

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DNHS CEEB Code: 054351	Del Norte does NOT rank	Senior class size: 509	Report <i>Academic</i> GPA
GPA is on a 4.0 Scale	Academic GPA is weighted	Grading System: A, B, C, D, F	UC/CSU apps – enter DNHS courses as <i>SEMESTERS</i>

General Questions:

- ♦ **Should I retake the SAT or ACT?** There is no risk in retaking either exam. Colleges take the highest scores and do not penalize student for retaking the exam or for a low score on a specific test date.
- ♦ **How do I send my official SAT and ACT scores?** Go to www.collegeboard.org and/or www.act.org to request that your official scores be sent to colleges. Self reporting on apps, and scores on the transcript, are not official.
- ♦ **When do I send SAT/ACT scores?** Request College Board and/or ACT to send them by the application deadline. If you are taking exams after the app deadline, send those scores as soon as possible.
- ♦ **How many colleges should I apply to?** Typically 5-9.
- ♦ **Do I have a better chance of getting accepted if I submit my application at the beginning of the admission window verses the end?** No. But we never recommend waiting until the last day, as something could come up to keep you from submitting, including technical difficulties.
- ♦ **Transcripts...How soon do I send them to schools?** UC and most CSUs do not want you to send your transcript until they ask for it. To send your transcript for the Common App and other schools requiring it, you will need to follow instructions found on Naviance, in the Document Library. Also, in May you will need to request that your final transcript be sent to the college you will attend. Del Norte registrar requires two weeks lead time to send transcripts.
- ♦ **Do I record my courses as semester or trimester on the UC and CSU applications?** For the UC/CSU application you must report each course as a SEMESTER. Courses at Del Norte are equivalent to a semester course.
- ♦ **How many credits is each course worth?** Each course you complete at Del Norte is worth 5 credits (i.e. World History 1 = 5 credits, World History 2 = 5 credits, World History 1 & 2 = 10 credits)
- ♦ **How do I find out which colleges offer the major I am interested in studying in college?** On Naviance, under the college tab, in the “college research” section.
- ♦ **Where do I begin if I do not know which schools are a good fit for me?** Naviance, under the college tab, in the “college research” section. As you find schools of interest, add them to “colleges I’m thinking about”, and after your research move those that you intend to apply to into your “colleges I’m applying to” folder on Naviance.

UC Application:

- ♦ **I am applying to UC schools. Where should I begin?** Begin working on your Personal Statement. Check out “UC Specific Information” resources on the Counseling website/Senior News tab.
- ♦ **Will senior trimester 1 grades be included in my admissions GPA?** UC takes 10th and 11th grade grades, and grades earned during summer after 11th grade, to calculate admissions GPA. They do not include grades from 12th.

CSU Applications:

- ♦ **Will senior trimester 1 grades be included in my admissions GPA?** If you submit your CSU application by Nov. 30th and after tri 1 grades, you can report and include grades in GPA.

Common Application:

- ♦ **Where do I begin with the teacher/counselor part of my Common App?** Carefully follow instructions on the Letter of Recommendation handout you received in homeroom, which can be found on Naviance, in the Document Library. The first step is to turn in the FERPA waiver to your counselor. Colleges recommend you waive your right to review the school report and letters of recommendation submitted on your behalf.
- ♦ **Letters of Recommendation- If the college asks for at least one but a maximum of two letters of rec, should I send two or is one enough?** It is up to you, but one is honestly enough.
- ♦ **How and where in the application do I send letters of recommendation?** You do not send letters of recommendation, your school counselor and teacher(s) will send them via Naviance.
- ♦ **Should I do personal letters of recommendation, i.e. coaches, church group leaders?** If the application allows this as an option, it could add value to your application.
- ♦ **How soon should I ask my teacher to write a letter of recommendation?** Minimum 4 wks (not including holidays)
- ♦ **Does my counselor write a letter of recommendation for me?** The Secondary School Report is a requirement of your Common Application, and only your school counselor can complete this report. It allows the option of the counselor to upload a letter of rec. Check the college’s admissions requirements to see if they require a counselor recommendation.
- ♦ **Should I send letters of recommendation to schools that don’t require them?** No
- ♦ **Should I get letters of recommendation from teachers related to the major I choose?** This may be a requirement of the school or may add value to your application.
- ♦ **If asked for highest level of Spanish and it only goes up to 5, but I’ve taken up to Spanish 8, what do I select?** If you completed Spanish 1-8, you have completed 4 years of Spanish, which would be year 4 on your application.
- ♦ **What are academic honors?** Recognition you received in relation to an academic class, grade(s), or academic club.