

# Timothy Christian High School

## College Planning Guidebook 2019–2020



**TIMOTHY**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

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# The College Planning Time Table

The key to successful college planning is getting started early and being well organized. The time table below gives a suggested systematic approach to help guide you through activities that lead to college selection.

Each year the high school counseling department hosts various workshops, college fairs, and college visits, in addition to working with students in the classroom at every grade level. However, all of these opportunities will be helpful only if the student and parents take advantage of them and do research and planning on their own at home.

Even more important in making a college decision than using all of the resources provided at Timothy and in this guidebook is for the student and family to seek the guidance of the Lord. The mission of Timothy Christian Schools is to develop “academically prepared Christian disciples who embrace Christ’s call to transform the world.” In order to embrace Christ’s call in our lives, we must be willing to go where He sends us, trusting that He will send us to where we are needed and will guide us in the path to get there. The counseling department encourages all students and families to pray for direction and clarity throughout this process and to lean on the words of Jeremiah 29: 11-13:

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

## **FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES**

- Carefully plan your curriculum to meet basic college requirements.
- Develop strong study skills and ask for assistance as needed.
- Get involved in at least one activity that you enjoy.
- Seek out opportunities to develop non-academic skills, such as leadership, responsibility, distinct talents, and service.
- Begin thinking about careers that interest you by reviewing career interest surveys and researching career opportunities.
- Freshmen will take the **PSAT 8/9 test** in the fall.
- Sophomores will take a practice **SAT test** in the fall.

## **JUNIORS**

- Continue to take the strongest curriculum that is appropriate to your abilities:  
CHALLENGE YOURSELF!
- Continue to develop your extracurricular activities and personal qualities.

### **September:**

- Attend the Junior/ Parent College Information Night: **Wednesday, September 25, 7:00PM**
- Attend the FAFSA Financial Aid Seminar **Monday, September 30, 6:00PM, High School Learning Commons**

### **October:**

- Attend the National College Fair, McCormick Place, Chicago: **Saturday, October 5, 11-3PM**
- Attend the NACCAP Christian College Fair at Timothy: **Tuesday, October 8, 6:30-8:30PM**
- Attend the Thrivent Financial College Planning Seminar in High School Learning Commons. **Wednesday, October 9, 7:00pm**
- Take the Practice SAT at Timothy **Wednesday, October 23 , 8:15-11:45AM**

### **December:**

- Evaluate the results of the practice SAT to determine if you need to practice with sample questions, a CD, Khan Academy, or a prep class before taking the ACT and/or SAT in the spring.

### **January/February:**

- Schedule a meeting with Mr. Huizinga or Mrs. Raley to discuss senior year registration and post-high school college and career plans.

### **March:**

- Begin collecting and reviewing college information.
- Take the **SAT**, if desired.
- Begin to schedule college visits.

### **April:**

- Schedule College visits.
- Take the **ACT**, if desired.

### May:

- Take the **SAT**, if desired.
- Take **Advanced Placement Tests**, if applicable.
- Schedule college visits.

### June:

- Retake the **ACT**, if desired
- Take the **SAT II: Subject Tests (Achievements)**, if appropriate.
- Discuss participating in athletics on the college level with your high school coach. **If you wish to participate in intercollegiate athletics as a freshman at a Division I or II institution, you must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center after the completion of your sixth semester.** Sign on at [http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA\\_EMS/NCAA.html](http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.html) and click "Enter Here" for NCAA College-Bound Student Athletes. There is no deadline to register, but you must be certified and complete the amateurism questions before receiving an athletic scholarship or practicing and competing at a Division I or II institution.

## SENIORS

- Visit colleges during the summer following your junior year or early fall of your senior year.
- Continue to challenge yourself and do your best in your studies and activities. Highly competitive schools look for consistency throughout all four years of high school.

