

MCNEAL SAMS COLLEGE CONSULTING NEWS AND NOTES

FINAL CHOICE CHECKLIST

There is more to finalizing your enrollment than letting the college know you will come. The most frequently required steps are listed below. For a complete list of typical tasks required between now and when you begin college, consult [this guide](#).

If you are having trouble making a final choice, your college consultant is here to help.

- Pay your enrollment deposit.
- Accept your financial offer, including scholarships and need-based aid.
- Register for housing including paying your housing deposit. And, selecting a roommate. It can be fun. Most schools have an online "roommate meet-up" resource.
- Register for an orientation program.



MARCH MADNESS: IT'S DECISION TIME!

What you have been waiting for is finally here! The last of your decisions will arrive by April 1st. We are as excited as you are! Don't forget to let your college consultant know your outcomes. The March newsletter is dedicated to helping you finish your college choice journey.

SENIORITIS: DON'T CATCH IT!

"Um...do my grades from the second half of senior year really matter, especially now that I've sent all of my college applications?" They certainly do. Here's why.

Your admission to a college is, in virtually every case, dependent on continued academic and personal progress up until you arrive on campus. (Check your acceptance letters and you'll doubtless find some language to that effect.) Colleges review final transcripts carefully to be sure students are maintaining their level of achievement. A bunch of C's, a D, an F— these are warning signs and they are taken very seriously. And if you're on a waitlist, poor grades won't help your case.

If your academic performance slips, you may be contacted by the college and asked to provide a written explanation for the downturn. If this happens, contact us immediately so we can assist with a letter that acknowledges the issue and describes the steps you will take going forward.

"What about 'personal progress'? What does that mean?" What it means is, don't get in trouble. Keep your social media presence absolutely spotless; don't lie, cheat, or steal; maintain the positive personal conduct that helped you get into the college in the first place. You've worked hard for years. You're almost at the high school finish line— don't slow down now.



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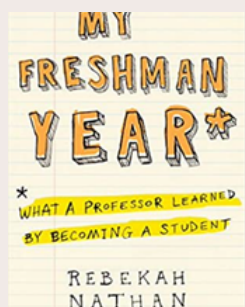
NEWS AND NOTES

TALK AROUND TOWN

Some items we find interesting::

Article: [Top Ten College Transition Tips](#), by Brennan Brown

Podcast: [College Info Geek: Study Tips and Advice for Students](#)



Reading Recommendation: *My Freshman Year* by Rebekah Nathan.



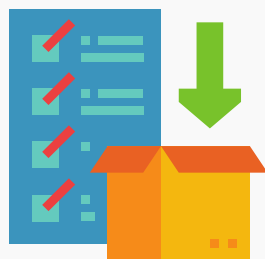
THE TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

McNeal Sams College Consulting is pleased to offer a series of complimentary webinars from April to June. We have three webinars that will help prepare you and your parents for what to expect when you enter college next fall. Watch your email for the dates, times, and registration information.

A brief description of each workshop is below.



MAKING THE TRANSITION TO THE COLLEGE CLASSROOM: This workshop will focus on making a successful transition to the college learning environment. What are the differences between high school and college in the classroom? We will cover everything you need to know to feel ready to go on day one of class.



PREPARING TO LIVE ON CAMPUS: Let's face it, the typical college residence hall room is small. This workshop will share tips and lists for what to pack and what not to pack for life on a college campus. We will also discuss navigating relationships with roommates and the importance of maintaining your connections to home.



BEING HEALTH AND HAPPY AT COLLEGE: College is full of new opportunities and change. Sometimes all of that opportunity and change can get overwhelming. This workshop will help you know how to navigate the change so you are ready for the opportunity. Topics discussed will include the importance of self-care, when to expect highs and lows, and how to access resources to help you.

KINDNESS CORNER: THE HAPPINESS FACTOR

In 2018, Yale professor Laurie Santos offered the course "The Science of Well-Being" to the general public, for free. It was a hit, which was no surprise as it had become Yale's most popular class. She has restructured it and is now offering it to high school students, also for free. It's a six-week class ("class" is loosely used - you will get something out of it whether or not you do the exercises in between classes...but do them!) and we encourage you to carve time out of your senior year to become prepared to take on college with the best mindset possible. [You can register via this link.](#)

