# Bloomfield Hills High School COLLEGE PLANNING and POST SECONDARY GUIDE



# Class of 2023

**Revised September 2021** 

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GLOSSARY

The Bloomfield Hills High School College Planning and Post Secondary Guide is intended for students to begin planning for life after high school. The task of applying for college may seem overwhelming; however, we hope that using this tool will provide parents and students some insight into and a clearer understanding of the college application process and other post secondary options. Topics range from BHHS graduation requirements, choosing a college, and completing college applications to requesting letters of recommendation, financial aid, community colleges, vocational schools, military, employment and additional resources.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Bloomfield Hills High School Counseling Office.

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For updated information on important dates, ACT, SAT, Common App and much more.

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### A COMPASS TO COLLEGE

Finding the right college will require the student to look at themselves- their likes, dislikes and needs. They will want to assess colleges in terms of environment, size, geographic location, cost, academic programs, extracurricular offering and entrance requirements. They can then compare their perception of themselves with that of the school they are considering. Financial aid is another consideration in the college decision process. Bloomfield Hills High School's College/Career Resource Center (CRC) has a variety of college materials available to assist students and parents in their search for a college or career.

After surveying colleges, students should visit the campuses of the schools they are most interested in. Students can get the most out of a visit if arrangements are made in advance with the college admissions office. If a student indicates areas of interest in academics and activities, the college may arrange additional interviews. It is suggested that a brief thank you note be written to the admissions officer and to others who extend special courtesies during a college visit. If you cannot attend a campus visit, most colleges have extensive websites with virtual visits that can give you a good impression of the college campus.

When preparing college applications, remember to "package yourself" in the best possible manner. Applications should be prepared accurately. Make sure you proofread before you submit your application. Some colleges require essays on specific topics. This is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their uniqueness by presenting themselves as special individuals; different from others. It is necessary for students to think in depth about themselves. It is important to demonstrate an ability to organize thoughts logically and concisely while imparting this information. The essay should be written in rough draft and checked for grammar, punctuation, and the principles of composition-unity, coherence, clarity and emphasis.

Students should also develop a resume to attach to all applications. A resume offers a quick and concise overall impression to the evaluator. In addition, a student should use the information they have been acquiring through their Education Development Plans (EDPs) to help them complete their applications. After the final draft is written, the applicant should make a copy for future reference.

Colleges only know the applicant through his or her application!! Ask yourself - what can I do to "standout" and make my application unique?

# NAVIGATING THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

### Advice for Seniors

#### Complete College Applications Early

It is recommended that students complete their college applications by the end of October, at the latest (the sooner the better), of their senior year. Many *in-state* colleges are extremely competitive and are experiencing an increase in the number of students applying. *Out-of-state* universities are in the same numbers game and will also want to see applications quickly. On that note, we cannot stress enough the need for seniors to maintain their grades and the number of academics that they are completing during their second semester. Even those students who have been admitted can have their admission rescinded if the college feels that they have developed a bad case of "senioritis". Students need to maintain their eligibility for college by taking a minimum of four academics each semester and maintaining or surpassing their current grades.

Many universities will want to see 7<sup>th</sup> semester grades (1<sup>st</sup> semester of senior year). If the college(s) you applied to have requested this information, be sure to request that our Records Office send this information on your behalf.

Students should also be investigating the numerous scholarships and financial aid awards that are available. Some interesting websites are included in the <u>Helpful Internet Sites</u> in this College Planning Guide.

### **Advice for Juniors**

#### This is the Most Important Year of High School for Students

Because many students will be applying for college admission during the first semester of their senior year, colleges will be making admissions decisions based on their transcript through their *junior year*. Admission committees will evaluate a student's cumulative GPA or recalculated academic GPA, and transcript trend. College admissions continue to be extremely competitive and more students are making the decision to stay in state causing a substantial increase in the number of applicants.

### Stay Focused

Another factor that has developed over the last few years is an increase in the number of enrollees versus the number of admits. Colleges have been faced with more students accepting admission than anticipated based on earlier target figures. Stay focused with the goal of developing a transcript that accurately reflects your abilities. Colleges are very interested in seeing an upward trend or the maintaining of a great transcript. Juniors can visit several college websites to see the type of essay questions and information that they will need to address in their college applications. Colleges and universities would like their applicants to apply online. New applications are available around July for students to begin the application process.

### Develop Your Resume

Junior students, as part of an Education Development Plans (EDPs) lesson, will have an opportunity to develop a resume in Naviance. A college resume allows the student to submit a 1-page (back-to-back) synopsis of their academic, extracurricular, and personal attributes. Colleges really like having a quick, time saving investigation of students and the resume can provide such a tool. This guide has some sample resumes to give you an example of a high-quality resume.

### ☑ Visit College Campuses

Juniors should be taking advantage of our breaks for potential campus visits, if available. Many colleges offer guided tours at various times during the year. In addition, many campuses welcome students and their parents to their campuses by individual arrangements. Visiting a college campus can provide a "hands-on" experience for all family members to make an intelligent determination of "fit". If you cannot make the time to get on campus, visit the various college websites, many of which offer virtual tours. Remember, however, all colleges will show you their best side on the sunniest day!

### Update Your Education Plan

Juniors will be revisiting their EDPs using Naviance Student that they began as freshmen. This activity will focus on college searches based on career needs and financial aid/scholarship search information. The EDP is also a great way to help understand some of your dreams, plans, and expectations.

### ✓ Take Standardized Tests

Another important goal for most juniors is to take a standardized assessment. This information can generally be found on the individual college website. All colleges/universities are now requiring that ACT/SAT scores be sent directly from the testing agencies. You can investigate the following websites for more information about these assessments. Practice tests are available on these sites and in the Career Resource Center (CRC):

ACT website - <u>www.actstudent.org</u> SAT website - <u>www.collegeboard.org</u>

All juniors will be taking the MME (Michigan Merit Exam) in April of their junior year. This exam includes an SAT assessment that juniors may use for college admissions purposes. This will allow students another opportunity to take a standardized assessment that can be reported directly from the testing agency to college admissions offices.

ACT is also an option; it is wise to try both tests. You only have to send your best score.



## **BHHS COLLEGE/CAREER RESOURCE CENTER**

## What information is available in the CRC?

- College Visit Sign-Ups (September November)
- Financial Aid Information (FAFSA and CSS Profile)
  - Naviance Student
  - College and Career Information
    - Military Information
  - Computer/Internet Resources for:

**College Searches** 

**Scholarship Searches** 

**Career Exploration** 

- Registration Bulletins for ACT, SAT, and Practice Booklets
  - Testing Fee Waivers
  - Summer Opportunities for High School Students
    - Scholarship Information
    - AP Registration Ends November 1, 2021

Be sure to read the weekly CRC and Counseling newsletter found on the <u>Counseling website</u> for important updated information.







**Bloomfield Hills High School** 

An International Baccalaureate World School



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Effective for the class of 2021 and beyond

CONTENT AREA	CREDITS NEEDED	EXPLANATION OF CREDITS	
English	4	4 credits	
Math	4	Credits must include: Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II 1 math course must be taken during the senior year.	
Science	3	1 credit of Biology 1 credit of Chemistry 1 Science elective credit (Physics is recommended)	
Social Studies	3	1 credit of World History & Geography 1 credit of U.S. History & Geography 0.5 credit in Civics 0.5 credit in Economics	
Health & Physical Education	2	0.5 credit in Health Education 1.5 elective credit	
Visual, Performing and Applied Arts	1	1 credit in Visual, Performing or Applied Arts	
World Languages	2	2 credits of World Language	
Additional Credits	9 to 11	Note: "additional" will specify content areas (e.g. communications, arts, etc)	
Advisory	All students are required to pass advisory each semester they are enrolled.		
Technical Competency	All students must take one computer-based course during grades 9-12 (This requirement may be met by courses identified in most content areas).		
Online Learning Experience	All students must have an online learning experience before graduation. (This requirement can be satisfied by experiences within a regular course).		
Community Service	Minimum one Service As Action experience per year		
State of Michigan Assessment	ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE THE STATE-REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS PRIOR TO GRADUATION.		
Middle Years Programme Personal Project	ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE PERSONAL PROJECT.		
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED	28		

## **TYPES OF TESTS**

There are five major types of tests used for college admission, four of which are given by the same company, College Board. Students are responsible for registering for their own tests and for requesting that their scores be directly reported by the testing service to the colleges which they have applied to. We recommend that all students take both the SAT and ACT at the beginning of their college application process in order to determine which test best reflects the student's academic profile. Students may then focus on improving their performance on *either* the SAT or ACT.

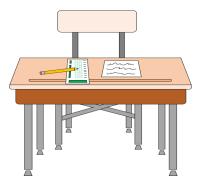
**PSAT/NMSQT** (Collegeboard.org) This test is given in October to all Juniors. Results may forecast your future SAT scores. Scores are also used by some colleges for academic scholar-ships.

**SAT** (Collegeboard.org) This three hour/50 minute test is identical to the PSAT in format and is designed to measure verbal and mathematical reasoning ability. In addition, it measures your knowledge and usage of the English language and syntax. Students may take the SAT two or three times, preferably in the spring of their junior year and in October of their senior year if necessary. Most colleges will accept your highest score.

**ACT** (ACTstudent.org) Is 3 hours & 35 minutes with the writing portion. Four 35-60 minute tests in the areas of English, math, reading and science reasoning are given. The Counseling Department highly recommends the optional writing portion which is an additional 30 minute test. Students need to check with the particular college to see if it is required.

Advanced Placement Tests (AP) (Collegeboard.org) Before early November of each year, students may sign up to take Advanced Placement exams for May testing. Tests are offered in all AP courses available at Bloomfield Hills High School. College credit or advanced placement in college courses is possible, if the student achieves a certain score on the exam. Each college/ university determines specific requests for credits. Check specific college websites for more information.

**TOEFL** (ETS.org) Foreign students whose first language is not English are generally required to take this exam as part of college admissions.



The student is responsible for setting up their own ACT/College Board accounts. BHHS does not have access to students' ACT/College Board passwords. Students should NOT be using their school email addresses for their testing accounts. BHHS email accounts will no longer be valid once a student graduates.

# To register for these tests you will need to provide your School Code: Bloomfield Hills High School-232447

-If you qualify for free or reduced lunch, reach out to your counselor or Mrs. Frantz in the CRC to obtain SAT/ACT test fee waivers and test answers waiver. -

Students who cannot test on Saturday because of religious reasons must contact SAT to arrange a Sunday test administration, with registration accomplished via postal mail or the Internet. As is the case with the ACT, a letter from rabbi/ imam/cleric must be presented for SAT to authorize Sunday testing (seven different dates) for an eligible student.



Advanced Placement testing for 2021-2022 will be May 2-13, 2022



Diploma Programme testing for 2021-2022 will be May 2–May 20, 2022

# ⑦ CollegeBoard

SAT Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	
October 2, 2021	September 3, 2021	September 21, 2021	
November 6, 2021	October 8, 2021	October 26, 2021	
<b>December 4, 2021</b> November 4, 2021		November 23, 2021	
March 12, 2022	February 11, 2022	March 1, 2022	
May 7, 2022	April 8, 2022	April 26, 2022	
June 4, 2022	May 5, 2022	May 25, 2022	

**SAT**°

### Register here for the SAT.



ACT Date	Regular Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
October 23, 2021	September 17, 2021	October 1, 2021
December 11, 2021	November 5, 2021	November 19, 2021
February 12, 2022	January 7, 2022	January 21,2022
April 2, 2022	February 25, 2022	March 11, 2021
June 11, 2022	May 6, 2022	May 20, 2022
July 16, 2021	June 17, 2022	June 24, 2022

### Register here for the ACT

You may want to consider looking into **SAT/ACT test strategies**. See the College Board/ACT websites or consider using an adult tutor from the BHHS Adult Tutor list found on our <u>BHHS Counseling Page website</u>.