### September:

- **Register to retake the ACT, SAT, and SAT subject tests as needed.**
- Begin applying to colleges or universities as soon after August 1 as possible.
- Attend the Senior/Parent College Information Night: **Wednesday, September 4, 7:30PM**
- Attend the FAFSA Financial Aid Seminar **Monday, September 30, 6:00PM, High School Learning Commons**
- Meet with college representatives at Timothy during your lunch period.
- Narrow your college choices.
- Go to the college websites to complete an online application. You can also request financial aid information.

- Visit colleges, especially over long weekends in the fall.
- Parent and student should complete the Senior Brag Sheet and Parent Brag Sheet.

#### **October:**

- Attend the NACCAP Christian College Fair: **Tuesday, October 8 6:30-8:30PM, Timothy Christian High School Gymnasium.**
- Continue to visit campuses and meet with college representatives. All weekday college visits must be **pre-arranged** with the high school office and the college.
- Fill out applications. **Be aware of deadlines, especially early applications.**
- Register for **SAT II: Subject Tests (Achievements)** as appropriate.
- Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Applications should be completed via the internet and are accepted as early as October 1. [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

#### **November:**

- Complete applications and transcript request forms, turning them in at the office or to your counselor for processing.

#### **December:**

- If you wish to apply to a college or university before January 1, your application must be turned in at the counseling office with all appropriate forms by the **first** week in December.

#### **January:**

- Apply for campus housing early if you have determined which college or university you wish to attend.
- Arrange with your counselor to send seventh semester grades if required by the college or university.
- Check for available scholarships from the listings on the internet, the counseling center, or your local public high school.

#### **March:**

- As college admission decisions arrive, revisit schools as needed to make comparisons.

#### **April:**

- Make your college choice and send a deposit. If you send deposits to more than one school, the deposits from the schools you choose not to attend may be non-refundable.
- Notify your counselor about college decisions and scholarships received.

**May:**

- Notify via email the colleges that you will **not** attend. Thank the admission counselor for the time he/she spent with you and on your application.
- Take **Advanced Placement Tests**, if appropriate.
- Attend college orientation programs as scheduled.
- **Be sure to request that your final transcript be sent to the college that you plan to attend.**

**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GRADUATION!**

# Selecting a College

## 1. Know Yourself!

Before you can begin exploring colleges and creating a list of potential schools to which to apply, you must first ask yourself some important questions. The college search process is an important one, and the more prepared you are for the process, the better you will feel about it and the more smoothly it will go for you.

With the cost of education continuing to rise and the competition for quality careers increasing, the need to be prepared and knowledgeable about the college search process has become that much more important. The need and practicality of a college education is still applicable for the majority of people in today's world, but each person should be attending college for the right reasons, which is why it is vital to ask yourself these questions before beginning the college search process. Ideally, these questions should be discussed with your parents or guardians, as the college search process is very much a family affair and will eventually involve parents, guardians, and even siblings. We encourage all families to discuss these questions together as well as to discuss the student's educational and career goals and vision they have for life after Timothy Christian High School. To help with this endeavor, turn to the Appendix of this book for helpful resources.

- Why do I want to go to college?
  - o What are my motives?
- What are my interests?
- What are my abilities, both academic and non-academic?
- What are my values?

## 2. Is it a good fit?

Once you have thought about and discussed your reasons for going to college and thought through your personal strengths, weaknesses, interests, abilities, and values as a student and person, you can begin to consider the type of college or university that may be the best fit for you. Once you decipher the type of college you would like to attend, you can begin to research specific schools.

There are five main areas to consider when determining best fit:

### 1. Academic

- a. Do I meet the admissions requirements of the school?
- b. Does the school provide the major I would like to study?
- c. What is the average class size?
- d. Are professors easily accessible?

### 2. Financial

- a. Does the total cost of attendance fit our family budget?
- b. Do I qualify for merit scholarships?



- c. Does the school offer grants or other need-based aid besides loans?
  - d. How much will I have to borrow to attend?
3. Spiritual
- a. Will I be supported and affirmed in my Christian faith?
  - b. Will I be taught from a Christian worldview?
  - c. Are there chapels or Christian organizations in which I can be involved?
4. Social
- a. Is the campus a friendly and welcoming environment?
  - b. Are the residence halls sufficient?
  - c. How is the student life on campus?
  - d. Are there intramurals and other planned events in which to participate?
5. Career
- a. Does the college provide or require internships?
  - b. Does the college help students acquire internships/field experience?
  - c. Does the college have an active career services office?
  - d. What employers recruit students for their companies from the school?

