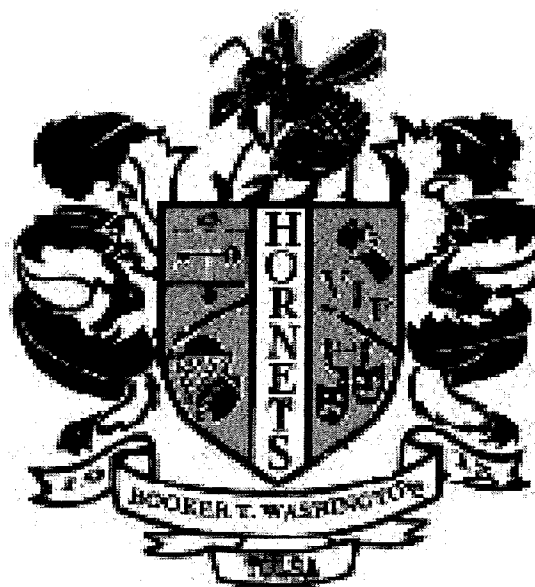


Booker T. Washington High School

Senior Plan Handbook
2019 - 2020



Booker T. Washington High School
Senior Plan Book – 2019 - 2020

**Booker T. Washington High School
1514 East Zion
Tulsa, Ok 74106
(918) 925-1000
btw.tulsaschools.org
Dr. Melissa J. Woolridge, Principal**

The CEEB code for BTW is 373-590

The counselors are assigned to students by grade and the student's last name:

Janna Adamo (adamoja@tulsaschools.org)	10-12	A-Ham	(918) 925-1014
Mary Beth Lykins (lykinma@tulsaschools.org)	10-12	Han-Pa	(918) 925-1019
Jennifer Sack (sackje@tulsaschools.org)	10-12	Pe-Z	(918) 925-1004
Angela Jones (jonesan5@tulsaschools.org)	Grade 9		(918) 925-1016

Barbara Heyman, College Advisor
(918) 925-1022
Shelley Kerr, Counseling Secretary
(918) 925-1022
Chalonda Fields, Scheduling Clerk
(918) 925-1021

Sharon Lazdins, Assistant Principal
Matt Meyers, Assistant Principal
Audra Bull, Assistant Principal

Chenani Arterberry, Dean of Students

Sarah Walker, Class of 2020 Sponsor
walkesa@tulsaschools.org

INTRODUCTION

In this handbook, you will find tips for visiting and applying to colleges, financial aid and scholarship information, and much more. Senior year is an exciting time that is filled with many important decisions. If you are feeling overwhelmed or unsure about your future options, please make an appointment to speak with your counselor.

Disclaimer- The BTW Counselors are members of the National Association of College Admission Counselors (NACAC). As members, we adhere to the Statement of Principles of Good Practice in advising students in the transition from high school to college. These principles guide us in the ethical advisement of our students. They also require that we notify any college or university of any changes in an applicant's status. Ideally, this means we can update an application with any new accomplishments on the part of the applicant, but it also means we must update your college choices if there is a significant grade drop in your senior year, change in academic rigor, or if you have a major disciplinary incident. It also means we are obligated to inform a college or university of any misrepresentation an applicant might have made on an application. Please be aware that if any part of a student's application is falsified, we will rescind our letters of recommendation without delay.

Barbara Heyman, BTW College Advisor

Mrs. Heyman has worked at Booker T. Washington High School as a college advisor for over twenty years. She is the author of two books about the college application process: Invest in Your Self and Destination College. Her office is located in the Counseling Department, Room 319.

Mrs. Heyman works primarily with students who are well-qualified (based on the student's GPA, class rank, and rigor of curriculum) to apply to highly selective colleges and universities. If you are working with Mrs. Heyman, she will write your recommendation letters and work with your counselor to secure a copy of your transcript.

Mrs. Heyman aids the student in researching which schools to apply to that best meet the needs, goals, and acceptance possibilities of the student. Then she and the student employ strategies on the choice of application essay(s), resumé (school and extra-curricular), and the most effective choice of recommendation writers. The student may request that Mrs. Heyman complete his/her secondary school report. **If you are applying Early Action or Early Decision to a competitive college and wish to work with Mrs. Heyman, you need to make an appointment with her as soon as possible.** After these students have been serviced, Mrs. Heyman will help other students, if requested, with the application process. When this process is complete, she completes a check list and timeline for all the components of the application process.