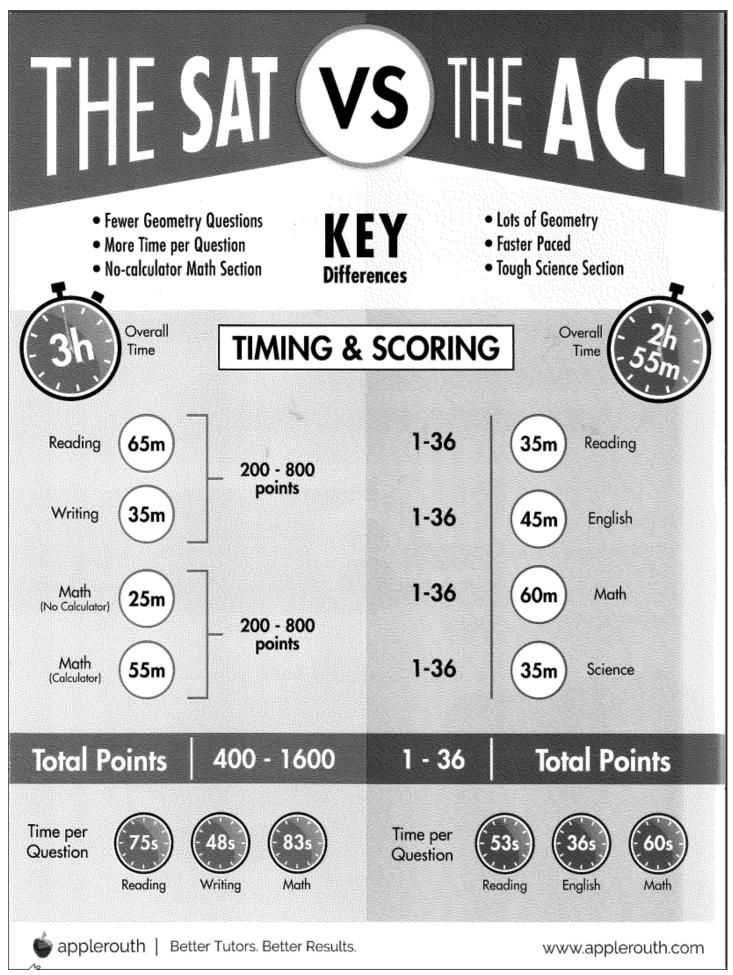


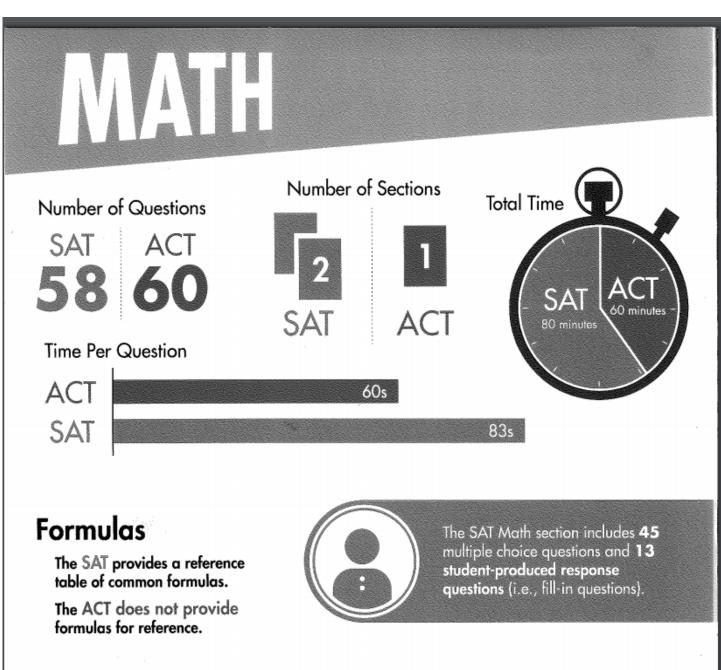


SAT vs ACT

Many students and parents begin the college prep process by comparing the ACT and SAT. Two of the most common questions they ask are: **Is the ACT easier than the SAT? Do colleges prefer scores from the SAT or ACT?** 

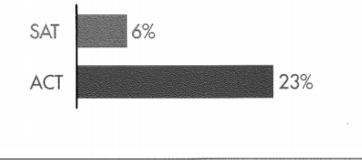
The **SAT** and **ACT** generally test the same types of content. Both ACT and SAT scores are used for college admissions and merit-based scholarships. The biggest differences between the tests are that the ACT has a Science Test, and there's one SAT Math Section for which you cannot use a calculator. Some colleges don't prefer one over the other, so explore both tests to decide which one is right for you.





### **Geometry Focus**

The ACT has a much greater emphasis on Geometry. In contrast, the SAT focuses more on Algebra, word problems, and "Data Analysis" questions that ask you to incorporate information from tables and charts into your calculations.



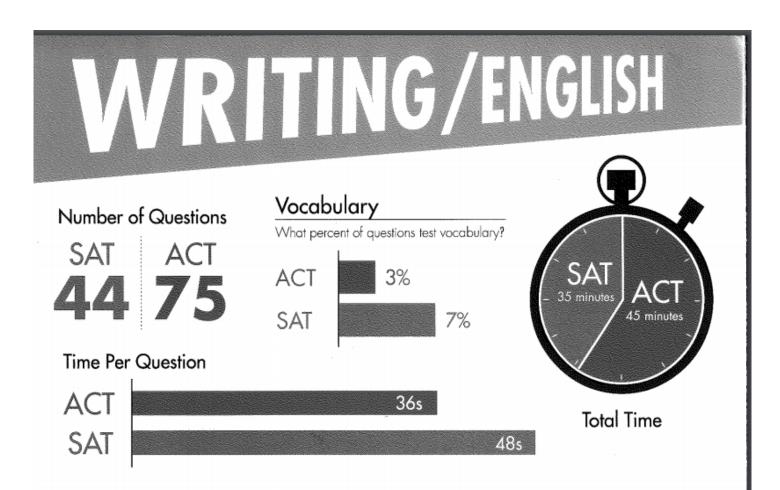
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The ACT allows calculators for

CALCULATOR section and one

all Math sections. The SAT has one NO

calculator section.



# Do the Reading sections have **Graphs and Charts?**



Yes, relating to

two passages

No only on the

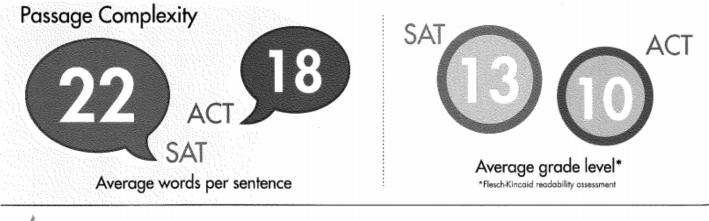
ACT

No, only on the Science section

### GRAMMAR VS. RHETORICAL SKILLS

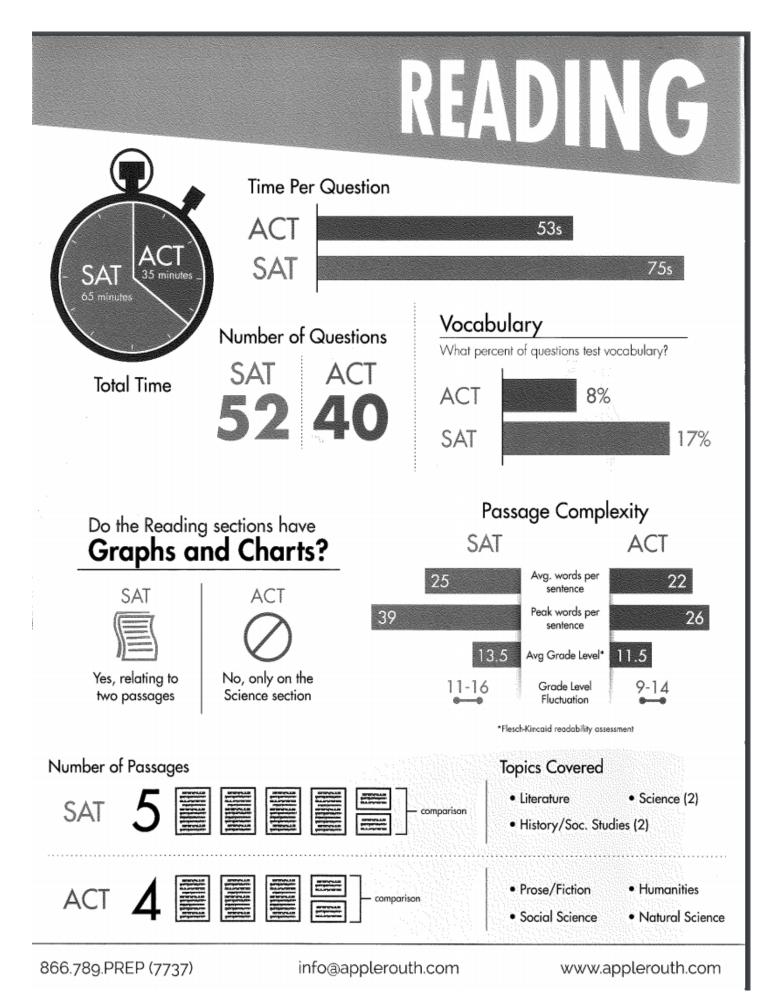


\*The difference between the 49% Rhetorical Skills on the ACT and 55% on the SAT feels even greater in practice, as the questions on the SAT require a fuller understanding of the passage.



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### What Is Concordance?

The term "concordance" refers to establishing a relationship between scores on assessments that measure similar (but not identical) constructs. A technically sound concordance allows students and professionals to compare scores from similar assessments to inform decisions. A concorded score is not a perfect prediction of how a student would perform on the other test.

### How Were the ACT/SAT Concordance Tables Developed?

ACT and the College Board periodically produce ACT\*/SAT\* concordance tables to show how scores on each test compare. With the redesign of the SAT in 2016, researchers from the College Board and ACT, in collaboration with the NCAA Technical Advisory Board, developed updated, technically sound concordance tables that will serve the needs of students and institutions going forward. The 2018 ACT/SAT concordance tables in this document are now the only official concordance tables and should be the single source of reference moving forward when comparing SAT scores to ACT scores for students applying for terms after fall 2018. These tables replace the concordance tables released in 2016.

The concordance tables show ACT and SAT scores with the same percentile rank for a group of students who took both tests. The sample of students used to develop the concordance tables took the ACT test and the new SAT test. For students who took the ACT and/or the SAT more than once, their ACT and SAT scores with the closest test dates were used. The tables were produced using data from 589,753 students who were graduating seniors in 2017 and who took both the ACT and the new SAT tests between February 2016 (for the ACT) or March 2016 (for the SAT) and June 2017. The sample was statistically weighted to reflect the demographics, school attributes, and high school grade point average (GPA) of all students who are likely to take the ACT, SAT, or both tests.

#### Which Concordance Tables Are Provided?

The concordance tables are based on ACT and SAT tests that cover similar content and show a strong statistical relationship between scores. A description of the content measured by the new SAT and the ACT is provided in the Appendix. The table below lists the three sets of concordances.

		Tables	
ACT score	SAT score	SAT-to-ACT	ACT-to-SAT
ACT Composite	SAT Total	Table A1	Table A2
ACT Mathematics	SAT Math	Table B1	Table B2
ACT English + Reading	SAT ERW	Table C1	Table C2

Note: Concordance tables for the ACT Composite were derived from concordances of the ACT sum score.

Note: ERW - Evidence-Based Reading and Writing.

CollegeBoard ACT

Tables are provided in both directions (ACT-to-SAT and SAT-to-ACT). Each ACT score is related to a range of SAT scores (or vice versa). For users who want to concord an ACT score to a single SAT score point (or vice versa), the most appropriate score point within the range is also provided.

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### 2018 Concordance Tables

Table A1: SAT Total to ACT Composite

SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT
1600	36	1250	26	910	16
*1590	36	*1240	26	900	16
1580	36	1230	26	*890	16
1570	36	1220	25	880	16
1560	35	*1210	25	870	15
1550	35	1200	25	860	15
*1540	35	1190	24	*850	15
1530	35	*1180	24	840	15
1520	34	1170	24	830	15
1510	34	1160	24	820	14
*1500	34	1150	23	810	14
1490	34	*1140	23	*800	14
1480	33	1130	23	790	14
1470	33	1120	22	780	14
*1460	33	*1110	22	770	13
1450	33	1100	22	*760	13
1440	32	1090	21	750	13
*1430	32	*1080	21	740	13
1420	32	1070	21	730	13
1410	31	1060	21	720	12
*1400	31	1050	20	*710	12
1390	31	*1040	20	700	12
1380	30	1030	20	690	12
*1370	30	1020	19	680	11
1360	30	*1010	19	*670	11
1350	29	1000	19	660	11
*1340	29	990	19	650	11
1330	29	980	18	640	10
1320	28	*970	18	*630	10
*1310	28	960	18	620	10
1300	28	950	17	610	9
1290	27	940	17	600	9
*1280	27	*930	17	*590	9
1270	27	920	17		
1260	27				

#### Table A2 : ACT Composite to SAT Total

ACT	SAT	SAT Range
36	1590	1570-1600
35	1540	1530-1560
34	1500	1490-1520
33	1460	1450-1480
32	1430	1420-1440
31	1400	1390-1410
30	1370	1360-1380
29	1340	1330-1350
28	1310	1300-1320
27	1280	1260-1290
26	1240	1230-1250
25	1210	1200-1220
24	1180	1160-1190
23	1140	1130-1150
22	1110	1100-1120
21	1080	1060-1090
20	1040	1030-1050
19	1010	990-1020
18	970	960-980
17	930	920-950
16	890	880-910
15	850	830-870
14	800	780-820
13	760	730-770
12	710	690-720
11	670	650-680
10	630	620-640
9	590	590-610

\*Use this SAT score when a single score point comparison is needed.