### 3. Creating a college list

Once you have determined the type of school that may be the best fit for you personally, it is time to look into specific colleges. There are a number of resources students and families are able to use to create a college list. The following pages are intended to outline the specific resources Timothy offers throughout the school year, but this is not an exhaustive list, just an outline.

## 2018-2019 College Seminars and Fairs at Timothy

**Senior Parent/Student College Night- Wednesday, September 4, 7:30PM, in the TCHS auditorium.** This program will focus primarily on what colleges and universities are looking for in the application process.

**Junior Parent/Student College Night- Wednesday, September 25, 7:00PM, in the TCHS auditorium.** All juniors who are considering attending college after high school are encouraged to attend this meeting. A step-by-step sequence of activities necessary for the college bound student will be discussed, and questions will be addressed concerning the college decision-making and application process.

**FAFSA Workshop- Monday, September 30, 6:00PM, in the TCHS Learning Commons**

This seminar is led by a financial aid representative from Calvin College and will focus on financial aid and scholarships available for any college-bound student, regardless of the college one is attending.

**NACCAP Christian College Fair- Tuesday, October 8, from 6:30-8:30PM in the TCHS gymnasium.**

Approximately 50 from among the top Christian colleges in America will be represented. The fair will include a financial aid workshop, and all families with juniors or seniors are encouraged to attend.

**Thrivent College Planning Workshop- October 9, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30PM in the TCHS Learning Commons.**

This workshop is open to all students and parents and will focus on explaining the college planning process and how you can best prepare for it. Valuable insight and information regarding how to acquire financial aid and scholarships will be discussed as well as how to maximize the financial aid you receive from a college. This seminar is strongly encouraged for any family needing financial assistance for the college-bound student.

## High School Course Requirements for College Admissions

The requirements below are only general course requirements. Individual colleges and universities may have different requirements than seen here. Students and parents are highly encouraged to consult with specific colleges of interest to learn more about specific requirements for that particular college or university.

### **Public Universities:**

English: 4 years

Math: 3-4 years\*

Science: 3 years

Social Studies: 3 years

Academic Electives: 2 years

(Art, Foreign Language, Music, etc.)

### **Private 4-year colleges and universities**

English: 4 years

Math: 3-4 years\*

Foreign Language: 2-3 years\*

Science: 3 years

Social Studies: 2-3 years

Academic Electives: 2 years

### **Highly Selective Colleges & Universities:**

English: 4 years

Math: 4 years\*

Foreign Language: 4 years\*

Lab Science: 4 years

Social Studies: 3-4 years

Academic Electives: 2 years

### **Community Colleges**

Requirements vary greatly depending on the college and the programs you want to pursue.

\*High school courses taken while in middle school do count towards these recommendations and will be documented on your Timothy Christian High School transcript.

## **College Representatives at Timothy Christian**

Each year college representatives from public, private, and Christian colleges visit Timothy Christian High School to talk with prospective students. All sophomores, juniors, and seniors are strongly encouraged to meet with these representatives to learn more about these institutions. Visits take place during both lunch periods in the High School Conference Room. Students must sign up with Mr. Huizinga in the College and Career Center prior to the visit.

### **College Visits**

One of the most helpful resources in your college selection process is the college visit. The visit gives you the opportunity to see the facilities and to visit with students and faculty. Every college puts its "best foot forward" in printed publications and on their web page. Remember, the college you choose will be your new "home" for a number of years. The best time to visit a college is when classes are in session so that you get a true feel of the campus. Summer visits can also be helpful, but they will not provide you with as many opportunities to see all that the campus has to offer.

