



# ROAD TO COLLEGE

SEP 7, 2025

## Newsletter

Dear Students & Families,

This week, we'll dive into the power of building strong relationships, managing time wisely, and preparing for recommendation letters, all skills that make a big difference when applications open."



### TO DO LIST

Aim for straight A's. GPA starts now and top colleges want to see consistent academic strength. Pay attention to HW deadlines.

Choose 1–2 clubs/sports to commit to deeply (**quality over quantity**).

Create a study calendar for September with test prep, homework, and activities.

Juniors, start brainstorming possible [college essay topics](#) (personal story, challenge, growth moment)



### REMINDERS and DEADLINES

**SAT:** Oct. 4, 2025.

**Registration deadline:** Sept. 19, 2025

**Early Action & Early Decision deadlines** begin as soon as Nov 1. Draft essays early. Start drafting your Common App essay

Talk to your teachers about letters of recommendation. Get at least 2.

Enroll in school clubs and sports!!!



**College Prep Tip: Teacher Relationships Matter.** Colleges rely on teacher recommendations to understand your character and academic strengths. Be engaged in class, ask thoughtful questions, and show initiative. Teachers write stronger letters for students they know well.

## SAMPLE COLLEGE ESSAY

### Pursuing My Passion in Research

My lifelong dream has been to help and inspire humankind to the greatest extent of my abilities. During high school, I decided that a career in science was the best way for me to reach and help as many people as possible. Earning an education at a highly selective institution like Johns Hopkins would give me the most beneficial options for attaining my career goals and making my lifelong dream a reality.

As an aspiring scientist, Johns Hopkins stands out to me as a university that is at the forefront of many scientific breakthroughs that will help society. Finding the solution to pressing scientific problems has been my main focus and a passion of mine during my undergraduate studies. Organic chemistry is my top concentration for research. Following my successful completion of the course, I was selected as the embedded tutor (teacher's assistant) for the class the year following due to my passion and prior experience as a supplemental instruction leader. [Continue Reading...](#)

### Admissions Committee Comments to Essay

Through her transfer essay, Klaire showcases her deep interest in advancing scientific research through her experiences at her community college and her future at Hopkins. Her curiosity led to her selection as a teaching assistant in her organic chemistry course, and she used that opportunity to further explore her academic passions. Klaire also highlights the role in which her identity as a first-generation college student has shaped her perspective. At Hopkins, she writes, she would not only grow as a scholar, but also as member of an inclusive campus community. The admissions committee can clearly identify Klaire's match for Hopkins through her research mindset and value for diversity of thought within our community.

### Admissions Insight of the Week

*Extracurriculars count—but it's not about doing everything. Colleges value commitment, leadership, and impact more than just joining many clubs.*

### Resource of the Week

[College Board | College Search](#)