Note: Concordance tables for the ACT Composite were derived from concordances of the ACT sum score.

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#### Table B1: SAT Math to ACT Math.

SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT
800	36	*500	18
790	35	490	18
*780	35	480	17
770	35	*470	17
760	34	460	17
750	33	450	16
*740	33	440	16
730	32	*430	16
*720	32	420	16
710	31	410	15
*700	30	*400	15
690	30	390	15
680	29	380	15
670	28	370	14
*660	28	*360	14
650	27	350	14
*640	27	340	13
630	27	*330	13
620	26	320	13
*610	26	*310	12
600	25	300	12
*590	25	290	11
*580	24	*280	11
570	24	270	10
*560	23	*260	10
550	23		
540	22		
530	21		
520	20		
510	19		

#### Table B2 : ACT Math to SAT Math.

ACT	SAT
36	800
35	780
34	760
33	740
32	720
31	710
30	700
29	680
28	660
27	640
26	610
25	590
24	580
23	560
22	540
21	530
20	520
19	510
18	500
17	470
16	430
15	400
14	360
13	330
12	310
11	280
10	260

\*Use this SAT score when a single score point comparison is needed.

Table C1: SAT ERW to ACT English	+Reading.
----------------------------------	-----------

SAT	ACT	SAT	ACT
800	72	500	37
*790	72	490	35
780	71	480	34
*770	71	470	33
760	70	460	32
*750	70	450	31
740	69	440	30
730	68	430	29
720	67	420	28
710	66	410	27
700	64	400	26
690	63	390	25
680	61	380	24
670	60	370	23
660	58	360	22
650	57	350	21
640	55	340	20
630	54	330	19
620	52	320	18
610	51	310	17
600	49	300	16
590	48	290	15
580	46	280	14
570	45		
560	44		
550	43		
540	42		
530	40		
520	39		
510	38		

#### Table C2 : ACT English+Reading to SAT ERW.

ACT	SAT	АСТ	SAT
72	790	*42	540
71	770	41	540
70	750	40	520
69	740	39	520
68	730	38	510
67	720	*37	500
66	710	36	500
65	700	35	490
*64	700	34	480
63	690	33	470
62	680	32	460
*61	680	31	450
60	670	30	440
59	660	29	430
*58	660	28	420
57	650	27	410
56	640	26	400
*55	640	25	390
*54	630	24	380
53	630	23	370
52	620	22	360
*51	610	21	350
50	610	20	340
49	600	19	330
48	590	18	320
47	580	17	310
*46	580	16	300
45	570	15	290
44	560	14	280
43	550		

Note: ERW = Evidence-Based Reading and Writing. Note: ACT English + Reading scores range from 2 to 72

\*Use this SAT score when a single score point comparison is needed.

Note: ERW = Evidence-Based Reading and Writing. Note: ACT English + Reading scores range from 2 to 72

\*Use this ACT score when a single score point comparison is needed.

# TOEFL

The **Test Of English as a Foreign Language** or **TOEFL** was developed to test English language proficiency for non-native speakers wishing to study at American universities. The TOEFL assesses a student's ability to use and understand English in an academic setting. It is designed and administered by Educational Testing Service. It has become an admission requirement for non-native English speakers at many English-speaking colleges and universities. A TOEFL score is valid for two years.



Consult the ETS website (<u>www.ets.org/toefl</u>) for information regarding test dates, registration and fees.



The Counseling Department is happy to utilize **Naviance Student**, a web-based service designed especially for our students and families. **Naviance Student** is a comprehensive website that both students and parents can use to help in making decisions about courses, colleges, and careers.

Naviance Student will allow students and families to:

- Get involved in the planning and advising process, including building a resume
- Manage timelines and deadlines for making decisions about colleges and careers
- Monitor students progress during the college application process
- Research thousands of colleges and universities all around the world
- Find out which colleges are visiting our school
- Research scholarship information
- Investigate enrichment programs
- View updates and links from the school
- Review the results of student's assessments
- Research careers and pathways
- Review courses students plan on taking to see if they are meeting the school requirements
- Set realistic goals and tasks
- Create a resume
- Communicate with school staff

**Naviance Student** also lets us share information with you about up-coming meetings and events, scholarship opportunities, and other resources for college and career information. In addition, the site includes a link that you can use to send the counselors e-mail messages at the click of a button. Students and families can access Naviance Student by going to <a href="https://student.naviance.com/bloomfieldhhs">https://student.naviance.com/bloomfieldhhs</a>

# **Naviance Student Mobile App**

### Overview

Naviance Student mobile app is a college and success planning tool designed to help high school students plan their college search, communicate with their guidance counselors, and stay on top of tasks and assignments related to their learning plan and the college application process.

The Naviance Student mobile app does not need to be set up – it is already available for students to use!

#### Provide State

### **Getting Students Started**

Students can download the Naviance Student mobile app the following ways:

- Home page of Family Connection\*
- About Me tab in Family Connection
- App Store<sup>™</sup>

\*The mobile app banner must be enabled for students to download the app from the Home page of Family Connection.



# BHHS CLASS OF 2023 JUNIOR/SENIOR COLLEGE PLANNING TIMETABLE

## The College Application Timetable

Did you know? Students who visit a highly selective college campus are up to 40% more likely to be accepted to that school.	<b>Spring</b> of Junior Year	<b>Summer</b> before Senior Year	<b>Fall</b> of Senior Year	Winter & Spring of Senior Year & Beyond
Visit College Campuses and Attend College Fairs		ongoing		
Register & Study for SAT	10/2/2021 - 11/6/2	<b>2021-22 SAT test dates</b> 2021- 12/4/2021- 3/12/2022-	5/7/2022- 06/4/2022	
Register & Study for ACT	9/11/2021- 10/23/2	<b>2021-22 ACT test</b> 021- 12/11/2021- 2/12/2022 -		6/2022
Finalize College List 3 reach, 3 target, 3 likely	U	se Naviance college resea colleges that are the b		
Apply to College			in accepting applications ege admissions websites for sp	
Request Recommendations and Transcripts		se Naviance to request tra mmenders <u>in person</u> before sub		
Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)		**chec	Submit FAFSA starting ck college websites for more inf	g on <b>October 1<sup>st</sup></b> fo. on financial aid deadlines**
Apply for Scholarships			applications can be due a eck scholarship websites for sp	
Commit to a College	Stuc	lents must commit to a co	ollege on or before Nation	al Decision Day, <b>May 1</b> st
				HOBSONS)

# SET YOUR CALENDAR NOW

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William Antonelli			12.30pm, CD+6-808-La			Financial Planning for F Tpm, Exec & AddT space		
Birthdays     Reminders	2.PM -						Rainbow Group Meeting	
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John Lynch	7.PM -	-						
Newsroom Internal Calend	8.PM -					Kickbaring		

# The College Application Checklist

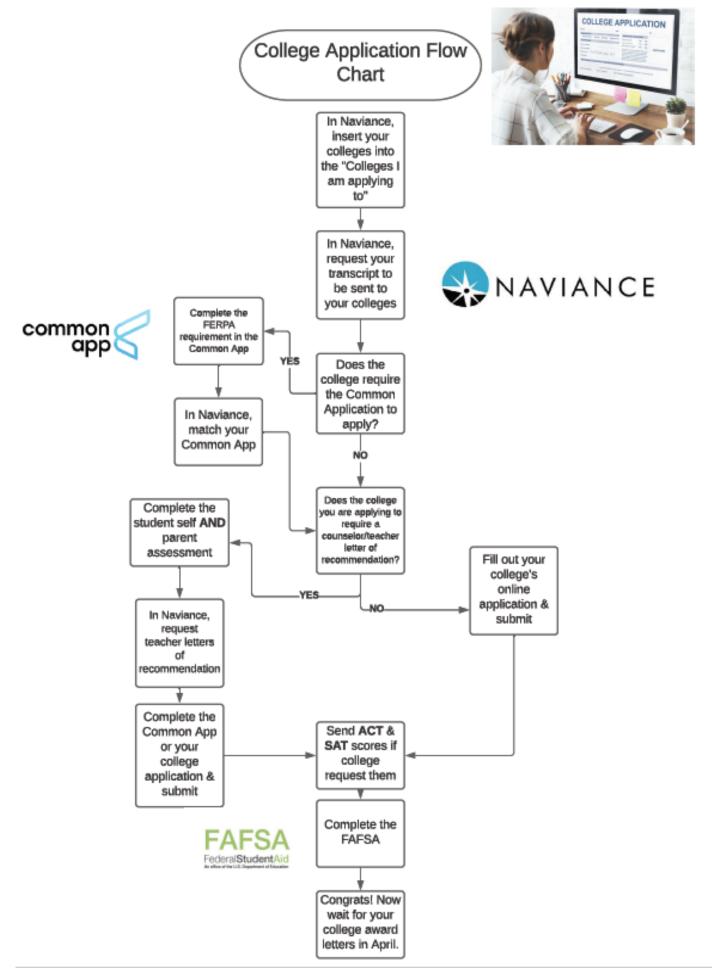
Ş	Did you know? Naviance College, Career, and Life Readiness lessons (purple box at the bottom of your Naviance homepage) can help you navigate the major milestones of your senior year.	Student Checklist	Parent or Guardian Checklist	
	Visit College Campuses and Attend College Fairs	Engage with admissions reps in-person, over the phone, and through email.	Work with your student to plan spring & summer visits to the colleges they are most interested in.	
mmer	Register & Study for SAT	<ul> <li>Go to <u>www.collegeboard.org</u> to register for the spring SAT. You can always take it again in the fall if you want a better score.</li> <li>Come up with a study plan and stick to it!</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Talk to your student about paying for the SAT (\$50-65). Register early to avoid paying an extra \$30 late fee.</li> <li>**fee waivers are available**</li> </ul>	
Spring - Summer	Register & Study for ACT	<ul> <li>Go to <u>www.act.org</u> to register for the spring ACT. You can always take it again in the fall if you want a better score.</li> <li>Come up with a study plan and stick to it!</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Talk to your student about paying for the ACT (\$52-68). Register early to avoid paying an extra \$30 late fee.</li> <li>**fee waivers are available**</li> </ul>	
	<b>Finalize College List</b> 3 reach, 3 target, 3 likely	<ul> <li>Carefully consider the criteria you are looking for in a college and the admissions requirements for each school to finalize your college list and which deadlines you want to shoot for.</li> <li>**Use Naviance &amp; college websites to help you make informed decisions about where to apply.**</li> </ul>	Talk to your student about where they are planning to apply and what criteria matters to them most.	
Q	Did you know? You are twice as likely to get into a college if you apply for Early Action_rather than Regular Decision.	Student Checklist	Parent or Guardian Checklist	
	Apply to College	Refer to college admissions websites for more information on how to apply. Most colleges begin accepting applications on <b>August 1</b> <sup>st.</sup>	<ul> <li>Talk to your student about how to pay for college application fees. Fees can range from \$25 to \$90 per application.</li> <li>**fee waivers are available**</li> </ul>	
	Request Recommendation and Transcripts	<ul> <li>Speak to teachers directly to find out what they require in order to provide you with a written recommendation</li> <li>Use Naviance to request ALL letters of recommendation and transcripts for colleges you are applying to.</li> </ul>		
Fall - Winter	<b>Complete the FAFSA</b> (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)	<ul> <li>Go to <u>https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-foraid</u> to learn more about the FAFSA.</li> <li>Submit your FAFSA application as early as <b>October 1<sup>st</sup></b>.</li> </ul>	Parents and guardians should go to <u>https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out</u> to identify what financial information is needed to complete the FAFSA successfully.	
Fall	Apply for Scholarships	<ul> <li>Use resources like the Naviance Scholarship Search to find out which scholarships you're eligible for.</li> <li>Apply well in advance of scholarship deadlines.</li> </ul>	Discuss finances with your student. Let them know if there is a "financial gap" between the costs of college that would not be met by household contributions + federal financial aid. How much will the student need from other sources in order to attend college?	
	Commit to a College	College Decision Day is May 1 <sup>st</sup> but many colleges would like you to commit earlier!	<ul> <li>Talk to your student about each college they are accepted to. Is it a good fit for them? Academically? Culturally?</li> <li>Financially? Help them make their final decision.</li> </ul>	