Whether you plan to visit one school or dozens, it is imperative that you document your visits; take photos of the campus, write notes to yourself about what you liked and didn't like, write down key facts you learned about the college during your visit. As you begin to visit more schools, your visits will begin to blend together unless you take the time to write notes and separate each visit from each other. It is also helpful to start a folder or binder for all college planning and visits so you can go back and remember your visits and what you learned. (See Appendix for a College Visit To-Do List, and a College Visit Note Sheet).

### **Questions to ask and Things to Consider When Speaking to College Representatives and Visiting a College Campus**

#### **Campus**

1. Is the campus appealing to you?
2. Is there a town with restaurants, shopping, etc., nearby, or does the campus have adequate facilities to meet your needs?

#### **Housing and Dining**

1. Are new students required to live on campus?
2. What types of housing are available to freshmen? Specific majors? Quiet floors? Particular interest floors?
3. How are roommates assigned? Do students use Facebook to find a roommate?
4. What are the rules for students living in residence halls?
5. Are the places of residence fully furnished? What furnishings will students have to bring?
6. What study facilities are available in the residence halls?
7. Where are the dining facilities located? What are the options for a meal plan?
8. What is the policy of moving off campus? Having a car on campus?

### **Atmosphere**

1. What is the atmosphere on campus (geographically diverse, ethnically diverse, conservative, liberal, and homogeneous)?
2. Does the faculty appear to be friendly and helpful in their attitudes and relationships with the students?
3. Do the students seem to be interested and serious in their studies?
4. What is the makeup of the student body (number of students enrolled, male/female ratio, commuter/residential, most popular majors)?
6. What is special, distinctive, or outstanding about the college?

### **Recreational and Special Facilities**

1. Is there a student union or commons which serves as a major center for student activities? What clubs or activities are offered?
2. Are there intramural and intercollegiate sports? What types of facilities does the college have to support these activities?
3. What fraternities, sororities, or clubs does the college offer? Do organizations have their own houses, or are they housed in college-owned buildings? What percentage of students belong to fraternities and sororities?
4. What student services are available (career planning and placement, counseling, academic advising, health center, learning disabilities, etc.)?
5. How large is the campus security police force? Emergency phones on campus? Security systems in residence halls? Procedures and policies in place to notify students and parents of campus emergency?

### **Spiritual Life**

1. Is there a chapel on campus? Is attendance at chapel required or elective?
2. Is there a church of your denomination nearby?
3. What types of fellowship groups exist on campus? How many students are involved?
4. What opportunities for ministry are there on and off campus?

### **College Costs**

1. What is the total cost per year for students including books, fees, and travel expenses?
2. How does one apply for financial assistance? What aid is available?
3. Can the payment of college costs be handled on a monthly or other deferred payment plan?
4. How many work-study jobs are available? How and when are they filled? Average stipend?
5. What other estimated costs are there for belonging to social clubs, fraternities, or sororities?

### **The Classroom**

1. What is the typical student/professor ratio for freshmen? What is the average class size on campus? (freshman, sophomore, and general education classes)
2. Is the library up to date? Are there ample study areas?
3. Are there adequate laboratory facilities for your potential major?
4. Does the college accept AP credit? What scores are needed to receive college credit?

5. Does the college accept dual credit? (“Ivy League” schools may not; most others should.)
5. What percentage of classes are taught by full-time faculty, adjuncts, or graduate students?
6. What opportunities are there to study abroad?

# The College Application Process

## 1. Obtain an application online from a specific college.

- Many colleges (over 700) accept the Common Application ([commonapp.org](http://commonapp.org)), or visit the specific school's website for an institutional application.
- It is important that you complete the application carefully. Be honest, concise, neat, thorough, and attentive to directions.
- The college or university will begin a file on you as soon it receives a portion of your application (ACT scores, transcripts, letter of recommendation, etc.). All future materials will then be placed in your file at the college or university until it is complete.

## 2. If required, write an essay.

- Many colleges will ask you to write a personal essay that will be read for content, organization, and your ability to answer the required question. It also is an opportunity for the reader to get to know you while distinguishing you from other applicants. Correct grammar and spelling matter, so you may want to ask your English teacher to give you some pointers.
- Colleges want the application to reflect you, so it is important that you spend a considerable amount of time, thought, and energy in the writing of your essay.
- Begin the rough draft in the summer; don't wait until the last minute.
- Type your final draft, then triple-check to eliminate any errors.