An important aspect of the admissions procedure is when a student has more than one acceptance. Then he or she is guided in constructing a balance sheet of pros and cons of each school in relationship to the student's long-term goals. The ultimate choice is the sole decision of the student.

WHAT NOT TO DO WHEN APPLYING TO COLLEGES

- Do not have your parent fill out the application for you. *The student is applying to college, not the parent. The student needs to take ownership of this process from the beginning.*
- Do not have your parent/friend/someone else write your essay(s) for you. *Colleges can tell when a student's essay is not their own work.* You may have parents or friends proofread your work and make suggestions, but it needs to be written by you.
- Do not apply to 10 or more schools just hoping you will get in somewhere. Be intentional. Research the schools you plan to apply to and develop a reasonable list of 4-6 schools. Some schools require essays as part of the application. Essays should be tailored to the specific college where you are applying, and this takes a great deal of time and effort. It is better to make 6 stellar applications rather than 10 lackluster ones.
- Do not apply regular decision rather than early decision when you have your heart set on a particular college. *Early action and early decision applicants have a better chance of being accepted.*
- Do not ignore directions! Make sure you meet deadlines and send in the correct ACT or SAT. If a college wants a 600 word essay, don't write 800 words. *Follow directions exactly!*
- Do not be dishonest. Do not pad your resume or write information that is not true. If you are dishonest on your application, you can have your admission rescinded.

Applying to College

Common App: Over 700 colleges and universities accept what is called the Common Application or “Common App.” This allows you to apply to several colleges by completing only ONE application. Using the Common App can save you significant time compared to completing a separate application for each school. But this is not license to apply to dozens of schools! BE INTENTIONAL about where you apply.

Common App allows your teachers and counselor to upload your transcripts and recommendations to one site. We strongly recommend you use Common App if you are applying to more than one school that accepts it.

To access the Common App go to www.commonapp.org

If you are applying to colleges that do not accept Common App, you will need to complete the application specific to that college or university through their website. It is your responsibility to inform your counselor of ALL colleges you are making application to and whether they require a recommendation letter and/or transcript.

**Note: OU & TU accept the Common App. However, they also have their own application. Unless you are applying to more than one school via Common App including OU or TU, please apply directly to OU and/or TU.*

COALITION APP is different from Common App and we do NOT recommend using Coalition App. See your counselor if you have questions.

Getting a Transcript

IMPORTANT: Transcripts cannot be printed between approximately December 10th and January 15th due to Powerschool updates at the district level. FINAL transcripts cannot be printed until after June 15th and will be sent by the registrar at the TPS Enrollment Center to the college you decide to attend. Here is the process for getting a transcript:

1. If you have not turned in your “Parental Authorization for Release of Student Records” to your counselor, you need to do so as soon as possible. No records can be released without this form on file. **(The form is at the end of this handbook.**
2. Transcripts for any colleges or universities in the United States can be sent electronically by the registrar, or your counselor. Notify your counselor **in writing** as to where you need transcripts sent. **Important: currently, TPS does not post ALL of your ACT & SAT scores on your transcript. If you have earned a higher score than what you see posted on your transcript, please notify your counselor. You will need to order scores separately online from ACT & SAT to be sent to your colleges. There may be a fee.**
For ACT go to actstudent.org; for SAT go to collegeboard.org
3. Depending on the college, you may have the option of uploading a pdf file of your transcript directly to your application. If so, your counselor can email you a pdf for you to upload.
4. If there is a situation where a transcript cannot be sent electronically, you will need to MAIL a PAPER copy. See your counselor to get a printed paper copy. Transcript requests may take up to 24 hours to process so plan ahead. Please do not expect to request a transcript and have it printed for you immediately. **It is your responsibility to return to the counseling office to pick up printed transcripts and mail them to your colleges.** When mailing a transcript to any college, you should send it in a Booker T. Washington envelope. Transcripts printed in the counseling office will be sealed in BTW envelopes. Official transcripts are printed on special paper that cannot be faxed or photocopied.