# **College Application Checklist**

Task	Timeframe	Where
<u>If you are applying to colleges that use the Common Application,</u> create an account on the Common Application website. You must enter your high school information, add at least one college to your My Colleges List, and sign the FERPA release authorization. Watch this video to get more detailed instructions. https://www.commonapp.org/eLearning/Submission.htm.	The start of the college application season (after August 1 <sup>st</sup> )	AFRIN NOW THE COMMON APPLICATION To observe at comp Allowed
If you are applying to Common Application destinations, match your Common App Account to your Naviance Student account. Log onto Naviance Student, from the Colleges tab, click the "Colleges I Am Applying to" list. The Common App Matching box will be at the top of this page.	After you create your Common App Account	Naviance   Student
Add Colleges to the Colleges I Am Applying to List Log onto Naviance Student, click the Colleges tab, and add colleges to the "Colleges I Am Applying to" list for all non-Common App schools. For Common App destinations, these colleges must be added to your Common App account list (on the Common App website). These colleges will synch to your Naviance Student automatically.	Ongoing	Naviance   Student
Request transcripts for all destination types in Naviance Student Click "Request transcripts" on the right side under Match Accounts blue ribbon in the Colleges tab. Select which colleges you would like to request a transcript to be sent.	Ongoing	Naviance   Student
Request teachers to write the letter of recommendation Click "Letters of Recommendations" under the Colleges tab in the Apply to Colleges card. Click the add requests link. Select the teacher you would like to write a recommendation from the drop-down menu as well as for which college(s). Repeat for additional teachers.	Ongoing	Naviance   Student
Request Test Scores Be Sent To Colleges Colleges want your ACT and SAT scores sent directly from ACT or The College Board. Log on to your account at www.actstudent.org or www.collegeboard.com and follow the instructions to have your scores sent to your list of colleges.	As soon as you finish taking your test	SAT **
If you are planning to play a sport in college, register with the NCAA Eligibility Center Go to www.eligibilitycenter.org and click on "New Account" in the upper right hand corner. Once you create an account, click on the picture of the cell phone on the left. In the My Task window, click on "Official Transcript Needed." Under "Task Detail," follow the instructions. When you "click Here," you will be taken to the Parchment Exchange website. Create an account and request a transcript to be sent from your school to the NCAA Eligibility Center. NOTE: You must send 2 requests – one for initial and one for the final transcript.	Summer/Fall	Eigibility Center
Submit applications by the deadline dates posted by the college	Ongoing	College Website or Common App

Task	Timeframe	Where
<u>REMINDER: Check that your Colleges I'm Applying to List is up-</u> to-date		
<u>If you are applying to Common Application destinations</u> , log onto the Common Application website and add all the Common Application colleges you are applying to, These colleges will synch to your Naviance Student account automatically.	Before the first application due date	
Once they appear on your Colleges I'm Applying to list, go into 'Colleges I'm Applying to' list and click any "Unknown" under "Applying via Common App?" to indicate that you intend to apply with the Common Application.		
Complete Graduation Survey in Naviance Student so final transcripts can be sent to your college Congratulations!!!! You are now officially done with the college application process.	Spring	le Naviance   Student





# **Post-Secondary Education**

### Four Year Degree

A bachelor's degree is a four-year degree typically taking four years of full-time study to complete at a college or university. Normally, it is the completion of 120 semester credits or around 40 college courses. A bachelor's is a post-secondary undergraduate degree.

### **Two Year Degree**

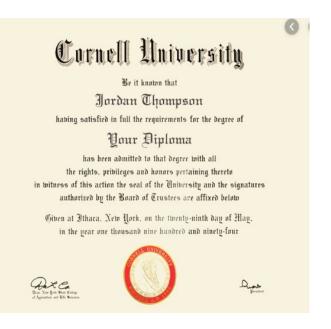
A 2-year degree program most commonly results in an associate's degree, and these degrees may be earned at community, technical, vocational colleges and some universities. Students often use this degree as their first step, then transfer to a university to gain a four-year degree. Normally, this is the completion of 60 semester credits.

### **Trade Schools**

A trade/vocational school is designed to give students the technical skills to prepare them for a specific occupation. Trade schools can be public or private, but many are for-profit businesses. At a trade school, students can get a degree in fields like information technology, nursing, and health sciences, automotive technician training, and medical assisting. Program lengths vary from eight months to two years. Usually, upon completion of the program, students receive a diploma or trade certificate acknowledging they have successfully finished. For some programs students can earn an associate degree, which is the degree received from a two-year college.

### **Certificate Programs**

A certificate is earned after a student takes a series of classes in a particular subject. Students can earn certificates to get a step ahead in a professional field. These are usually offered at a community college or trade/vocational school.



# MAKING THE RIGHT COLLEGE CHOICE

# Why do Bloomfield Hills High School graduates attend over 50 different colleges every year?

### **OUR COUNSELORS STRIVE FOR THE RIGHT MATCH!**

### The right school for you equals the right course of study + the right price + the right "atmosphere."

#### ✓ Know Yourself

Ask yourself these questions – What is my GPA? What are my ACT or SAT scores? What are my strong subjects? What are my career goals?

#### Establish Your Requirements

Think about your preferences in these areas: type of college (public, private, two or four year school), geographical location, size, price range, entrance requirements, major and career information, academic level, social and athletic organizations.

#### ☑ Research Each School

Talk with your counselor

Visit the college website

Use the College/Career Resource Center

Research the school's requirements for admissions

Speak with other students

Converse with professionals in fields of your interest

Attend College Night at BHHS

**Explore Naviance Student** 

#### ✓ Visit the Campus

Plan your trip in advance. Check the college website for visitation and tour sign-up. Call the admissions office of the college for information. Visit the school when it is in session and try to stay overnight.

#### Prepare for Campus Interview

Be prepared to answer questions about yourself such as scholastic standing, test scores, course work, extracurricular activities and work experience. Take a transcript! You may wish to talk about your areas of interest, your plans and objectives, your reasons for interest in the school, and your values and ideals. (Many colleges are only offering interviews for particular college majors.)

#### ☑ Know How Colleges Evaluate You

Evaluations are based on (the order may vary): academic transcript record, upward trend, course selection, test scores, auditions/portfolios, recommendations, extracurricular activities, high school standing, majors and number of applicants.

#### ☑ Obtain College Applications

Most colleges require you to complete your application online. Please check with each college's website to determine when applications are available. Applications are submitted in the fall of the senior year.

# College Search/Visit

### Finding the Right College and Program

How to begin your search

- Assemble a list of colleges/universities/trade schools you'd like to attend. Go on campus visits, in-person or virtual.
- Consider attending International Schools, such as Canada. <u>https://www.educanada.ca/index.aspx?lang=eng</u>
- If you prefer online learning, check out the best online colleges. <u>https://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/</u>
   <u>best-colleges-online/</u>
- Be sure to check each school's program offerings. Not all schools offer all programs and degrees.
- List your choices of schools into categories:
  - 1-4 schools that you could definitely get in
  - 1-2 schools that you could probably get in

Budget how much you can afford for application submission. If the application submission costs for 4 or more schools is too much, narrow your search. Check with colleges' admission offices for application fee waiver codes. If you think you may qualify as *need based*, ask your high school counselor for a fee waiver form

### Things to look for and do for each college visit

- Talk to professors
- Visit the library
- Tour campus
- Sit in on a class
- Eat in the cafeteria
- Talk to the admissions office
- Read the college newspaper
- Visit student housing
- Read bulletin boards
- Check out recreational facilities
- Check out student activities
- Tour the city around campus
- Eat at an off-campus student hang-out
- Picture yourself living there

### Ask a student

- What is the best part about this college?
- What is the worst part?
- What is a typical day like?
- What do the students do on the weekends?
- How are the classes structured?
- Why did you choose this college?

Rate the people, social life, classrooms, residence halls, town, campus and food on a scale of 1-5. What were your best parts of the visit and what were your worst parts of the visit?

# **COLLEGE FAIRS**

College Fairs are a great opportunity to speak with college representatives and ask your specific questions. BHHS holds the College Night in October where over 100 colleges and universities are represented.

# How to Get the Most Out of a College Fair

 $\mathfrak{O}$ CollegeBoard

FOR STUDENTS

### **GOING TO A COLLEGE FAIR**

- Take a pen and a small notebook.
- Take a bag to carry the brochures you pick up.
- Print out some address labels with your name, address, phone number, email address, high school, and year of graduation. Spend your time at the college tables asking questions, not filling out contact cards!
- When you arrive, check out the floor plan and find out where the tables for your top choice colleges are located so you can go directly to them.

- Write down your most important questions in advance so you don't forget them.
- Check on whether any information sessions, such as financial aid, are being offered. Interested? Budget your time accordingly.
- Jot down notes about a college while your memory is fresh, such as right after visiting the table.
- Pick up the business cards of any representatives you talk to, so you can contact them if you have any more questions.

### AFTER YOU GET HOME

- Make a point of going through the materials and your notes within one week after the fair. You'll probably remember more about your conversations with college representatives while the memories from the fair are still fresh.
- Follow up with any college that interests you by contacting the admission office to ask further questions and, if possible, plan a visit to the campus.

# **CAMPUS VISITS**

### THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR SEEING A COLLEGE YOURSELF!!

There are many ways to find out about a college – from the internet to brochures to college fairs. The bottom line is that nothing beats the opportunity of going to a college and seeing it for yourself. The following ideas will help you make the most of your campus visit.

### **BE PREPARED BEFORE YOU GO**

Call the admissions office in advance – Just as there is no substitute for seeing a college firsthand, there is no substitute for advance planning. When you call the admissions office, tell them the date you would like to visit and the time of day you expect to arrive. If you want to stay overnight in a residence hall, ask to see if this can be arranged. Also, find out about lining up an interview (if they offer them and you would like one) or attending an information session.

You may also want to visit classes, talk with faculty, and read the campus newspaper. You will be amazed at the informal information you can gather.

Research the college and prepare questions you would like answered. Review the information you have collected about the college. Check the resources in the College/Career Resource Center and browse the college's website. This research will help you think of questions to ask and give you knowledge of other areas about the college to explore while you are there. We have provided a list of questions in this section to get you started . As you think of other questions, write them down.



# Campus Visit Checklist

Visiting a college campus helps you get a sense of what a college and life at that college — is like. This can help you decide whether the college is right for you.

### GATHER INFORMATION

Find out what you need to do to apply, and see if the college's class and major offerings are what you want:

- Take part in a group information session at the admission office.
- Interview with an admission officer.
- Pick up financial aid forms.
- Sit in on a class that interests you. If classes aren't in session, just see what the classrooms are like.
- Meet a professor who teaches a subject that interests you.
- Talk to students about what they think of their classes and professors.
- Get the names and business cards of the people you meet so you can contact them later if you have questions.

### EXPLORE THE CAMPUS

Get a feel for student life, and see if this college is a place where you will do well:

- Take a campus tour.
- Talk to current students about the college and life on campus.
- Check out the freshman dorms, and stay overnight on campus if possible.
- Visit the dining hall, fitness center, library, career center, bookstore, and other campus facilities.
- Talk to the coaches of sports that you may want to play.
- Walk or drive around the community surrounding the campus.

### CHECK OUT CAMPUS MEDIA

Tune in to learn what's happening on campus and what's on students' minds:

- Listen to the college radio station.
- Read the student newspaper.
- Scan bulletin boards to see what daily student life is like.
- Go to the career center and learn what services it offers.
- Browse the school's website and any campus blogs.
- Read other student publications, such as department newsletters, and literary reviews.

Whether you meet them at a college fair or on a campus visit, college reps genuinely enjoy talking to high school students and answering questions about their college. The following questions will help start a good dialogue:

1. What makes your college unique?

1

- 2. What academic programs is your college most known for?
- 3. How would you describe the kids that go there? Where do most of them come from?
- 4. Where do kids hang out on campus?
- 5. What happens on weekends—are there things to do on campus or in town, or do most kids go home?
- 6. Are fraternities and sororities a big part of campus life?
- 7. What are the housing options for freshmen?
- 8. Do many students live off campus?
- 9. Is there a sports complex or fitness center?
- 10. What are the most popular clubs and activities?
- 11. What's the security like on campus?
- 12. What's the surrounding area like? Is it easy to get around?
- 13. What are the most popular majors?
- 14. How would you describe the academic pressure and workload?
- 15. What support services are available (academic advisers, tutors, etc.)?
- 16. Do I need to bring my own computer?
- 17. What's the faculty like? How accessible are they outside of class?
- 18. Are there opportunities for internships?
- 19. Is there job placement help for graduates?
- 20. Are any big changes in the works that I should know about?