## 3. Ask for recommendations, as required.

- **Personally ask a teacher, coach, counselor, pastor, etc.** to write one for you before you bring him/her the forms. Make sure you ask someone who knows you well and will be able to write a positive recommendation about you.
- Discuss the recommendation with the person **several weeks** in advance of the due date.
- All counselor recommendations will be **confidentially** submitted **directly** to the college or university admission office through Naviance.

## 4. Complete a transcript request.

- Obtain a Transcript Request Form from the main high school office.
- Indicate the institutions to which your transcript must be sent.
- Bring the request form to the teachers who will be writing you a letter of recommendation. The teachers must sign the form indicating they have agreed to write you a letter of recommendation.
- Form must be returned to high school office, Mr. Huizinga or Mrs. Raley
- All transcripts will be submitted via Naviance.

## 5. Timeline for applying.

In order to meet college admission deadlines and properly process your application, you are asked by the Timothy Christian Counseling Department to:

- Begin submitting your applications as soon as possible after **August 1**.
- **Set a goal to submit all applications to the colleges by November 1 to ensure you are meeting deadlines. (However, check the deadlines because some colleges have set deadlines in mid-October.)**
- Early applicants often receive more attention than those just meeting deadlines. We recommend that all out-of-state public university applications be submitted as early in the

fall as possible, and no later than mid-November.

- **Please allow two weeks for Timothy to process your transcript and/or your recommendation.** Keep on top of your deadlines!

### **7. To how many should I apply?**

- We encourage you to apply to **at least** 3-5 colleges so that you have more options, personally and financially, from which you can choose your best fit college.

### **8. I've been accepted! Now what?**

- Once you have been accepted, a college will ask for your commitment by March or April and request a payment, usually around \$100-\$300, to show that you are serious about admission to their college. The school will hold a spot for you without payment until May 1.
- Most colleges will send residential forms after you have been accepted. The earlier you return the housing application, the better opportunity you will have to secure your choice of living arrangements.
- Some schools do not offer refunds on payments down, so take this into consideration before responding to various colleges.
- Notify the remaining colleges to which you have been accepted that you are no longer interested in attending their school and thank them for your consideration. Such courtesies help future Timothy Christian applicants.

### **A Reminder to the Student Athlete**

In order to be eligible to participate in athletics in college, you must meet the prescribed academic requirements of the NCAA (National College Athletic Association). Athletes seeking admission to college should follow the same admission procedures as other applicants. Those who anticipate being recruited by NCAA Division I and/or Division II schools should sign on at the NCAA Eligibility website [http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA\\_EMS/NCAA.html](http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.html) and click "Enter Here" for NCAA College-Bound Student Athletes. A fee is charged to process the registration form. Coaches will communicate with various schools concerning your athletic abilities and academic accomplishments, usually during second semester of junior year.



# College Admissions Test Dates and Deadlines 2019-2020

Both the ACT and SAT are accepted at every college and university in the United States.

**NOTE:** Registration information is available in the Counseling Center and online. You must register for all tests **online yourself**. **Registering early assures you the best selection of test sites.**

**NOTE:** It is the **student's responsibility** to request the ACT scores be sent to the college/university on the student's official transcript or directly by the testing company.

