

College Counseling Family Programs 2024-2025

Grade 12: College Meeting for Senior Parents – Required

Thursday, August 22, 6:00-7:30pm in SRC

- Application deadlines are rapidly approaching! Join us for a detailed overview of the college application process.

Grade 12: Succeeding in the Financial Aid Process (Webinar)*

Tuesday, September 24, 6:00-7:00pm via Zoom

- The FAFSA & CSS Profile can be stressful. This webinar provides Seniors and their families with a clear understanding of the entire process that lies ahead.

Grades 9-12: Mock Admissions Case Studies – Required for Grade 11 families

Tuesday, November 12, 6:00-7:45pm via Zoom

- You've heard rumors about how colleges evaluate applicants and what matters most to them. Here's your chance to learn just how complex it really is!
- Go behind the scenes and review sample applications to make admissions decisions with seasoned admissions officers from leading institutions nationwide.

Grades 9-10: Navigating College Pricing and Financial Aid (Webinar)*

Tuesday, January 21, 6:00-7:00pm via Zoom

- It's important for families to be realistic about aid eligibility and award potential. This webinar shares the various college financial aid policies with equal emphasis on need-based and merit-based approaches.

Grade 11: College Meeting for Junior Parents – Required

Thursday, January 23, 6:00-7:30pm in the Leipold Recital Hall

- Your student's college search has begun! Join us for a detailed overview of the process.
- Grade 9-10 parents are also welcome.

Grades 9-10: Informational Evening for Freshman and Sophomore Parents

Wednesday, February 5, 6:00-7:30pm in the Leipold Recital Hall

- Wondering what you and your student should be doing and when? Bring your questions, meet the college counselors, and learn more about our 4-year college counseling process.

Grades 11-12: Evaluating Loans and Borrowing for Your College Investment (Webinar)*

Wednesday, February 5, 6:00-7:00pm via Zoom

- Students need to understand how borrowing plays into their college choices. This workshop advises students and families on the student loan landscape, what personal finance principles to use when considering loans, and how to right-size their borrowing.

Grade 11: Building Aid Generosity and Affordability Into Your School Lists (Webinar)*

Wednesday, March 5, 6:00-7:00pm via Zoom

- Consideration of cost is part of finding a good fit college. This workshop supports students in taking a data-driven approach to researching each college's financial aid practices and policies – both need-based and merit-based – to make more evidence-based decisions for financial fit.

*Prairie's educational programming around how families pay for college are listed in purple. All programming is facilitated virtually by our partner [College Money Method](#) from 6-7:00pm on the listed date. All webinars are recorded and will be available after the fact through Prairie's high school portal.

Grades 9-11: Prairie School College Fair

Thursday, March 6, 12:00-2:00pm in the JAC

- Visit with representatives from a wide range of colleges. Explore options and opportunities, collect information, and ask individualized questions as you begin or continue your college search process.
- All Upper School students and parents are encouraged to attend.

Grade 12: Evaluating Financial Aid Offers and Considering Appeals (Webinar)*

Thursday, March 20, 6:00-7:00pm via Zoom

- Confusing financial aid letters can leave students and families unclear about their actual cost for four years. This workshop supports families on how to standardize and compare disparate financial aid awards and provide guidance on when to appeal.

Grades 9-10: Understanding How Colleges Assess Your Aid Eligibility (Webinar)*

Wednesday, April 16, 6:00-7:00pm via Zoom

- This workshop supports families with in-depth knowledge of how the applications' (FAFSA and CSS Profile) formulas assess their income and assets so that families can make decisions earlier in high school to increase their eligibility.

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