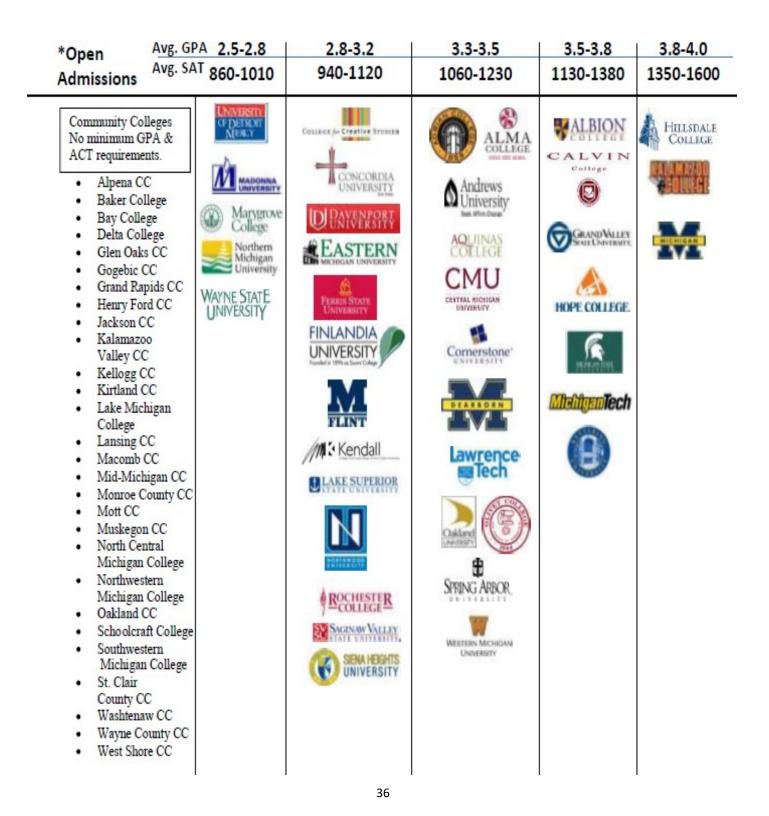
Source: Get it Together for College 2nd ed. (College Board 2011).

College Counseling Sourcebook, 7th Edition. © 2012 The College Board. All rights reserved.

### Michigan College Average Requirements Worksheet

## Colleges in Michigan: GPA & SAT Tiers

GPA Averages of college freshman class based on information found on institutions' websites. Average SAT is estimated based on ACT information on institutions' websites and converted through The College Board's concordance chart. To verify information is accurate, contact the admissions office.



### **CRITERIA FOR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS**

### 1. High School Transcript

• The quality of work during all four years

Types of classes taken – Did you challenge yourself? What classes are you taking during your senior year? How many academics have you taken? What are your grades in the academic classes? Did you take advantage of the rigorous and demanding courses available to you? What is your overall grade point average? What is your recalculated academic grade point average? (Some schools recalculate, not all.)

Colleges and universities like to see a minimum of four academic classes per semester. (Most prefer five Academics include English, Science, Social Studies, Math and World Languages.)

Overall trend of the student: Consistent grade point average Upward trend; overall improvement

• If there appears to be a problem during a particular semester, is there a reason for the discrepancy? (This could be due to illness, family problems, etc., and may have to be explained.)

### 2. Standardized Test Scores

- The more selective the school, the higher test scores are expected. Some colleges and universities use the test scores for placement rather than admission.
- Report high AP scores on application; do not send scores; only send score to the college you will at tend.

### 3. Extra-curricular Activities

- These can include involvement in clubs, organizations, athletics.
- Community Service

### 4. Letters of Recommendation

• These should come from core teachers and/or counselors. Juniors should plan to ask for letters at the end of their junior year. A thank you letter should always be sent to the recommender.

### 5. Essay(s)

• Colleges and universities are looking to hear your "voice". Essays should be well-written, personal and thoughtful.

- 6. Additional Admissions Criteria
  - When two students are fairly equal in most components, the college or university will look for *uniqueness* between applicants.
  - Bloomfield Hills High School will provide a weighted & unweighted GPA on your transcript for AP & IB classes. Bloomfield Hills High School does not rank students. Our students are not penalized in any fashion because we do not rank. We provide a Bloomfield Hills Profile with every submitted application. This gives detailed information about the high school and provides a graphic breakdown and representation of earned grade point averages. Even though a specific rank is not given, a general computation of approximate value can be determined (i.e., top ten percent of the class, top twenty-five percent of the class, etc.).

### TIPS FOR APPLYING ONLINE



### When applying to ANY College or University REMEMBER to:

Create an account on the school's website as well as common application if applicable. BE SURE TO WRITE DOWN YOUR USERNAME AND PASSWORD FOR EACH SCHOOL.

Include application fee (payable by credit card). If you qualify for free & reduced lunch, see your Counselor for a college application fee waiver.

Include your (APPROPRIATE) email address. Do NOT use your Bloomfield Hills High School email.

Submit the required personal statement and essay. Always include the optional essay *because it's not optional.* 

Read the online application slowly and answer all questions carefully. Before you submit your application, review everything for accuracy.



Save your work frequently.

Always print your final application and keep a copy for your records.

The application process will be presented in June at the College Application 101 meeting.

### LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

### How do I get a letter of recommendation from my teacher or counselor?

- Ask your teacher/counselor for a recommendation in advance and in person. Give them *at least two weeks notice* prior to the date you wish it sent and indicate the deadline date.
- If the teacher requests a completed paper <u>teacher recommendation form</u>, they are located in the Counseling Office or on the Counseling Website.
- Add the teacher to the teacher recommender list in Naviance.
- Supply information for your teacher/counselor about yourself in written form (i.e., senior questionnaire, resume, etc.).
- ONLY ask for the number of letters the school is requesting.
- **DO NOT** ask the teacher/counselor for a copy of the recommendation. Recommendations are meant to be kept confidential.
- Wait two weeks then confirm with your teacher/counselor that the recommendation was submitted.

VERY IMPORTANT - follow up with a personal thank you note to the teacher or counselor.



## Your High School Résumé

A helpful resource to have during the college and scholarship application process is a résumé. A résumé provides a quick summary of your extracurricular activities, special abilities and talents, and leadership skills. You may want to prepare several versions for different audiences (colleges, scholarship organizations, etc.). Be sure to have several people review your drafts for feedback on format and information.

### **KEY FEATURES OF AN EFFECTIVE RÉSUMÉ**

- Be concise: Most readers will not have time to review a lengthy, rambling résumé. You want to make the most of the time you have their attention.
- Prioritize: Know your audience and what information will be most important for them to see. Choose your key activities or skills to highlight at the beginning of the document. This shouldn't be a long list of activities, but rather the top activities to which you have committed a longer period of time and had in-depth participation.
- Highlight honors and awards: With the name of the award be sure to summarize what the award was for, why you received it, and the date.

- Provide detail: Give a short description of the activity, time commitment, specific projects on which you served, and the leadership roles and your specific responsibilities in that position.
- Avoid acronyms: Although initials may reference a school club, an acronym may have no meaning to your reader. Be sure to provide a clear name of the group, and if not self-explanatory, a short description of the club's purpose.
- Include summer programs or jobs: Be sure to provide a brief description of the program or your job responsibilities.

### YOUR AUDIENCES

- Colleges: If the college requires or encourages the inclusion of a résumé with the application, be sure to do so. You don't need to repeat any academic information that is available on other parts of the application (i.e., transcript).
- Scholarship organizations: Be sure to highlight your specific achievements or talents that meet the criteria for the scholarship. This is where your details and descriptions can be very important.
- Educators: For someone writing a recommendation for you, a résumé can be helpful in reminding them of your talents outside the classroom.

- Teachers: Mention a specific class assignment, project, or participation that they can reference in their recommendation.
- Counselors: Highlight any specific circumstance you would want them to comment on in their letter.
- Interviewers: If you are interviewing for a college, scholarship, internship, or job, you may want to have a résumé to give to the interviewer or to include in your follow-up thank-you note.

### WRITING THE COLLEGE RESUME

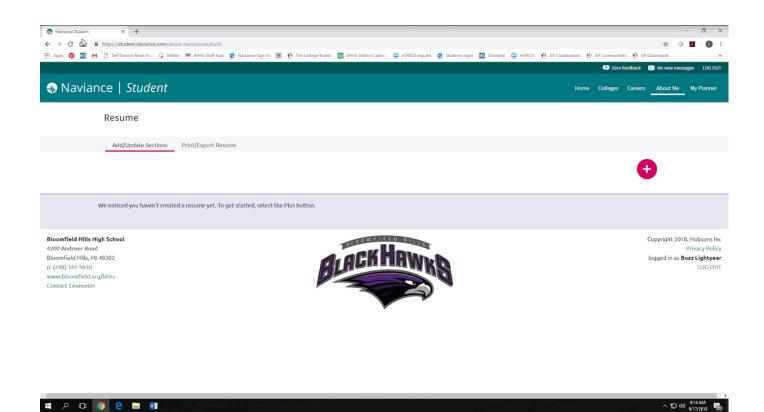
The college resume represents a snapshot of your high school academic record and extracurricular activities.

Naviance Student has a resume builder. We highly encourage you to use it to build and store your resume in your Naviance account.

It is helpful to include a list of all honors and AP/IB classes on your resume.

Your resume should be a clear and concise 1-2 page summary of your accomplishments, abilities and interests. It is a quick and easy way for college admissions officers to see what you've done during high school and what you'll contribute to their student body.

The following samples represent strong examples of high school students' resumes. (These samples are provided by Adventures in Education – <u>www.aie.org</u>.)



PERRY JAMESON 1515 Stanley Drive #62 Hometown, KS 66202 perry.jameson@dbplanet.com (913) 555-1938

### OBJECTIVE

To obtain knowledge of the day-to-day workings of a communications, public relations, or publishing firm through a part-time job or summer internship.

### EDUCATION

Completed three years at Hometown High School. Graduation date: May 2023 G.P.A. 3.85. Top 5% of class.

### EXPERIENCE

Newspaper Staff Member, Hometown High School

• Aug 2020 - present. Features editor of campus newspaper.

Aug 2020 - Aug 2021. Researched information for news articles using library and Web sources. Composed and edited informational articles, columns, editorials, and advertising copy.

Yearbook Committee Member, Hometown High School

- Aug 2020 present. Editor-in-chief of yearbook staff. Leader of design and publication teams from initial layout through finished product.
- Aug 2020 Aug 2021. Yearbook staff member. Experience taking photographs, designing layout, and writing captions and sidebars.

### RELEVANT HIGH SCHOOL STUDIES

Technical writing; advanced composition; debate; video production; computer classes providing knowledge of word processing, desktop publishing, and Web software.

### HONORS, AWARDS, AND MEMBERSHIPS

- U.S. Media Association Scholarship recipient Scholarship based on academic achievement, community service, and campus participation and leadership in high school communications projects and studies.
- 2020Best High School Newspaper Design winner Central State Regional Communications Contest, sponsored by the Communications Department, State University.
- President of high school chapter of Future Communicators of America (FCA), 2020- present Member, 2020 present.
- Treasurer of National Honor Society, 2020 present

### Roberta Jordan 12345 Hemingway Ln. Austin, TX 78722 (512) 456-7891 – R.Jordan@email.com

### Work Experience

Country Club - summer 2020 and 2021 Lifeguard

- Monitored swimming areas for rule violations and drowning victims.
- Assisted in maintaining pool facilities and recreation areas surrounding pool areas.
- Supervised entertainment activities sponsored by country club.
- Worked assigned shifts at check-in and concession stand.
- Attended training courses and maintained CPR certification.
- Taught summer swimming classes.

Hawkins, Robins, Warbler and Finch, Attorneys at Law - Fall 2019- Fall 2020

- Picked-up and delivered catering and supplies for luncheons and corporate functions.
- In-house mail delivery and sorting.
- In-house document delivery.
- Office supply pick-up for local merchants.
- Assisted clerk in the law library.

Delivered documents to and from the courthouse and other law offices.

### Volunteer Work

Big Brothers/Big Sisters - 2020-2021

- Assisted with and participated in group activities and field trips.
- Monitored youth during activities.
- Tutored ages 8-13 and assisted with homework assignments.
- Texas School for the Blind -2021 Book Reader
- Read literary masterpieces into a tape recorder for use by the community. Assisted with volunteer office duties.