Getting a Recommendation Letter from Your Counselor

STEPS TO FOLLOW IN REQUESTING A RECOMMENDATION LETTER

At least 15 school days prior to deadline, ALL of the information listed below must be turned in to your counselor. Holidays from school (s), i.e., Fall Break, Thanksgiving, Winter Break, snow days and **any weekend** do not count as part of the three week lead time. Also when applications are due during busy times at school, more time is needed. (See next page for due dates.)

1. Transcript release form on file in the counseling office
2. List of all colleges to which you are applying that need a counselor recommendation and their application deadlines.
3. Your "Student Information Sheet" must be on file with your counselor. The more background you give about yourself, the more complete your recommendation letter will be. Your counselor needs to know information about you outside the classroom (leadership roles, activities, athletics, church youth groups, community service, etc.)
4. If you are applying to a college that requires a "Secondary School Report" or "Counselor recommendation form", please give that to your counselor. If you are using the Common App, your counselor will complete the Secondary School Report on Common App once you invite them to be your recommender.
5. **Waive your rights** on the Report/Recommendation form. Trust your counselor and teachers to write the very best recommendation for you and the colleges will know that you have nothing to hide.
6. For materials needing to go by mail, we will provide your letter to you in a TPS envelope. You are responsible for addressing the envelope, providing postage, and mailing the letter. Your counselor can give you TPS envelopes for teachers you have asked to write rec letters on your behalf as well.

Meeting deadlines is extremely important. Your counselor will be handling many recommendation letters besides yours, in addition to handling the needs of the underclassmen. You are applying to college for ONE person. Each counselor is managing the application process for over 100 seniors. Counselors need your recommendations and all accompanying materials submitted to us by the dates indicated on the next page.

Please take notice of these dates when working with your counselor to get materials processed in a timely and orderly fashion. Realize that each counselor at our school has over 300 students to serve so please be mindful about giving us enough lead time to help us best serve you.

If due to college by:		Notify your counselor on or before:
November 1		October 25
November 15		November 4
December 1		November 18
December 15		December 1
January 1-15		
	February 1	January 13
February 15		January 27
March 1		February 10

Scholarship Recommendations

Recommendation letters for scholarships also require a 15 school day lead time unless a recommendation has already been written for you. If one has already been written, a 5 day lead time is sufficient. Students must properly address envelopes and provide stamps for mailing the recommendations.

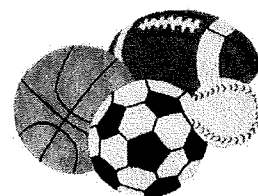


SENIOR BULLETIN BOARDS

College information will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Counseling Office. Postings will also be on the “strip of board” along the East wall as you come in from the 3rd Floor Parking Lot. Students will find information pertaining to their senior year--including testing information, graduation, college visits, and deadlines. College “Junior Days” and “Senior Days” will be posted on the counseling lobby bulletin board. It is the **student’s responsibility** to locate and read the bulletin boards on a regular basis. **If you are not receiving senior class group e-mails from Hornetemail@gmail.com, please send an email to that address and asked to be added so you don’t miss important information! CHECK YOUR E-MAIL OFTEN.**



ATHLETES! NAIA and NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER



Any senior that is interested in participating in college athletics must register with the NAIA or NCAA Eligibility Center, whichever organization your college is a member of for athletics. **You cannot play sports in college without doing this.** For NCAA go to www.eligibilitycenter.org. For NAIA go to www.naia.org. If you are pursuing an athletic scholarship, you and your parents must sign the transcript release form to include colleges and coaches collectively so that the counselors can answer questions about your grades and test scores with them. You must also send NCAA Clearinghouse or NAIA your ACT and/or SAT scores from the college testing site. The code number for NCAA is “9999” and for NAIA it is “9876.”

Fee Waivers: Counselors can give a student athlete a fee waiver only if he/she has taken the ACT or SAT on a fee waiver. Register with the appropriate organization (NCAA or NAIA) and bring your ID number to your counselor. NAIA waivers must be submitted in writing by mail. NCAA waivers are done online.

VISITING WITH COLLEGE ADMISSION REPS AT BTW

College representatives will be available to meet with students during the school day. These scheduled times will be posted in the counseling office and on *NAVIANCE*. **Students interested in visiting with college representatives must sign up through NAVIANCE at least 24 hours prior to visit. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Students will not be allowed to meet with a representative if they did not register. Students will be required to sign in at the visit and attendance will be taken at each session. If you fail to attend 2 college visits you registered for, you will not be allowed to sign up for additional visits. You **MUST CANCEL YOUR REGISTRATION** in *NAVIANCE* if you cannot attend a college visit you registered for. Be intentional about your visits – seniors are allowed 5; juniors are allowed 3.