## ACT

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Deadline: Late fee required</u>
September 14, 2019	August 16, 2019	September 1, 2019
October 26, 2019	September 27, 2019	October 13, 2019
December 14, 2019	November 8, 2019	November 25, 2019
February 8, 2020	January 10, 2020	January 17, 2020
April 4, 2020	February 29, 2020	March 16, 2020
June 13, 2020	May 8, 2020	May 25, 2020
July 18, 2020	June 19, 2020	June 29, 2020

**Timothy's test center code is 172270**

**Timothy's school code is 141415**

## SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject Tests

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Deadline: Late fee required</u>
October 5, 2019	September 6, 2019	September 24, 2019
November 2, 2019	October 3, 2019	October 22, 2019
December 7, 2019	November 8, 2019	November 26, 2019
<b>**March 14, 2020**</b>	February 14, 2020	March 3, 2020
May 2, 2020	April 3, 2020	April 21, 2020
June 6, 2020	May 8, 2020	May 27, 2020

**Timothy's school code is 141415**

**\*\*On this date, only the SAT is offered at Timothy Christian.**

## TEST PREPARATION

We believe the best preparation a student can get for standardized tests is a solid high school curriculum, which is why we strongly encourage all students to appropriately challenge themselves in the classroom during the school year. Timothy's curriculum, classroom environment, and teachers prepare all of our students to be college-ready and to be prepared and perform well on college admissions tests.

However, we also recognize and believe test performance can be increased through familiarity with test materials and additional studying. The individual student and family must determine their level of participation and investment regarding test preparation. If the student and family desire to take advantage of individual test prep courses, below are some great resources for you to use as you explore what is available and most suits your needs.

### RESOURCES FOR TEST PREPARATION

#### 1. Test Prep Materials at Timothy Christian High School

- Books
- Pamphlets
- Computer Software

#### 2. Some Test Prep Courses Available in the Community

- *The Real ACT Prep Guide* with a CD guides you through three real-timed ACT tests for \$49.00, or even less if purchased online. *ACT Online Prep* is \$24.95 and is good for one year. Students may sign up on the ACT website.
- Although we do not promote private, profit-oriented organizations, there are several companies that offer test prep programs locally. If fees and services are listed, they are approximate.

NAME	LOCATION	CONTACT
Joan Treland & Associates <a href="http://www.trelandeducation.com">www.trelandeducation.com</a>	Wheaton	630-653-9222
Academic Tutoring Centers  <a href="http://www.academictutoringcenters.com">www.academictutoringcenters.com</a>	Hinsdale Park Ridge	630-321-0500 847-823-5300
Kaplan Center <a href="http://www.kaptest.org">www.kaptest.org</a>	Chicagoland locations	800-KAP-TEST
Princeton Review <a href="http://www.princetonreview.com">www.princetonreview.com</a>	Chicagoland locations	888-955-3701

Huntington Learning Center  
[www.hungtingtonhelps.com](http://www.hungtingtonhelps.com)

Elmhurst  
Glen Ellyn  
Downers Grove

800-CAN-LEARN

Club Z In-Home Tutoring  
[www.clubztutoring.com/Elmhurst](http://www.clubztutoring.com/Elmhurst)

Elmhurst

800-434-2582

# FINANCIAL AID

**Financial aid comes from three basic sources. Most financial aid packages usually offer a combination of these three.**

- 1. Grants** are need-based monies and **scholarships** are considered gift monies. Grants and scholarships do not have to be repaid.
- 2. Loans** usually have low interest rates and must be repaid, usually after graduation. Loans are available to both students and parents.
- 3. College work study** is payment to a student for working on campus. It is procured by the financial aid office at the college for the student either on or near campus.

## **The Financial Aid Application Process**

In order to qualify for financial aid, the student needs to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In October you can download the FAFSA at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>. Once this form is filed, it is the responsibility of the student to check with the financial aid office of **each** college to see if a supplemental form is necessary, and if so, which one. The family may have to fill out one of the following:

- 1. FAF- The Financial Aid Profile (CSS).** A fee is charged for the initial application with additional fees for each school. <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>
- 2. College Form-** The financial aid office may provide its own needs analysis form.

## **Financial Aid Programs**

### **1. Federal Aid Programs**

#### **a. Federal Work Study Program (FWS)**

1. Provides jobs on campus to students who have financial need.
2. Award varies.

#### **b. Federal Stafford Subsidized Loan from banks and other lenders based on need.**

1. For colleges, vocational and technical schools.
2. Government pays interest while student is in college.
3. Approximately 4.45% interest fee
4. Up to \$3,500/ year for freshman

**c. Federal Stafford Unsubsidized Loan**

1. Not based on need.
2. Interest must be paid as soon as monies are disbursed.
3. Up to \$2,000/year.

**d. Federal Perkins Loan**

1. Low interest loans (5%) for needy undergraduates. Annual maximum for the undergraduate is \$5,500 not to exceed \$27,500 for total undergraduate program.
2. No interest until after college.