### School Organizations

National Honor Society - 2020, 2021 Pep Squad - 2020 and 2021 Decorations Committee Chair - 2021 Latin Club - 2020 - 2021 Secretary - 2020 Vice President - 2021 Senior Student Council Representative - 2021 Secretary - 2020

Education

City High School 2020 - 2023 May 2023 Graduation - GPA 3.45 May also include Honors and AP courses

### Joe Smith

• 4681 Myers Road • Anytown, TN 54321 • joesmith@gmail.com • (123) 333-6789

### EDUCATION - Bloomfield Hills High School 2020-2023

Academics

- GPA 3.95
- ACT 29 (English 26, Math 30, Reading 30, Science 32)
- Honors: National Honor Society
- Intended Field of Study: Computer Science/Engineering

#### Curriculum

- Senior Year: AP Physics C (self-taught on line class), AP Calculus BC, AP English: Literature and Composition, Honors STEM Engineering, English Applications
- Junior Year: AP Calculus AB, American Literature, Anatomy and Physiology, Economics, AP American Government, Intro to Design Environment, Intro to Design Concepts and Methodology, Web Design
- Sophomore Year: Pre-Calculus, Honors Writing Literature II, Honors Physics, Honors Chemistry, AP US History, Spanish 200, Java Programming
- Freshman Year: Honors Algebra II Accelerated, English 9, Biology, Earth Science, Spanish 100, World History, Geography
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: High School Geometry Accelerated
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: High School Algebra 1

#### **ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS**

#### Academic

• National Honor Society • Academic Achievement Award (9<sup>th</sup>, 10th, 11th Grades) • Academic Varsity Letter

#### Athletic

• JV Tennis • Hockey • Varsity Letter/Football • Varsity Award/2011 Football • MHSAA District Championship 2011

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

- My Brother's Keeper Ministry Detroit. Helped rebuild a church and served meals to the homeless
- Special Olympics at Oakland University
- Knight of Stars (Special Olympic football game held annually at Bloomfield Hills High School)

#### INTERNSHIP

• Bloomfield Hills School IT Department (Internships) – Summer 2021

#### CLUBS

• Student Respect for Self and Others Club (SOS) • Fellowship Christian Athlete

# Tips for writing your **College application essay....**

### Here's advice from the people who read them!

Does writing a college application essay seem like a daunting task to you? For most people, the answer is a resounding "yes!" However, the essay is also an opportunity for you to show your talents and creativity to their best advantage.

To help you get started, here are some insights on writing an essay from the people who read hundreds of them every year —admission officers at ACM colleges.

### The essay is your chance to use your voice

The essay is the living, breathing part of your application to a college. In the essay, you can speak in your own voice and **personalize** your application. Here's your opportunity to show something about you that doesn't really come across elsewhere in your application.

So, step back and be reflective. Think about who you are as an individual. How do you view the world? What do you care about deeply? What experiences and people have been important in shaping you as a person? What are your aspirations in life?

It is in such reflection that you can find your own, unique voice. That's the voice that will help you write an interesting essay that only **you** could have written.

Now, on to some nuts and bolts of writing the essay.

## Show your command of the basics of good writing

Here are some key points that admission officers look for in an essay:

- Make sure to **answer the essay question** and to follow **all** the instructions that are given.
- · Start off with a strong opening paragraph that captures the reader's interest.
- Use a style that you find comfortable and that is appropriate for the subject matter.
- Use correct grammar, punctuation and spelling.
- Make a point and stick to it; develop your argument or narrative.
- Check **all** of your facts. Do you mention a date, place or event in your essay? Make sure it's correct.
- Have you given your reader complete information, so he or she won't be confused?

(continued)

## Why do colleges require essays?

A college application includes a lot of information about you, such as grades, recommendations, lists of your extracurricular activities and test scores. All of that information is very important and helps admission officers form a picture of your accomplishments and abilities. However, while it tells about how other people see you, there isn't much about how you see yourself. It's that inside view —how you see yourself —that colleges hope to find in your essay.

The essay performs other functions, as well, such as:

- The essay can be a way of showing that you have researched and thought carefully about the college to which you are applying. It shows, in your own words, why you and the college would be a good "match."
- An essay demonstrates your writing ability, which is a key component to success in college.
- In your essay, you can show that you are willing to put **yourself** into what you do. That kind of commitment is an important part of effective learning in college. And it shows the admission committee that you are someone who is willing and able to be a contributing member of a community of learners.
- Your academic record is the central and most important part of your application. For selective colleges especially, your essay provides additional insights about you —as a student and as an individual —for a college to consider as it reviews your application.

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- In general, it's best to be succinct. If there a recommended length for the essay, pay attention to it.
- · The essay should be neatly typed.
- Remember that mistakes, especially sloppy mistakes, make it look like you don't take the essay (and, by extension, the application) very seriously.

## What to write about? Where to look for an essay topic

Does the application ask you to choose a topic to write about? There are as many (actually, many more) good topics as there are applicants. Here are some ideas for where you might look for an essay topic:

- Do you have hobbies and non-school pursuits that really excite you and that engage your heart and mind? Writing about your out-of-classroom interests could help bring out a part of you that's not covered or not covered completely and to your fullest advantage elsewhere in your application.
- Is there a social cause that you hold near and dear? Remember, an essay is not an academic paper; but a cause that you feel passionately about, and that has been in your thoughts and activities, might be the basis for a strong essay.
- Perhaps there is an event (local, national or international) that has touched you in a personal way.
- Is there an academic subject that really sparks your interest? Why does the subject engage you? Has it led to experiences or study outside of school? There may be essay material that goes beyond the courses you took or scores on AP tests.

### How to handle a topic

Often, colleges will ask you, the applicant, to write about an experience you've had, an achievement in your life, or someone who has had a significant influence on your life. In handling such a topic — or, for that matter, any topic you select — go beyond the *what* and dig into the *how* and *why*. In other words, don't settle for simply providing a description of an event. Take the next step and tell about the impact the situation had on you. For example:

- This is a personal essay, not a travelogue. So, if you're writing about a trip to another country, tell about how your experiences effected you, and why they were interesting or meaningful to you. In other words, the people reading the essay are interested in what makes you tick and how you got the way you are, not in how the trains run in Paris.
- Are you writing a tribute to your grandparents and their influence on your childhood? Be personal and specific, not just sentimental. Explain how the particular things your grandparents did or said were important to you.
- Did you overcome an athletic injury and recover to perform well? A description of the type of cast you wore and your rehab routine is not likely to make a compelling essay. However, your reflections on what it felt like to be watching your teammates, instead of competing alongside them, might be the basis of a memorable essay.

### Possible pitfalls when writing an essay

- Writing a poem or making a videotape in place of an essay is probably not a good idea, unless you're applying to a specialized school that encourages such a submission.
- Humor can be risky, so be careful how you use it.
- "Honor code" rules are in effect when you write an essay, so do your own work and don't make things up.

As a practical matter, other items in the application, such as letters of recommendation, make it quite possible that you would be found out if you tried to make things up.

### Some final tips

- Leave yourself time to rewrite and revise. For the great majority of people, this is not an easy assignment. Start early and leave plenty of time! Most likely that means to give yourself weeks (not days, and certainly not hours!) to rework your essay.
- If your essay is longer than three pages (unless the instructions call for something longer), then it had better be interesting! Think hard about what you really want to focus on, and take out whatever gets away from your central point.
- The admission committee will take your essay seriously. You should, too. You have a lot to gain by putting in the time and effort to write a good essay!

### Suggested reading

*The College Application Essay* by Sarah Myers McGinty (The College Board, New York, NY).

This *College Guide* handout is published by the Associated Colleges of the Midwest. Visit the ACM website for more pre-college planning materials.

www.acm.edu

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## WRITE AN ATTENTION-GRABBING COLLEGE ESSAY

Four essay myths debunked – and the facts that make a difference.

all of senior year is officially crunch time, especially if your child is eyeing early admission deadlines. But that's no reason to get worked up. There's one thing left to do for your child to stand out: nail that college essay!

You can help your child by sharing these four college essay myths and facts before they write their essays and click send to the schools of their dreams.

 MYTH: An application essay has to be written about an impressive topic.

#### FACT: Your child is impressive, not the topic.

A college application essay is all about reflection; it's an opportunity for applicants to share something meaningful about themselves.

"We get a lot of essays about mission trips, camp counselors and sports injuries," says Kim Bryant, assistant director of admissions at the University of Michigan, adding students list what they did at camp (playing archery, riding in a boat, meeting a lot of really great people) without sharing much about themselves.

Bryant and other admissions officers want to read more compelling essays that "tell us how that experience affected" the student.

"The essay does not have to be about something huge, some life-changing event," says Calvin Wise, director of recruitment at Johns Hopkins University. "You can write about an 'aha' moment, what defines you as a person. But it doesn't have to be really extensive. ... What does it mean to you? That is what we want to know."

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Effective

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### **GET MORE TIPS!**

Download a free electronic copy of Kim Lifton's book How to Write an Effective College Application Essay, The Inside Scoop for Parents at wowwritingworkshop.com/free-parent-book,  MYTH: A college entrance essay should sound sophisticated, like Hemingway or a college professor.

#### FACT: A college essay should sound like the applicant who wrote it.

The college essay is your child's story, and it should be written using their words, in their voice. Your son or daughter is a high school senior, and the essay should sound like one. Not mom, dad or their English teacher. And certainly not one of the most revered writers of all time!

"I wish I saw more of a thoughtful voice of a 17-yearold," says Christoph Guttentag, Duke University's dean of undergraduate admissions. "By the time the applications come to us, many of them have gone through so many hands that the essays are sanitized."

 MYTH: There is a right way and a wrong way to write an essay.

#### FACT: Your child's best story will grow out of the process of writing a college application essay.

There are no tricks or shortcuts to writing the perfect college application essay. It's less stressful if your child allows it to emerge from a process of discovery that includes brainstorming, free writing, revision, review and editing.

 MYTH: Only superstar students impress admission officers with their essays.

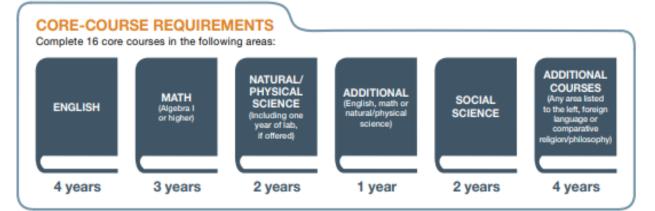
#### FACT: Anyone can stand out with a great story!

Your child doesn't have to rescue a child from a house fire, get a million downloads for an app they developed or train seeing-eye dogs to impress admission officers.

"I think sometimes students feel that because they haven't found the cure for cancer they have nothing to share," says Vanderbilt University's assistant director for undergraduate admissions Jan Deike. "Life is truly lived in the smaller moments."

Kim Lifton is president of Wow Writing Workshop, a strategic communication and writing services company that is a leading expert on the college application essay. She works directly with students, and trains school counselors, English teachers and independent educational consultants. Reach her at kim@wowwritingworkshop.com.

## **DIVISION I ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**



### **FULL QUALIFIER**

College-bound student-athletes enrolling at an NCAA Division I school need to meet these academic requirements to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in their first year of full-time enrollment.

- Complete 16 core courses in the appropriate areas.
  - Ten of the 16 core courses must be completed before the seventh semester (senior year) of high school.
  - Seven of the 10 core courses must be in English, math or natural/physical science.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.300.
- Earn an SAT combined score or ACT sum score matching the core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale.
- · Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

### ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

All Division I academic redshirts may receive an athletics scholarship and practice during their first year of full-time enrollment at a Division I school, but may NOT compete.

- · Complete 16 core courses in the appropriate areas.
- · Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.000.
- Earn an SAT combined score or ACT sum score matching the core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale.
- Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Please review the international initial-eligibility flyer for information and academic requirements specific to international student-athletes.

For information on Division II, view the Division II academic requirements flyer.



### TEST SCORES

If a student-athlete plans to attend an NCAA Division I college or university, they should use the sliding scale to review the core-course GPA and SAT/ACT score they will need to meet Division I full qualifier standards. When registering for the SAT or ACT, students should use code 9999 to ensure their test scores are sent directly to their Eligibility Center account. More information regarding the impact of COVID-19 and test scores can be found at on.ncaa.com/COVID19\_Fall2022.

An SAT combined score is calculated by adding critical reading and math subscores. An ACT sum score is calculated by adding English, math, reading and science subscores. Students may take the SAT or ACT an unlimited number of times before they enroll full time in college. If a student takes either test more than once, the best subscores from each test are used for their academic certification process.