COLLEGE CAMPUS VISITS

BTW ATTENDANCE POLICY REGARDING COLLEGE VISITS: It is highly recommended that students personally visit colleges where they intend to apply. Seniors are allowed a maximum of 5 excused absences for college visits. If you will miss 3 consecutive days of school or more, you must complete a "Pre-arranged Absence Form" and get your teachers' signatures prior to the absence. Your counselor can give you this form. Turn the form in to Ms. Nathan in the attendance office BEFORE the date of your absence. If you will only miss 1 or 2 consecutive days of school, get a note from the admissions office from each college you visit verifying the date and time you visited and bring that note to Ms. Nathan the day you return to school. *It must be an official note from the admissions office, not just a brochure from the college or other materials.* If you do not bring a note to Ms. Nathan within 24 hours of returning to school, be advised that your absence cannot be corrected to "excused."

Considering the financial investment you are making in a college education, a campus visit should be an essential part of that decision. A campus visit can help you decide what you are looking for and what it would be like to live on campus. You should definitely try to visit all colleges that offer you admission. Most college admission offices will help make arrangements for visits to campus. Make arrangements for a guided tour of the campus, a classroom visit, and a visit with a professor. Be prepared for your visit by reading the college catalog and other materials the college has sent you. Tell your teachers ahead of time if you are going to be absent due to a college visit.

A tour of the campus should include the following:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| *financial aid office | *religious organizations on campus |
| *library | *Campus atmosphere |
| *housing | *students |
| *student dining areas | *faculty |
| *special talent or interest areas | *sports |

Always talk with students on campus; they will give you the most candid information and will usually give you both the pros and cons. Visit with at least one faculty member, preferably by appointment. If possible, make the faculty member someone in your chosen field of study. Learn what your housing options are and look at the dormitories.

To get the most from your college visit, be prepared!

Send your parents to the financial aid office while you visit a classroom. Parents:

- ask which financial aid forms are required and what documentation is needed
- ask what the typical financial aid package is, how it is awarded, and what percentage of students receive aid.

Questions students should ask:

- what is the student to professor ratio?
- how many hours of advanced standing may a student bring?
- do you have a core curriculum?
- is housing guaranteed for four years?
- are the dorms coed?
- are there quiet floors and if so, what are the regulations?
- what appliances can you bring?
- are students politically active? (READ THE CHALK MESSAGES ON THE SIDEWALKS)
- how active is the student association?
- how many students graduated in your major last year?
- which companies came to recruit in your major?
- what summer internships might be available?

Definitions for College Bound

These are some common terms you may encounter during the college application process.

Early Decision - This program enables students to apply to a college in November and receive a decision in December (as opposed to the typical January deadline and April notification). Students can only apply to one school via Early Decision and **are required to attend if admitted**. Applying Early Decision almost certainly increases an applicant's odds of being accepted.

Early Action - Students applying to Early Action programs (which typically have November deadlines) find out from schools in December whether they've been admitted. Early Action admits still have until the regular May deadline to let the school know whether they plan to attend.

Common Application - This standardized application is accepted by many colleges. It reduces the amount of paperwork that students must do to apply to multiple schools. While many colleges will simply accept the Common Application in its entirety, a number of Common Application schools require that students also complete a "Common Application Supplement" that asks different or school-specific questions. Application can be found at commonapp.org. If you are having trouble with Common App, check your web browser. It is best to use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome for Common App.

Ivy League - The Ivy League is an athletic conference that includes the following eight schools: Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania, and Yale.

Need Blind - If a college has a need blind admissions policy, students are admitted without regard to whether they are able to pay or whether they have made a request for financial aid.

Open Admission - Almost all applicants are accepted without serious examination of grades, test scores, etc. Most community colleges have open admissions policies.

Rolling Admission - Instead of having an application deadline and a common notification date, schools using rolling admissions notify students of admissions decisions throughout the admissions season. Sometimes, the time between submission of an application and a decision is only a few weeks.

