

# College Night for Juniors



January 23, 2019

**BOSTON  
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# Tonight's Agenda

6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. : Admissions and Financial Aid Overview

6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. : Panel of Admissions Representatives

7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. : Small Groups with Guidance Counselors

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# Questions We Hope to Address

- What are the college counseling resources at BLS?
- What are the steps to apply to college and when do they happen?
- How will I know what my child needs to do?
- Will my child get into college?
- How will I pay for college?
- What do I need to do?

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# Guidance Counselors

<b>A - C</b>	<b>Ms. Sweeney</b>
<b>D - G</b>	<b>Mr. Etienne</b>
<b>H-Lh</b>	<b>Ms. Segal</b>
<b>Li-Lu, Z</b>	<b>Ms. Clougherty</b>
<b>M - O</b>	<b>Ms. Sylvester</b>
<b>P - S</b>	<b>Ms. Encarnacao</b>
<b>T - Y</b>	<b>Ms. Cousens</b>

# Guidance Counselors

- Assist students in devising a final list of colleges
- Meet with students individually
- Write an objective letter of recommendation on behalf of the student
- Submit the counseling recommendation letter, transcript, and school profile to all colleges
- Answer ongoing questions about the college process

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# What We Do: Schawbel College Resource Center

Mission: To ensure that all BLS students have the support and information to pursue their best fit colleges.

## What We Do:

- Teach Junior Forum
- Coordinate college fair and school visits: 200+ colleges at BLS this year
- Build relationships with college admissions offices
- Support students with college applications and basic financial aid needs
- Provide college writing coaching to Class I students
- Monitor admissions trends to keep college counseling at BLS current
- Consult with guidance counselors on cases and support of students

## Our Annual Programs Include:

Pizza and Apps

Get It Done Days

Interview Workshop

COLL-AGE

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# How We'll Keep You in the Loop

- Monthly Checklists: posted on website or ask your child to see their hard copy
- BLS Programs: information provided via email and in News from the Avenue

## Looking for Information?

- BLS Website – new and improved college counseling page, new articles page. Financial aid page coming soon!
- Ask Your Student
- Send them to see us!

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# The Facts: College Admissions in USA

- 62.6% of American high school students attend college – 98.5% of BLS graduates do.
- 42% of all undergraduate students attend community college
- Only ~**0.2%** of American students attend Ivy League institutions
  
- **The average student submits 4.79 college applications – BLS students complete between 8-10 on average.**
- **The average student lists 5.5 student activities on the Common Application.**
  
- Only 15 American colleges or Universities have admission rates less than 12%. Only 12,000 students attend these schools.
- Less than a quarter of all American students are at schools with acceptance rates of less than 50%.
- Only 5% of students attend schools with acceptance rates of less than 25%

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# College Admissions Facts: BLS

## **Most Popular Colleges (2015-2018):**

University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Boston University  
University of Massachusetts Boston  
Boston College  
Harvard University

## **Most Popular Out of State Colleges (2015-2018):**

University of Vermont  
New York University  
Temple University  
University of Maine  
McGill University

## **Most Popular Majors - Class of 2018**

Computer Science  
Undecided/Undeclared  
Business  
Biology  
Nursing

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# Admissions: Class of 2018

## **Accomplishments:**

- 4 Posse Scholars
- 2 Questbridge Scholars
- 39 BU Menino Scholarship Winners

## **Class of 2018 Students Were Admitted To:**

- Harvard University
- Yale University
- Dartmouth College
- Princeton University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Cornell University
- Columbia University
- Brown University
- Amherst College
- University of Chicago
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Wesleyan University
- Northwestern University
- Georgetown University
- Duke University

## **Top Five Colleges Class of 2018:**

UMass Amherst – 59  
Boston University - 48  
UMass Lowell - 27  
Harvard University - 26  
UMass Boston – 26

## **% Attending Colleges Out of State:**

23.4%

## **Most Popular Out of State Colleges:**

New York University  
American University  
University of Vermont  
Tulane University  
University of Miami  
George Washington University

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# Applying to College: Steps

Pre-Application

Recommendation Request

Completing the Application

The College Essay

Supplemental Essays/Supplements (if required)

Testing/Sending Test Scores

Interviews (if applicable)

Demonstrating Interest (if applicable)

Paying/Waiving the Fee/Submitting the Application

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# Application Timeline: Junior Year

- Visit Colleges and Universities: school breaks
- Register for the SAT or ACT
- Start Exploring College and University Options
- Select Courses for Senior Year
- Participate in Junior Forum
- Attend Financial Aid Night – new time!
- Select teacher recommenders (April/May)

# Junior Forum: BLS College Preparation Class

12 classes and two assemblies

All juniors participate – 19 sections

December - April

## **4 EDUCATIONAL UNITS**

I. College Search

II. Understanding Admissions

III. Planning and Organization

IV. Applying to College

## **Topics Include:**

- College Options and Your Preferences
- How to Search for College
- The College List: Accessibility and Affordability
- Understanding Academic Assessment
- Mock Admissions Workshop
- All About Applying Early
- Admissions Testing
- Senior Panel
- All About Testing: SAT, ACT, Subject Tests
- Project Management and Applying to College
- College Essay Workshop
- Scholarships and Financial Aid

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# Application Timeline: Summer Into Senior Year

- Complete the Common Application (Use your BLS Common Application Guide!)
- Continue to visit colleges/finalize college list
- Study to retake the SAT or ACT in the fall
- Write draft of college essay
- Discuss early application options and pros/cons – decide if applying early
- Check in with your teacher recommenders - remind them of your deadlines and see if they need anything

# Application Timeline: Senior Year Fall/Winter

- Edit and finalize college essay
- Finalize college list: submit to guidance counselors
- Submit applications: November through February
- Meet with guidance counselor
- Attend college fair and after school visits at BLS
- Search for scholarships using BLS scholarship resources
- Keep working hard
- Breathe. Relax. Distract Yourself as you Wait!