### CORE-COURSE LIST

Student-athletes should check to see if their high school has a list of NCAA-approved core courses. No core-course list means courses taken from that high school will not count toward NCAA eligibility.

### ONLINE COURSES/ NONTRADITIONAL

Nontraditional courses are classes taught online or through distance learning, hybrid/ blended, independent study, individualized instruction, correspondence or similar means.

These types of courses may be acceptable for use in the NCAA initial-eligibility certification process; however, it is important to make sure the nontraditional program has been approved and appears on the high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses.

### **BE AHEAD OF THE GAME**

If student-athletes want to get ahead of the game, they need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center during their freshman/9th year.

After college-bound student-athletes complete their sophomore, junior and senior years, it is important for them to ask their counselor at each high school or program they attended to upload their official transcript to their Eligibility Center account.

## Want more information? Visit ncaa.org/playcollegesports.

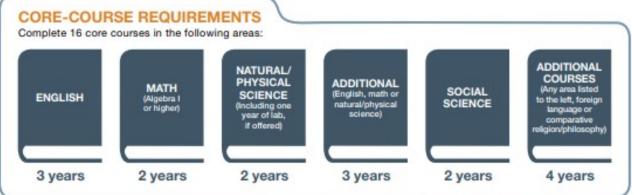
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DIVISION I FULL QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE							
Core GPA	SAT*	ACT Sum*		Core GPA	SAT*	ACT Sum*	
3.550	400	37		2.750	810	59	
3.525	410	38		2.725	820	60	
3.500	430	39		2.700	830	61	
3.475	440	40		2.675	840	61	
3.450	460	41		2.650	850	62	
3.425	470	41		2.625	860	63	
3.400	490	42		2.600	860	64	
3.375	500	42		2.575	870	65	
3.350	520	43		2.550	880	66	
3.325	530	44		2.525	890	67	
3.300	550	44		2.500	900	68	
3.275	560	45		2.475	910	69	
3.250	580	46		2.450	920	70	
3.225	590	46		2.425	930	70	
3.200	600	47		2.400	940	71	
3.175	620	47		2.375	950	72	
3.150	630	48		2.350	960	73	
3.125	650	49		2.325	970	74	
3.100	660	49		2.300	980	75	
3.075	680	50		2.299	990	76	
3.050	690	50		2.275	990	76	
3.025	710	51		2.250	1000	77	E
3.000	720	52		2.225	1010	78	Ę
2.975	730	52		2.200	1020	79	8
2.950	740	53		2.175	1030	80	
2.925	750	53		2.150	1040	81	0
2.900	750	54		2.125	1050	82	ACADEMIC REDSHIRT
2.875	760	55		2.100	1060	83	9
2.850	770	56		2.075	1070	84	0
2.825	780	56		2.050	1080	85	4
2.800	790	57		2.025	1090	86	
2.775	800	58 )		2.000	1100	86 )	

Full sliding scale research between the new SAT and ACT is ongoing.

NCAA is a trademark of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

## **DIVISION II ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**



### FULL QUALIFIER

College-bound student-athletes enrolling at an NCAA Division II school need to meet these academic requirements to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in their first year of full-time enrollment.

- Complete 16 core courses in the appropriate areas.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.200.
- Earn an SAT combined score or ACT sum score matching the core-course GPA on the Division II full qualifier sliding scale.
- Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

### PARTIAL QUALIFIER

College-bound student-athletes that do not meet Division II full qualifier standards will be deemed a partial qualifier. All Division II partial qualifiers may receive an athletics scholarship and practice during their first year of full-time enrollment at a Division II school, but may NOT compete.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Please review the international initialeligibility flyer for information and academic requirements specific to international student-athletes.

For information on Division I, view the Division I academic requirements flyer.



#### TEST SCORES

If a student-athlete plans to attend an NCAA Division II college or university, they should use the sliding scale to review the core-course GPA and SAT/ACT score they will need to meet Division II full gualifier standards. When registering for the SAT or ACT, students should use code 9999 to ensure their test scores are sent directly to their Eligibility Center account. More information regarding the impact of COVID-19 and test scores can be found at on.ncaa.com/COVID19 Fall2022.

A combined SAT score is calculated by adding critical reading and math subscores. An ACT sum score is calculated by adding English. math, reading and science subscores. Students may take the SAT or ACT an unlimited number of times before they enroll full time in college. If a student takes either test more than once, the best subscores from each test are used for their academic certification process.

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Student-athletes should check to see if their high school has a list of NCAA-approved core courses. No core-course list means courses taken from that high school will not count toward NCAA eligibility.

### **ONLINE COURSES/** NONTRADITIONAL

Nontraditional courses are classes taught online or through distance learning, hybrid/blended, independent study, individualized instruction, correspondence or similar means.

These types of courses may be acceptable for use in the NCAA initial-eligibility certification process; however, it is important to make sure the nontraditional program has been approved and appears on the high school's list of NCAAapproved core courses.

### BE AHEAD OF THE GAME

If student-athletes want to get ahead of the game, they need to register with the NCAA bility Center during their freshman/9th year.

After college-bound student-athletes complete their sophomore, junior and senior years, it is important for them to ask their counselor at each high school or program they attended to upload their official transcript to their Eligibility Center account.

For more information on Division II, visit ncaa.org/D2.

### Want more information? Visit

ncaa.org/playcollegesports.

Follow us: 🔰 @ncaaec 👩 @playcollegesports 🕜 @ncaaec

#### DIVISION II **QUALIFIER SLIDING SCALE**

Core GPA	SAT*	ACT Sum*				
3.300 & above	400	37				
3.275	410	38				
3.250	430	39				
3.225	440	40				
3.200	460	41				
3.175	470	41				
3.150	490	42				
3.125	500	42				
3.100	520	43				
3.075	530	44				
3.050	550	44				
3.025	560	45				
3.000	580	46				
2.975	590	46				
2.950	600	47				
2.925	620	47				
2.900	630	48				
2.875	650	49				
2.850	660	49				
2.825	680	50				
2.800	690	50				
2.775	710	51				
2.750	720	52				

Core GPA	SAT*	ACT Sum*
2.725	730	52
2.700	740	53
2.675	750	53
2.650	750	54
2.625	760	55
2.600	770	56
2.575	780	56
2.550	790	57
2.525	800	58
2.500	810	59
2.475	820	60
2.450	830	61
2.425	840	61
2.400	850	62
2.375	860	63
2.350	860	64
2.325	870	65
2.300	880	66
2.275	890	67
2.250	900	68
2.225	910	69
2.200	920	70 & above

"Full sliding scale research between the SAT and ACT is ongoing.



#### NCAA RECRUITMENT

Throughout the past 14 years in college admission I have observed athletic recruiting, coached a nationally competitive collegiate club team and worked with student-athletes and their parents. I have done presentations regarding athletic recruitment and the ways in which one might be recruited. Through all of this, I find it rare that a paid athletic consultant does anything more than the student or parent cannot do themselves.

It is my observation that division one recruits are sought out by division one coaches. And the same recruitment process occurs as you continue through the various NCAA levels, NAIA and club sports (yes, competitive clubs even recruit now and coaches find those who can compete at their level). Coaches find good student-athletes who fit well into their program and/or system.

The single most important aspect of a college search is finding the right fit and only one person can determine that fit, the prospective student-athlete. Not an athletic consultant. If he or she is at the highest level of NCAA Division 1, they will be found by a coach attempting to build a strong program. Analyze the successful Division 3 programs, they seek a high level student-athlete looking for a major they offer in a location they desire. If your a school, college or independent counselor, work with these students on the fulfillment of their interests and then have the student-athletes and their parents begin reaching out to coaches.

The majority of students not recruited by an NCAA Division I school by the end of their junior year should consider other options. That doesn't always mean Division II because they are the next scholarship level. There are many D3s that have stronger programs than their close counterpart D2 programs. With so many institutions being enrollment driven, you must be careful of the D2 scholarship or financial aid offer. Many schools want the butt in the seat and will give a false appearance of an "athletic scholarship" making the student feel as if they made the team. Reality is, they have a nice financial and merit scholarship offer, not athletic offer and may be the last man or woman off the bench. It's my buyer beware statement for this message! Remember, if you don't have "athletic money" built into your financial aid package, you have until

May 1st to weight your options regardless of what a coach might tell you.

Meet with coaches in person. Ask them tough questions. Ask them if this is an athletic scholarship or financial aid offer when high receive your aid award. Ask where you fit in the depth chart. In some sports it's easy. You shoot 77 on 18 and their second man/woman averages 79, you'll likely make it. Consider who's calling you and how often. Head coach or full time assistant or a GA. Some GAs are assigned territories to recruit and some are calling the "admission student referrals". Attend camps as many coaches are there to find talented student-athletes and often times from many levels. Don't be afraid to visit several schools and weigh options until May 1st of you don't have athletic money. If you have trouble connecting with a coach on a campus you consider to be a good fit and they are an enrollment driven institution, call the Office of Admission to help you.

Most of all, find a great fit where you'll have a phenomenal four years because as we all know, less than 1% are playing sports professionally.

Not sure this was all helpful, but maybe there are 1 or two takeaways. In the end, I'd advocate the student and parents begin with identifying schools that are great academic fits or the right location and then begin contacting coaches if they haven't contacted you already. Anybody can

find a school to continue sports, just depends on how far you'll travel and what the family can afford.

Have a great weekend.

Ross R. Grippi II Baldwin Wallace University Director of Undergraduate Recruitment and Marketing

### **ADDITIONAL POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS**

### COMMUNITY COLLEGES/VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS/WORKING

A four year college or university is not the right choice for all of our graduates. Some students may choose to attend a two year community college to explore areas of interest. Others may choose a technical school to learn a specific skill or occupation. Joining the armed services or the work force may be an appropriate choice for a student. The following resources may be beneficial to those students who elect not to continue their studies in a traditional university or college setting.

### **COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

**The American Association of Community Colleges** (<u>aacc.nche.edu</u>) features community college finders, academic resources and publications for potential students. Several community colleges are in close proximity of Bloomfield Hills High school, including:

Oakland Community College (campuses in Auburn Hills, Farmington Hills, Royal Oak, Southfield and Waterford)

Lansing Community College (Lansing, Howell and St Johns)

Macomb Community College (campuses in Clinton Township and Warren)

Schoolcraft College (Livonia)

### VOCATIONAL/TRADE/CAREER SCHOOLS

Vocational and similar schools teach students skills necessary to perform a particular job. Most trade schools design their curriculum for fields with future employment opportunities.

- The Technical Schools Guide (<u>https://www.trade-schools.net/</u>) lists technical schools in the United States and Michigan, as well as local career and job fairs.
- **Only Trade Schools** (<u>https://www.onlytradeschools.com/michigan/</u>) site compiles information about 10 of the best trade schools in Michigan.
- **Compare Top Schools** (<u>www.comparetopschools.com</u>) lists vocational and career schools in Michigan.
- **Oakland Schools Technical Campuses** (<u>https://www.ostconline.com/</u> When space allows, high school graduates may take additional course work (tuition required.)

### **CAREER SPECIFIC INSTITUTIONS**

- **Specs Howard School of Media Arts** (<u>specshoward.edu</u>) is a private career school offering programs of study in Broadcast Media Arts, Graphic Design and Digital Media Arts. Campuses are in South-field and Farmington Hills.
- **College of Technology** (<u>https://miat.edu/</u>) Since 1969, MIAT College of Technology has helped thousands of individuals get the industry-relevant skills, experience and connections it takes to pursue rewarding technical careers. See page 54.