TOEFL - The Test of English as a Foreign Language is given to applicants for whom English is not a native language. Colleges require that such applicants take the TOEFL to demonstrate a basic ability to communicate in English.

ACT - A commonly used college admissions exam. Almost all colleges require that applicants take either the ACT or the SAT.

SAT - A commonly used college admissions exam. Almost all colleges require that applicants take either the SAT or the ACT.

SAT Subject Tests - Standardized tests that are offered in about 15 subject areas and are required by some colleges as part of the admissions process. Formerly called "SAT II's" or "Achievement Tests," these exams are typically used by more competitive colleges as a supplement to SAT or ACT scores.

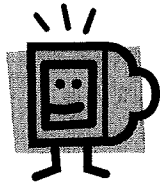
Reach School and Safety School - a reach school is a college where you do not quite meet the standards of the entering freshman class, but are close, or the college is highly competitive with students who have a similar academic record as you; a safety school is one where your admission is basically assured; i.e., state schools where admission is based solely on academics that you meet or your academics easily exceed their requirements.

Waiving Rights - Many colleges have a part on their application recommendation form where they ask if you will or will not waive your rights to see what is written about you. If you are asking for a recommendation letter, you need to trust your counselor and teacher to write the very best letter that they can. **If you do not waive your rights, you are sending a message to the college that you have something to hide.**

Scholarship - "Free money" - you don't need to pay them back and are offered by many organizations.

Federal Pell Grant - Calculated through FAFSA form - Money awarded that you don't need to pay back. Based on family income.

Transcript - A record of a student's academic courses and grades, which is maintained by the school registrar.



INTERNET USE AND WEBSITE RESOURCES

The following websites are helpful in the college, career, and scholarship search.
Those marked with an * asterisk are sites we particularly recommend.

www.actstudent.org	Register for the ACT, search for colleges, get career and financial aid information.
www.collegeboard.org *	Register for the SAT, order score reports, search colleges, get AP information, get financial aid information.
bigfuture.collegeboard.org *	Compare colleges side by side, get financial aid and scholarship information, research careers.
www.commonapp.org *	Allows you to apply to multiple colleges with just one application. Complete the application online and invite your counselor and teachers to write your recommendations.
www.okcollegestart.org *	Compare and choose schools in Oklahoma, create resumes, request transcripts from your counselor, find financial aid and scholarship resources.
www.collegeportraits.org *	Information on more than 325 public colleges and universities
www.ucan-network.org *	Profiles of private colleges and universities.
www.eligibilitycenter.org *	National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) This site is for prospective college student athletes.
www.naia.org *	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). This site is for prospective college student athletes.
www.cappex.com *	Create a profile that lets you look at colleges, evaluates your likelihood of being admitted, and sends you information on scholarships.
www.meritaid.com *	Lists scholarships at specific colleges for merit aid.
www.grockit.com *	Free ACT, SAT, and AP test prep.
www.zinch.com *	Find scholarships, showcase yourself, and connect with your dream college
www.fastweb.com *	National scholarship search service.
www.scholarship-grant.com	Resource for scholarship and grant websites.
www.nelnet.com	College planning and scholarship information.

www.blackstudents.com	Website with direct links to scholarships for African African American Students.
www.am-blk-coll.com	America's Black Collegians' scholarship information.
www.hsf.net	Hispanic Scholarship Fund.
www.finaid.org	Financial aid information.
www.collegeanswer.com/scholarships	Sallie Mae scholarships.
www.findtuition.com	Free scholarship search.
www.youniversitytv.com	Video tours of colleges.
www.collegemajors101.com	Information on college majors and careers.
www.collegedata.com	College match, EFC estimator, estimates chance of admission, scholarship finder.
www.collegeweeklive.com	Participate in live chats with various universities.
www.mycollegeoptions.org	Connects you with colleges and universities based on your academic profile plus matching you with available scholarships.

