits at Wilson, and indicate your plans for after high school.

Login in at <https://student.naviance.com/wilsonor> or find the link at the Wilson website. To login, use your personal email address as user name and your 6-digit student ID number as password.

If you are unable to log in, visit the Counseling Office or the College Center for help.

## THE APPLICATION: NAVIANCE STEPS

► Use Naviance to research colleges and create a list of colleges you are interested in.

Once you have finalized your list:

► Enter the colleges you are applying to in Naviance. For each college, request official transcripts.

► For each college, indicate the type of application you are using (Common App or applying directly). If you are using SENDedu, talk to your counselor first.

► Check the website of each college you are applying to so that you understand the application requirements for each one.

## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

*Teachers and counselors require at least three weeks lead time before the due date to write you a letter—yours is not the only letter they will be writing!*

► Determine which of your schools require letters of recommendation. Private schools usually require 1-3 letters (from two teachers and one counselor). The process for requesting letters is different for counselors and teachers.

### COUNSELOR LETTERS

► To get a letter from your counselor, you MUST attend a Wilson Letter of Rec Workshop, offered in the spring and fall. You will receive your Letter of Rec packet at the workshop.

### LETTER OF REC CHECKLIST

- Updated resume in Naviance
- Completed Letter of Rec packet forms
- Student questionnaire completed in Naviance
- Parent questionnaire completed in Naviance

► Once all the forms are filled out and your resume is updated, make an appointment with your counselor about your college plans at least three weeks prior to your first application deadline.

### TEACHER LETTERS

Teacher letters should come from teachers who know you well and have taught you in the past year; at least one should be from a core academic subject if possible.

► Ask teachers directly for a letter of recommendation, use the blue form in the Letter of Rec packet. Teachers may ask you for an updated resume.

**BE SURE TO THANK YOUR LETTER-WRITERS FOR THEIR TIME AND EFFORT! THIS IS ALSO A GOOD TIME TO ACKNOWLEDGE EVERYONE WHO HAS HELPED YOU GET TO THIS POINT IN LIFE—PARENTS, CAREGIVERS, FRIENDS, TEACHERS, COACHES.**

## THE FINAL STEPS: COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION

► For Common App schools, match your Naviance account with your Common App account. Naviance will prompt you to match accounts.

► You must fill out the FERPA waiver in your Common App account to enable matching.

► If you apply to additional private colleges after meeting with your counselor, let them know which schools you are adding to ensure documents are sent to those schools.

► Send official SAT or ACT test to your schools (not all schools require test scores; you may have already asked that they be sent when you registered for your test) by logging in to your accounts at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) and [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

► A few weeks after submitting your application, check your account at each college to make sure that all documents have been received and look for directions on next steps!

## PAYING FOR COLLEGE

**Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE):** A regional tuition-discount agreement that allows students from Oregon to enroll as nonresidents in 160+ participating public colleges and universities and pay 150% (or less) of the enrolling school's resident tuition. The average annual tuition savings for a WUE student is \$9,000. [www.wiche.edu/wue](http://www.wiche.edu/wue)

**Ford Family Foundation Scholarship:** In addition to a generous financial award, Ford Scholars receive academic guidance, leadership development, personal and professional support, and access to the Ford Family alumni network. Up to 125 renewable scholarships are awarded each year to students from Oregon. [www.tfff.org/](http://www.tfff.org/)

**Questbridge:** Connects qualified students from low-income backgrounds to top colleges. The QuestBridge National College Match helps outstanding low-income high school seniors gain admission and full four-year scholarships to the nation's most selective colleges. The College Prep Scholars Program equips high-achieving high school juniors from low-income backgrounds with the knowledge, confidence, and resources to apply to top colleges. [www.questbridge.org/](http://www.questbridge.org/)

## ASPIRE

Students in grades 9-12: Sign up for one-on-one help developing a plan to set your education and career goals and help meeting them! ASPIRE Mentors can assist you with career and school research, applications and admissions processes, and provide information on financial aid. Stop by the College & Career Center or go to [www.aspireoregon.org](http://www.aspireoregon.org) to sign up.