**e. Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG)**

1. Based on need with a \$4,000 maximum.

**f. Federal Pell Grant**

1. Based on need with a maximum of \$5,500 per year.
2. For colleges, vocational and technical schools.

**g. Federal Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)**

1. Variable interest rate cap is 6.84%.
2. Borrowers normally begin repayment of loans with interest 60 days after loan is disbursed.
3. Limited to cost of education minus other aid for the academic year.

**2. State Financial Aid**

**a. Illinois State Scholar Program**

1. Recognition only. May have no monetary value
2. Individual Illinois colleges may contact students regarding scholarships available to recognized students.

**b. Monetary Award Program (MAP)**

1. Provides grants for students who have financial need.
2. Maximum of \$4,530 per year.
3. Applicable for tuition and fees at approved Illinois colleges, nursing schools and allied health programs.
4. Application procedures are on the financial aid form. Fill in the appropriate box (es) to be considered for this program.

**Other Sources of Financial Aid**

- Churches, civic organizations, club memberships, ethnic groups, work-related
- College-sponsored aid programs
- Computer searches through the Internet [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) or <http://www.isac.org/>
- Local banks
- National Merit Scholarship programs
- The scholarship listing at your local public high school

## Community-Based Scholarships

The College and Career Center keeps an up-to-date list of community-based scholarships for students and parents who are interested in seeking these scholarship opportunities. A listing of all scholarships of which we are aware will be posted on the bulletin board in the College and Career Center, and a document will be posted on the College Career page of the Timothy Christian website.

This information typically begins accumulating in October and November with many scholarships running throughout the spring. The counseling staff does their best to make students and families aware of as many scholarships as possible, but students are encouraged to look into scholarships from their parents' places of employment, town or city-related scholarships (Chamber of Commerce, Lion's Club, etc.).

Community-based scholarships can be very helpful in making college more affordable. Often, only a handful of students apply for these scholarships, so it is definitely worth taking the time to research and apply for scholarships for which you are eligible!

***We believe that it is the responsibility of the student and family, not the counselor, to pursue any and all pertinent scholarships in a timely manner.***

### Handy Telephone Numbers:

**Federal Student Aid Information Center:** To answer a question about a Federal Title IV requirements, call 1-800-4 FED AID (1-800-433-3243).

**FAFSA:** To answer a question about a filed FAFSA or to request a duplicate SAR, call 1-800-730-8913. You will need your name, Social Security number, and date of birth.

**CSS: College Scholarship Service-** Supplemental Form is the FAP or Financial Aid Profile. 1-305-829-9793 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC):** 1-800-899-4722 or <http://www.isac.org/>. The commission also has a list of institutions that have Stafford/FFELP loans. Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

# Websites

## CHOOSING A COLLEGE

- <http://connection.naviance.com/timothychs> College and Career Readiness Program
- <http://www.actstudent.org/> Register for the ACT, college searches
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/> Register for SAT, extensive college search and financial aid information
- [www.cappex.com](http://www.cappex.com) Great free college match website. You can also learn your chances of being admitted and apply for scholarships
- <http://www.nacacnet.org> National Association for College Admission Counseling
- <http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/cohome.htm> U.S. News Report on its college picks
- <http://www.itransfer.org/> Unique site that lets students research which college courses are transferable within Illinois; click “students”

## FINANCIAL AID

- [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov) Government website with FAFSA and much more very helpful information
- <http://studentaid.ed.gov/> Another helpful government website
- [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) Vast wealth of information of scholarships, scholarship scams, and financial aid programs
- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) Scholarship search, must register and will get junk mail but still a worthwhile site
- <https://www.salliemae.com> Great site for planning and financing college
- <http://collegeillinois.org/> Information about pre-paid tuition programs
- [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) Direct site to the application for the FAFSA
- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college> Excellent section on financial aid and understanding aid

## **POST HIGH SCHOOL OPTIONS**

<http://www.careers.org/>

Links to 11,000 career sites; America's job bank

<http://www.rwm.org/rwm>

Links to accredited trade and technical schools

<http://www.defense.gov/>

Official site of the Department of Defense. Click on "DOD Sites" to get to information on specific branches of the military.