Parents:

- Start applying for financial aid on 10/1 (FAFSA/CSS)

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# Application Timeline: Spring Senior Year

- Receive remaining admissions decisions and financial aid awards/scholarships:
  - celebrate successes and acknowledge disappointments but move forward
  - Compare financial aid awards and appeal when appropriate
- Decide where to attend by May 1
- Graduation!



# The College List

- Apply to 6-10 schools that you like
- Use **your interests** to refine your list
- Choose a set of schools that fall into one of three categories:

**Likely:** 2-4 schools

**Possible:** 2-4 schools

**Reach:** 2 schools

- Select at least one financial safety that you like: often MA Public University
- Select schools that are **financially accessible** to you

Due Dates:

- List of early applications: September 2019
- Final college list: November 2019

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# Financial Accessibility = Net Price

**Net Price:** |  
How much an individual student/family will be asked to pay after financial aid or scholarship awards.

**Tuition:**  
full price; the amount you would pay if you did not qualify for any financial aid or scholarship

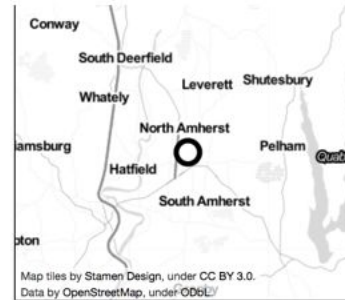
Do not search for affordable colleges using search fields related to tuition.... **they are not net price.**

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# EFC and Net Price: College Scorecard

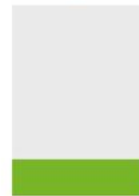
## University of Massachusetts- Amherst



Amherst, MA  
22,958 undergraduate students  
[umass.edu](http://umass.edu)



### Average Annual Cost



\$19,324

### Graduation Rate



77%

### Salary After Attending



\$51,400


<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>

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# EFC and Net Price: Naviance



Boston College 

Chestnut Hill, MA, United States | [www.bc.edu](http://www.bc.edu)

Overview

Studies

Student Life

AVERAGE NET PRICE 

**\$23,085**

Income:  

[More about Cost & Aid](#)

from 2018

GRADUATION RATE 

**91%**

Within 6 years

[More about Learning Environment](#)

from 2018

ACCEPTANCE RATE 

**34%**

[Check out Scattergrams to see how this relates to you](#)

from 2018

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# EFC and Net Price: Net Price Calculator

# Colby

 **Net Price Calculator**



It often only takes 10 minutes to complete this form and receive an estimate of costs and the aid you may be eligible to receive. Before you start, you may find it helpful to gather your most recent parent and student tax returns, earnings statements (W2 forms, recent paycheck stubs), statements from bank and investment accounts, and records of untaxed income (child support, contributions to 401(k) or tax deferred retirement plans).

## Affordability and Accessibility

- ✓ Colby meets 100 percent of college-calculated financial need for all admitted students with grants and campus employment—not loans.
- ✓ Colby awarded over \$38 million in grant aid to students in 2017-18.
- ✓ The average first-year financial aid package in 2017-18 was \$46,135.

Estimate your financial aid package

[Get Started Now >](#)

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# Financial Aid: What Should I Be Doing Now

- Talk with your children about college costs and available resources
- Use net price tools to understand real college cost
- Store your 2018 taxes in an easily accessible place for financial aid applications next year!

# College Application Support: What Can Parents Do?

- Provide perspective: this one step on their journey
- Take your children on college visits
- Remember to talk to them about their lives/other things
- Breathe: 98.5% of BLS students went on to 4 year colleges
- Fill out the parent brag sheet (link on BLS web) by March 1

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# Is That Really it? What else Can I Do

Help your children stay organized:

- Support them in use of CAPS sheet or other organizational spreadsheets with dates, deadlines, requirements
- Passwords – encourage them to store passwords in a central place for all college websites
- Remind them to check their emails

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# Big 6 College Factors that Lead to Student Success

- A professor who made them excited about learning
- Professors who cared about them as a person
- A mentor who encouraged them to pursue their goals and dreams
- Working on a long term project
- A job or internship where they applied what they were learning
- Extensive involvement in extra-curricular activities

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# A Final Word From Us

## Finding a “Fit”

- A professor who made them excited about learning
- Professors who cared about them as a person
- A mentor who encouraged them to pursue their goals and dreams
- Working on a long term project
- A job or internship where they applied what they were learning
- Extensive involvement in extracurricular activities

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# Panel of Admissions Representatives

- **Sean Ashburn**, Assistant Director of Admissions, Tufts University
- **Erin Bernard**, Senior Assistant Director of Admission, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- **Kate Innis**, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Simmons University
- **Chris O'Brien**, Associate Director of Admissions, Boston College

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# Guidance Groups and Locations

<b>A - C</b>	<b>Ms. Sweeney</b>	<b>Band Room</b>
<b>D – G</b>	<b>Mr. Etienne</b>	<b>Electronic Classroom</b>
<b>H-Lh</b>	<b>Ms. Segal</b>	<b>Auditorium</b>
<b>Li-Lu, Z</b>	<b>Ms. Clougherty</b>	<b>Classroom 209</b>
<b>M - O</b>	<b>Ms. Sylvester</b>	<b>Chorus Room</b>
<b>P - S</b>	<b>Ms. Encarnacao</b>	<b>Black Box Theater</b>
<b>T - Y</b>	<b>Ms. Cousens</b>	<b>Seevak Room 309</b>

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