

## **High School Senior Trip**

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### **Purpose of the Trip**

The Senior Trip is a special and exciting chance for students to celebrate their achievements and strengthen connections with their classmates before graduation. It provides a mix of educational experiences, spiritual fellowship, exciting activities, and team-building activities. The trip is intended to create lasting memories and encourage personal growth in a fun and safe environment.

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### **Purpose of Early Planning**

We realize this is really early planning for those students just entering their freshmen and sophomore years, but the senior trip can be a significant expense for families. While we strive to keep costs as low as possible, it still can present a financial challenge. By informing families about the upcoming costs in advance, they have more time to plan and prepare for this memorable event. Additionally, early notification allows families to take advantage of four-year payment plans, rather than having to cover the full cost during the senior year.

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### **Trip Committee**

The trip committee will be made up of the following members:

- **Sponsors:** To be determined by the end of the junior year.
  - **A Class Parent:** Chosen by the other parents to represent the parents at all meetings.
  - **Principal:** Mr. Nagel
  - **Event Planner:** Heather Persinger
  - **Financial Assistant:** Angie Mabe
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### **Trip Destination**

Seniors will select the destination for the trip through a voting process at the official Senior Trip Planning Meeting in August. This meeting will serve as the first step in organizing the trip.

- Students and parents should communicate their ideas for the senior trip with each other and the trip sponsor and/or class parent.
  - The Event Planner will present information on five destinations, along with the suggested itineraries based on previous successful trips and input from the trip sponsors.
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## Trip Cost & Payment Plan Options

The estimated cost of the senior trip is approximately \$1600. Charges will be applied to the family's Blackbaud account.

- We offer several payment options to accommodate different family preferences. Please be mindful of the deadlines for submitting the Senior Trip Financial Payment Plan Form to the Financial Office, based on the option you choose:

### Payment Options

1. **Single Pymt**
  - **Amount:** Full balance (1600)
  - **Payment Due:** February 1 of the student's **senior year**
  - **Form Due:** By the **first day** of the student's senior year
2. **One-Year Plan:**
  - **Amount:** \$160/month over the student's **senior year**
  - **Form Due:** By the **last day** of the student's **junior year**
3. **Two-Year Plan:**
  - **Amount:** \$80/month over the student's **junior and senior years**
  - **Form Due:** By the **last day** of the student's **sophomore year**
4. **Three-Year Plan:**
  - **Amount:** \$55/month over the student's **sophomore, junior, & senior years**
  - **Form Due:** By the **last day** of the student's **freshman year**
5. **Four-Year Plan:**
  - **Amount:** \$40/month over the student's **freshman through senior years**
  - **Form Due:** By the **last day** of the student's **eighth grade year**

### Additional Information

- Once the **final cost** of the trip is confirmed, adjustments (increase or decrease) will be made to your Blackbaud account accordingly.
- **Cancellations** can only be made **before** any lodging reservations or tickets are purchased.
  - Typically, reservations and ticket purchases are made by **January** prior to the **May trip**, as early bookings often qualify for promotional rates that help reduce overall costs.

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### What if my student leaves the school before graduation or chooses not to go on the senior trip?

If your student withdraws from CCS or opts not to participate in the senior trip, you may request a full refund of any payments made toward the trip during their high school years. To do so, please email Angie Mabe at [amabe@ccsking.org](mailto:amabe@ccsking.org).

**Important:** Once the *Final Payment Senior Trip Contract* is signed at the beginning of the senior year, no refunds will be issued.

# Senior Trip FAQ's:

## Trip Details & Planning

1. **When exactly is the senior trip scheduled to take place?** *The trip is scheduled during Spring Break each year.*
  2. **How many days will the trip last?** *The trip typically lasts **five days** (Monday – Friday).*
  3. **What types of activities are usually included in the trip?** *Activities are selected by the **senior class** and often include a mix of recreation, bonding, and entertainment.*
  4. **Will students be required to attend all planned activities?** *While attending the trip itself is optional, **all students who participate are required to attend all scheduled activities.***
  5. **Will there be any educational or service-based components?** *These components are **decided by the senior class** as part of the planning process.*
  6. **Are parents allowed or expected to chaperone?** *No. Chaperones are selected by the school. Parents do not attend the trip.*
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## Voting & Destination Selection

7. **Will parents have any say or veto power in the final destination?** *Yes. Parents do have a say and may express concerns or suggestions.*
  8. **What are the criteria used to narrow down the five proposed destinations?** *The event planner presents five options, and the senior class votes to determine the final choice.*
  9. **Can students suggest destinations that are not on the pre-approved list?** *Yes. Mr. Nagel will consider student suggestions before the vote.*
  10. **When will the final destination be announced after the August meeting?** *The destination will be announced at the Senior Trip Planning Meeting in August - students and parents will leave that meeting knowing the selected location.*
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## Cost & Payment Plans

11. **Is \$1600 the maximum cost or just an estimate?** *This is an approximate estimate. It may increase or decrease and does not always include transportation.*
  12. **What does the trip cost cover?** *The estimated \$1600 covers lodging, meals, and activities. Transportation may be an additional cost.*
  13. **Are there any additional costs?** *Yes. Transportation is typically an added expense and will be finalized closer to the trip.*
  14. **Can we change our payment plan after enrolling?** *Yes, changes may be made as long as time permits and the plan is still feasible.*
  15. **What happens if a payment is missed or late?** *The trip must be paid in full for your student to receive their diploma, transcript, or final report card.*
  16. **Will we receive payment updates?** *Yes, All charges and payments can be reviewed in your Blackbaud school account.*
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## Refunds & Cancellations

17. **What is the "Final Payment Senior Trip Contract?"** *The contract outlines the payment schedule, cancellation terms, and requires a parent acknowledgement signature. It is signed at the start of the senior year.*
  18. **Are exceptions allowed for emergencies after signing the contract?** *Yes, medical or family emergencies may be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.*
  19. **How are refunds processed?** *Refunds are first applied to any outstanding school balances. Remaining credit can either be left on the account or issued by check, based on parent preference.*
  20. **What is the deadline to cancel and receive a refund?** *Refunds are available only before the Final Senior Trip Contract is signed and prior to any reservations or ticket purchases (typically made in January).*
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## Travel Logistics & Supervision

21. **How is student safety ensured during the trip?** *Sponsors are selected by Mr. Nagel and Pastor Broyhill and are fully responsible for student safety.*
  22. **What is the adult-to-student ratio for chaperones?** *There will be one staff member per every 10 students.*
  23. **What is the behavior policy for students while on the trip?** *Students are expected to follow all school rules regarding conduct and behavior during the trip.*
  24. **Will there be any parent meeting before the trip?** *Yes. Meetings are scheduled for August, October, and January, with additional meetings as needed.*
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## Additional Support

25. **Is financial aid or scholarship assistance available for families who can't afford the full cost?** *No, financial aid is not available for the senior trip.*
26. **Are fundraising opportunities available?** *Yes. Students may participate in two fundraisers.*

- *Cougar Cards*
- *Krispy Kreme Cards*

*Any additional fundraising is the responsibility of the parents.*

27. **Can students help with trip planning or fundraising for credit or service hours?** *CCS will only facilitate the Cougar Card and Krispy Kreme card fundraisers. Any other fundraisers must be parent-led and pre-approved by Mr. Nagel. Senior Class parents are responsible for managing products, orders, and funds for additional fundraisers. The school office will no longer manage any other fundraising efforts.*