

of which your parents are members. These could be groups like the Elks Club, a professional organization or union.

NCAA Clearinghouse/Sports Scholarships

If you are a student who is hoping to play Division I or II sports at college then you have another piece to keep organized. You must be cleared by the NCAA in order to play at any Division I or II school. We NEVER recommend that you wait to apply to colleges or for financial aid based on your interest in playing sports. This is particularly important if you are a spring sport athlete. During your junior year in high school you should be visiting www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and registering. This includes printing out two copies of the Transcript Request Forms from the website and giving them to your counselor. One goes immediately with your current transcript so you can begin speaking with coaches and having formal visits to see their sports program (you never need this to just visit the campus); and one is filled in the C&CC to go with your final transcript once you graduate so that you can be cleared by the NCAA if you meet their requirements.

The final piece of the scholarship puzzle is to keep your counselor informed about your interests, activities, potential colleges and future goals. This will allow your counselor to recommend you for scholarships that may need a nomination or help them to make you aware of new scholarships as they become available.

Final Thoughts

We certainly hope that you have found this guide helpful. Many of the things you have read in here may seem confusing at first. However, as you begin to take each step in this process, the information will make more and more sense. Please keep this guide in a spot where you can reference it as you go through each stage of the process. We have tried to make this guide as comprehensive as possible. No matter how complete it may seem, every student is still an individual and will ultimately need specific questions answered and clarified. Never hesitate to make an appointment with your counselor as these questions arise. Good luck on your journey!