<http://www.buildillinois.com/>

Website dedicated to careers in the construction industry



# Appendix

## College Visit To-Do List

**How to make a college visit:** Work through the college admissions office. Visit the school's website and call the admissions office. You will need to speak with the school's visit coordinator. Be sure to request specific appointments during your visit.

Do not be afraid to ask for specific requests. This may be your one visit to a campus; make sure you see what YOU want to see!

Visiting a college campus on your own without the help of the admissions office, or visiting the college while attending a sporting event is not the same as a real college visit, nor will the college view it that way. You must take the time to do a complete visit. You will be thankful you did in the long run!

### Priorities for college visits

1. Official tour of campus
  - a. Academic buildings
  - b. Library
  - c. Residence halls
  - d. Cafeteria
  - e. Student union
  - f. Fitness center/student recreation building
  - g. Anything else that is important to **YOU!**
2. Meeting with an admissions counselor
3. Meeting with a financial aid counselor
4. Meeting with a professor within an academic program of interest
5. Sit in on a class
6. Talk with current students (either on the formal tour or just as you see them around campus)
7. Drive around the campus/community. Explore the local town and attractions. Is the entire area a place you can see yourself living and spending the next four years of your life?

# College Visit Note Sheet

School/Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_

Admissions Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Undergraduate Enrollment: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Graduate Enrollment: \_\_\_\_\_

Tuition & Fees: \_\_\_\_\_ Room & Board: \_\_\_\_\_

% Male: \_\_\_\_\_ % Female: \_\_\_\_\_

Fraternities: (Y / N) Sororities: (Y / N) % Greek: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Campus:

Application deadlines? \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarships available/deadlines? \_\_\_\_\_

Five things you liked.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Five things you didn't like.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

List of people you met/spoke to (write a thank you card to each person)

- |    |    |
|----|----|
| 1. | 2. |
| 3. | 4. |
| 5. | 6. |

Notes:

# Sample High School Resume

## Timmy Christian

1061 S. Prospect Ave  
1998  
Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630)123-4567

christianti@tcs.timothychristian.com

D.O.B: October 6,

### EDUCATION

Timothy Christian High School  
1061 S. Prospect Ave  
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Class of 2017

GPA: 3.50 weighted, 3.33 unweighted

Class Rank: 25 of 100

ACT: English 25, Math 25, Reading 26, Science 26, Composite: 26

### Academic Honors

- **Honor Roll (above 3.25 GPA) all semesters of high school career**

### Extra-Curricular Activities

- **Varsity Cross Country** **Grades 9-12**
  - **Team Captain, Metro-Suburban All Conference Honoree**
- **Varsity Basketball** **Grades 11-12**
  - **Team Captain, Metro-Suburban Conference Champions, Regional Champions**
- **Mock Trial** **Grades 9-12**
  - **2016 Illinois State Champion**

### Volunteer Experience/Community Involvement

- **Mission trip to Honduras with high school church youth group** **Grade 11**
  - **Worked at orphanage for a week**
- **Faith Christian Reformed Church Vacation Bible School** **Grades 10-12**
  - **Group leader for ten first graders**
  - **Led daily devotions and activities**
- **Timothy Christian High School "Shoot for the Stars" basketball camp** **Grades 11-12**
  - **Camp leader for grades 4-6**
  - **Led drills and games**
- **Faith Christian Reformed Church High School Youth Group** **Grades 9-12**
  - **Attended weekly meetings**
  - **Helped at fundraising events**
  - **Led worship**

## NOTES