WISE TIPS ABOUT COMPUTER AND INTERNET USAGE



- Create an email account with your name for all of your college correspondence i.e., luke.skywalker@gmail.com or taylor-swift@yahoo.com
- If you do not have an email account, set one up immediately.
- **Check your email often.** E-mail is often how colleges let you know if you have been accepted to their school and send you information on financial aid and scholarships.
- Colleges may assign you a university e-mail address once you've been accepted (example: luke.skywalker@ou.edu or taylor-swift@okstate.edu). **Check it OFTEN!**
- If colleges you are applying to email you links or surveys, click on them/complete them. This is one way universities track your level of interest in their school.
- Store your college application and ACT/SAT passwords and user names in a safe place you can access.
- **Be careful about Instagram, SnapChat, Twitter, Facebook, and other social media posts that may paint you in a less desirable light to the colleges. You do not want your rants about your former best friend or your party pictures to be discussed in an admissions meeting.**
- **Don't assume colleges won't see it. Someone may forward it to an admissions office.**
- **It is a small world—colleges have representatives in Tulsa and relatives and friends. Keep your social posts and messages clean!!**
- Colleges DO search applicants in social media and unflattering information can jeopardize your admission. **YES, colleges WILL look you up on social media.**

ACT and SAT TESTING INFORMATION

Most colleges require either the ACT or SAT test for admission. We encourage all students to take at least one of these tests by the end of their junior year. **If you have not yet taken one of these tests, you need to register to do so ASAP.** You should have taken the SAT during the school day last April. The ACT and SAT are designed to assess each student's general educational development and ability to complete college level work. Students are encouraged to check with the colleges they are applying to find out what tests are necessary for admission. For ACT go to www.actstudent.org or for SAT go to www.collegeboard.org

Students on free or reduced lunch may get up to a **total** of 6 fee waivers (2 for ACT, 2 for SAT, 2 SAT Subject tests) from their counselor to register for ACT or SAT at no cost to the student.

Please do not wait until the last day to register to request a fee waiver. Meet with your counselor at least one week before to assure that a fee waiver is available. If you register late, you will have to pay the late fee. Fee waivers do not cover late registration fees.

If you take the SAT using a fee waiver, College Board will automatically provide you with FOUR College Application Fee Waivers. College application fees can range from \$25 to upwards of \$75 each.

ACT TEST DATE

September 14
October 26
December 14
February 8
April 4
June 13
July 18

ACT Registration Deadline

August 16
September 20
November 8
January 10
February 28
May 8
June 19

SAT TEST DATE

October 5
November 2
December 7
March 14
May 2
June 6

SAT Registration Deadline

September 5
October 2
November 7
February 13
April 2
May 6

For dates for SAT Subject specific tests, please go to www.collegeboard.org/sat

Be sure to include your **high school code (373590)** so your score reports will be sent to BTW.

Consider listing your colleges where you want your score sent **as you** register for the ACT – if you decide to wait until after taking the test to send you scores, ACT charges a fee per school to send them.



FINANCIAL AID

Approximately eighty five percent of money given to students going to college comes in the form of financial aid. This means that only fifteen percent is given in the form of scholarships. In order to apply for financial aid, the student must find out which forms are required by the college or university. Most universities require the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). FAFSA can be submitted as early as **OCTOBER 1**. You can also use your previous year's tax return information to complete it. So for the Class of 2020, you will use your 2018 tax information to complete your FAFSA. You can complete the FAFSA online, at www.fafsa.ed.gov Student AND parent will each need to request an FSA ID first which can be done at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Whether you qualify for **federal** aid or not, such as a Pell Grant, we highly recommend you file the FAFSA because this is what your colleges will use to determine your financial aid package. **If you are applying to private colleges out of state, they may require the CSS Profile (a specific financial aid form) in addition to the FAFSA.** You can Google search for "CSS Profile" to see which colleges require this form, but always double check with the college.

Financial aid is often awarded on a 'first come first serve' basis; consequently, early application may result in a more attractive aid package.

FINANCIAL AID CHECKLIST

- Do not eliminate a college because of high costs until you have checked into financial aid.
- Apply for admission: colleges will not consider your eligibility for financial aid until you have applied for admission.
- Contact the financial aid office at each college where you have been accepted. The financial aid officer will get you all the information on aid, including forms, grants, loans and scholarships.
- Meet all deadlines for financial aid: the number one reason for not receiving aid is not meeting deadlines or not filling out forms properly.
- Investigate private sources of financial aid. Check with organizations to which you or your parents belong. Sign up with scholarship and grant websites to search for money.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Information on scholarships that are brought to the attention of the counseling office will be forwarded through **Hornetemail@gmail.com**, and posted on **NAVIANCE**. **Check your email WEEKLY!!** Also refer to this booklet for websites where you can search for scholarships. It is the student's responsibility to meet all necessary deadlines. You must apply to a college or university before you apply for an institutional scholarship or financial aid. Some schools require that you fill out the FAFSA form before they process scholarship applications. Most universities offer a variety of scholarships for freshmen. These are based on academics, need, or specific areas of study, and usually require early application. It is best to contact the financial aid office at your college of choice and speak to a financial aid advisor on scholarships for which you may apply. Do not wait until May to do this; it will be too late.

Open Door Admission refers to any resident of Oklahoma who has graduated from high school. Students entering Oklahoma two-year colleges are required to have 4 years of English, 2 years of lab science, and 3 years of math. For students with deficiencies in these areas the individual colleges have programs to make up the deficiencies in those areas with no credit courses. Each of these schools requires an ACT test. Contact schools to confirm admission requirements.

OKLAHOMA 4-YEAR UNIVERSITIES

Most four-year colleges and universities in Oklahoma require completion of the following courses:

- 4 years English
- 3 years History (to include U.S. History & citizenship)
- 3 years lab sciences
- 3 years math in high school
- 2 years other (from any of the above, computer science, or foreign language)

These are a minimum. Some require more. To find the most up to date admission requirements for any college or university, please search that particular institution's website on *NAVIANCE*.

ALTERNATIVES TO COLLEGE

TO GO, OR NOT GO, TO COLLEGE?

It is not uncommon that many young people are unsure if they want to go to college directly after high school. What can you do if you are unsure about your plans? You need to start by clarifying the reasons you are feeling unsure. Talk with your parents and/or your counselors and look at alternatives.

If there is a chance that you may attend college at some point in your future, be sure to take the ACT and/or SAT college entrance tests so you have a score to provide them if you change your mind and attend.

Approximately 105,000 people graduate each year from schools accredited by the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools. In two years or less, you can learn the basics of any of 94 careers. For a free handbook about accredited schools and their programs write:

National Association of Trade and Technical Schools
2251 Wisconsin Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20007

Technical Schools

Tulsa Technology Center offers a wide variety of adult education programs that provide workplace certifications. Visit their website at www.tulsatech.com. Beware of "for profit" technical schools that can charge high tuition fees. Look at state funded technical schools such as OSU IT and Tulsa Technology Center. Tulsa Tech offers a scholarship called "Accelerating Independence." If you graduate high school with a minimum 2.0 GPA, you can attend a Tulsa Tech adult education program at no cost. You have until age 23 to take advantage of this scholarship.

Military Service

The United States Armed Services offer a greater variety of technical, vocational and apprenticeship programs than do civilian schools. The Armed Services also provide financial assistance for qualified veterans who want to go to college. One of the main advantages to enlisting in the military is the opportunity to receive training in an occupation that could support you later in civilian life. Contact your counselor if interested in the Armed Services, and she will set up an appointment with a recruiter. Recruiters also make visits to Booker T and are often available to speak with during lunch.

Taking AP and/or IB tests this Spring?

Check the BTW calendar for 2020 exam schedules.

Mid-Year Reports

Some colleges require a Mid-Year Report. This means they want to see your semester one senior grades, classes you are currently enrolled in, and current GPA and ranking. They want to be sure you are keeping your grades up and not dropping rigor. Mid-Year Reports are submitted by your counselor, **but you are responsible for notifying your counselor that your college(s) require this report.** Common App mid-year reports will be done automatically. Warning: Mid-Year reports also ask if your disciplinary status has changed from your initial student report. School counselors are ethically bound to report any changes to the college or university the student has applied to.

WHAT TO DO LAST

Just when you thought you were done!

- Complete the "Post High School Plan" google doc or form from your counselor. We will get this to you in MAY.
- Notify the colleges that you were accepted to but are not attending that you are declining their offer
- Send a deposit with your acceptance letter and forms
- Fill out housing application and send deposit
- See if the college requires any additional immunizations, such as hepatitis and meningitis
- Make appointments for medical and dental checkups before you leave for school
- Get a school calendar and plan transportation in advance for major holidays
- Set up an account to pay your bills and expenses in a bank that is convenient to your college
- Make your own list of things to take to school
- Give your counselor a list of any scholarships you received and the amounts
- Most importantly.....don't let senioritis get to you, **colleges can still change their minds and have been known to do so after receiving final grades**