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES/APPRENTICESHIPS

The following websites provide information on current job opportunities:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics/Occupational Outlook Handbook (<u>www.bls.gov.ooh</u>)
- Michigan Labor Market (<u>www.milmi.org</u>)
- Michigan Job Search and Employment Opportunities (<u>https://www.mitalent.org/</u>)

Students interested in learning a skill on the job may consider an apprenticeship. A source of information regarding local apprenticeships is:

• Michigan Laborers Training and Apprenticeship Institute (<u>www.mltai.org</u>)

### ARMED SERVICES

Some students may wish to serve a term in a branch of the armed forces following their high school graduation. The following websites may help students explore various options:

• <u>todaysmilitary.com</u> • <u>military.com</u>

For information on specific branches of the military:

• <u>www.goarmy.com</u>

www.airforce.com

www.navy.com

www.marines.com

### <u>GAP YEAR</u>

Students who wish to postpone entering college following high school graduation may be interested in spending time in a Gap Year program. This is a period of time in which students suspend curricular education and participate in activities such as traveling or volunteering. A few sources for Gap Year information are:

- USA Gap Year Fairs/<u>www.usagapyearfairs.org</u>
- Adventures Cross Country/<u>www.adventurescrosscountry.com</u>
- Thinking Beyond Borders/<u>www.thinkingbeyondborders.com</u>





## **Start your Future Here**



MIAT staff take an active interest in your training, every step of the way

### Pick a Program and a Campus

The first step in getting started with MIAT is to learn more about our programs and campus locations – then decide which one is right for you. Our Canton, Michigan Campus offers programs in Aviation Technology, Energy Technology, Renewable Energy (Wind Power), Global Logistics & Dispatch, and HVACR. Our Houston, Texas Campus offers programs in Aviation Technology, Energy Technology, Renewable Energy Technology, Renewable Energy Technology, Renewable Energy Technology, Energy Technology, Energy Technology, Benergy Technology, Renewable Energy (Wind Power), and HVACR. Explore our Program Description pages and learn which program is right for you.

### Check out the MIAT website at: <u>https://www.miat.edu/</u>

Canton, MI location 1-800-447-1310

### FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Financial aid is money for college that comes from sources other than the family. It is meant to supplement what the family can contribute to the total costs involved in attending college or a university.

The primary responsibility for paying the educational expenses of a student belongs to the family. The amount of financial aid is dependent on the parent and student income, assets of the family, family size, and other expenses of the family. The first step to apply for financial aid is to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid – www.fafsa.gov) as soon as possible **after** October 1. Filing allows the student to apply for all of the possible loans and grants the federal, state and college agencies provide. The FAFSA will also determine the family's contribution for the student's education.

Each college will attempt to package a financial aid award in a combination of grants (money that does not need to be paid back), loans and campus work study. This package should cover the unmet needs of a student. The unmet need is determined by subtracting the family's ability to pay from the total costs of the school.

While the unmet need varies according to the cost of the college, the family contribution is the same for all schools. The family contribution is not based on the cost of the college, so in planning for college, a student should look at all factors in choosing a school.

Each college has a financial aid office, and we recommend that the family confer with this office on possibilities for financial aid. More than 90% of all financial aid is awarded through these offices.

The College/Career Resource Center at Bloomfield Hills High School has information on the various federal and state financial aid programs. The office also has information on many scholarships that our students can receive from private and local community sources.

Students should check the counseling <u>website</u> https://www.bloomfield.org/schools/bloomfield-hillshigh-school/counseling, Canvas, and the CRC regularly for new listings. Other helpful websites are <u>www.fastweb.com</u>, <u>www.scholarships.com</u> and <u>Michigan.gov</u>

Applying for financial aid is time consuming, but without your effort there will be no aid!



### Sources of College Funding

### Grants

This type of financial aid does **NOT** have to paid back. Grants come from state and federal governments, the college/university you are considering, or even private organizations.

### **Scholarships**

Scholarships do **NOT** have to be paid back. Scholarships can be based on need, merit, academics, athletics, community service, etc. Every scholarship has its own specifications for applying and accepting. Colleges/universities, corporations, financial institutions, and other organizations offer scholarships. Often, scholarships are renewable. Be sure to research all scholarships well.

### Loans

Federal and private loans are available to assist students with paying for the cost of college. Loans **MUST** be paid back with interest; however, interest rates and terms vary. The federal government offers federal student loans that usually offer lower interest rates and flexible terms. Loans can be taken out in a parent's name. *Be sure to accept or not accept loans on your college account.* 

### Work Study

The Federal Work Study program is considered financial aid offering part time employment for college students who demonstrate financial need. A student MUST answer YES on the FAFSA Work Study question to be considered for Work Study. A student MUST research employment opportunities on campus themselves.

The FAFSA is the most important tool is finding sources for college funding. It is imperative to fill out the FAFSA as soon as it is released in October. Factors considered when getting aid are: Estimated Family Contribution, family size and members in college, and the cost of attendance at the chosen college.



### How to recognize and avoid college scholarship scams

Average college costs have doubled in the last two decades, and this financial pressure along with new technologies makes today's students particularly vulnerable to financial aid and scholarship scams. "Scammers know to take advantage of those who are stressed," says Robert C. Ballard, president and CEO of Scholarship America, the nation's largest nonprofit scholarship and education support organization. "Fortunately, there are some ways you can avoid getting duped." To help you spot scams, Scholarship America offers the following insights.

### Fees and Other Red Flags

Scholarship programs charging a fee to apply often look legitimate. But look at the bigger picture: if the provider is awarding \$500 in scholarships and collecting fees from thousands of applicants, it's not funding education so much as making money. Your chances of earning a scholarship are slight if not impossible – sham providers often collect fees and disappear. Some providers claim to have a no-stringsattached grant or an incredibly low-interest loan to offer, as long as you pay a tax or "redemption" fee in advance. Others offer to match you with guaranteed scholarships-if you pay for a premium search service. Keep in mind, there's no such thing as a "guaranteed scholarship." Free, comprehensive scholarship searching and matching services like Fastweb and Cappex will connect you to legitimate, competitive scholarships that don't charge application fees.

### Too Good to Be True

Be wary of the "too-good-to-be-true" scam model: an official-sounding organization tells you about an incredible opportunity, offers you a coveted spot at a scholarship seminar, or just sends you a check with a note of congratulations, using messaging designed to get your adrenaline pumping and make you act fast. Remember, scholarship providers aren't in the practice of sending funds out randomly; it's likely the check will bounce, or you'll be asked to send money back for "processing" or an "accidental" overpayment. Your safest bet? Tearing up the check and, if you have time, filing a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission. Often unexpected "opportunities" are attempts to get you to divulge personal information. Even clicking on links can expose your data to scammers. Be cautious: Google the name of the scholarship or organization. Scams have often been flagged by the FTC or Better Business Bureau.

### **Social Scammers**

A new scam making the rounds starts with a random friend request on Facebook, Instagram or Snapchat. Accept, and your new friend will start messaging you about a foolproof way to make money for college: they work for a scholarship provider and have found a loophole. They just need to enter you as a winner and you can split the money. If this was real, it'd be incredibly unethical. However, in the midst of stress, you may be tempted – and that could cost more than money. While you may be asked to send cash as an advance, most such scammers are phishing. Give them enough info, and you'll be worrying about getting your identity back. For more scholarship tools, resources and opportunities, including the annual Scholarship America Dream Award, please visit <u>scholarshipamerica.org</u>. "Scholarship scams seem to work just enough for people to keep trying it," says Ballard. "However, two main rules will help you avoid them: never pay to apply and if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

Story courtesy of StatePoint Media. Reprinted from the Oakland Press 11-7-18

### FAFSA 2022-23 Application – What You Need To Know from Wells Fargo-Magellan Financial Inc.

Nothing is more appealing to soon-to-be/current college students and their parents than free money. However, it's mindboggling that so many <u>families fail to fill out the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) form each year</u>.

The cost of college can be stifling to most families, so you certainly don't want to miss out on this opportunity. Each year, the FAFSA opens on October 1 and you'll want to file as close as possible to the start date to improve your chances of qualifying for the most grant, scholarship and work-study aid. Plus, more families than ever may request – and qualify for – aid this year due to financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.

With that being said, the process of filling out the FAFSA form continues to evolve, as it does each year. You need to make sure you're in the know so that you don't leave money on the table, including what to do if your work situation changed in 2020 due to COVID-19 (remember, the 2022-2023 FAFSA will use 2020 tax information). Below are the changes and updates made to the 2022-23 FAFSA form and process along with some tips for filling it out.

### Changes To The 2022-23 FAFSA

Passed in December 2020, the *FAFSA Simplification Act* represents a significant overhaul of federal student aid, including the *Free Application for Federal Student* Aid (FAFSA®) form, need analysis, and many policies and procedures for schools. Unfortunately, the Department of Education has delayed the implementation of some changes until the 2024-2025 aid year. Here, we outline some changes you'll see on this year's form as well as other updates on deck for future FAFSAs.

There were some updates to expected family contribution allowances and calculations, including the following:

- The typical family will see their **Income Protection Allowance** increased by about \$300, which in turn will decrease their expected family contribution. For example, a family of four with one dependent child in college has \$30,190 shield-ed from expected family contribution calculations.
- **The Allowance for Student Wages** before those earnings impact the expected family contribution was also increased from \$6,970 to \$7,040. This works out to about 10 hours per week during the school year and 20 hours per week during the summer at an average hourly wage of about \$11.00.

According to **the experts at CollegeAidPro.com**, the major changes that made their way onto the 2022-2023 form include the following:

Removing the requirement for male students to register with Selective Service.

Removing the suspension of eligibility for Title IV aid for drug-related convictions while receiving Title IV Aid.

Repealing the 150% Subsidized Loan Limit (effective July 1st, 2021).

And remember, the following changes went into effect in 2019 and should continue to aid your ability to navigate and use the platform:

The **fafsa.gov website** has been redesigned so that the site pages will fit the screen size and shape of any device, including desktop or laptop computers and mobile devices.

Students and parents can complete the 2022–23 FAFSA form using the myStudentAid app. Students and parents may **download the myStudentAid app**.

The online FAFSA form provides faster feedback. For example, students now receive error notifications as they complete the form's fields rather than via future notifications.

Perhaps the biggest news, however, are the upcoming changes that have been delayed until 2024-2025, most notably the reduction of the FAFSA from 10 pages and over 100 questions down to 3 pages and only 35 questions. And, critically for many of our clients, the delay also means that families with multiple children in college will continue to receive their EFC deduction for two more years. Starting with the 2024-2025 aid year, this deduction will be eliminated.

### Have All The Right Documents Ready-To complete the FAFSA Form, you will need your:

Social Security Number

Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen)

Most recent federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned. (Note: You may be able to transfer your federal tax return information into your FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.)

Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)

Records of untaxed income (if applicable)

FSA ID to sign electronically. To create one, go to **Studentaid.gov**.

If you are a dependent student, then you will also need most of the above information for your parent(s).

### What About Impacts from COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted families and universities in a variety of ways. First, you should note that due to the current situation, many Offices of Financial Aid still cannot provide in-person services. Services such as financial aid appointments and document submission will still be available but often not in-person. You should plan your financial aid timelines accordingly.

Second, what if your financial situation has dramatically changed since the 2020 tax returns that you're using for the 2022-2023 FAFSA? According to **the College Financial Lady**, a leading online expert on college financial aid processes, you have two options:

1. Any parent who has lost their job should check the "Dislocated Worker" box.

2. Since the FAFSA does not have an open-ended field to describe changes in family circumstances, you will probably have to endure the Professional Judgement (PJ) process after receiving acceptances.

Unfortunately, the Department of Education says that families must fill out the FAFSA "as is" and then appeal their award: You must complete the FAFSA questions as instructed on the application and **then** contact the school you plan to attend to discuss how your current financial situation has changed.

### Tips For Filling Out The FAFSA Form

### Not Sure If You're Eligible? Fill It Out Anyway

A common financial aid *myth* is that students with parents that have high-paying jobs will not be eligible for FAFSA – **wrong!** Everyone should fill out a form, regardless of your financial situation. FAFSA is not just the application for federal grants but it is also necessary for low-interest student loans, work-study programs, as well as scholarships and grants from schools, states, and private organizations.

You should complete the form so you don't miss out on possibly thousands of dollars to help pay for your child's college. Don't fall for these myths about financial aid: https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/financial-aid-myths.pdf Also, you may not need financial aid now, but anything could happen. If you do need aid in the future, the process will be much easier if you've already filled out the form. Use the FAFSA4caster tool to see your estimated eligibility.

### Fill Out The Form ASAP

The new FAFSA form will be made available **October 1, 2021,** on **fafsa.ed.gov**. In 2019, the date was moved up from the previous date of January 1. The earlier submission gives you more time to complete the FAFSA before college deadlines. This means you'll have more time to apply for other financial aid and to compare schools to ensure you're making the right choice.

### Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Along with earlier application dates, you can now use previous tax information from two years ago, that means you no longer need to estimate – speeding up the process and eliminating errors. Learn more about how the **IRS Data Retrieval Tool** works.

### Renew Your FAFSA Every Year Of College

Another financial aid *myth* is that after a student's first year, they no longer need to worry about filling out FAFSA – **wrong**, **again**!

The amount of federal aid your child qualifies for in one year does not carry over every year. Also, changes in your family's financial situation could impact the amount of financial aid your child qualifies for in future school years.

### To Sum Things Up

Affording college can be a challenge for any family regardless of their situation, but it's not impossible. By utilizing the tips above and additional resources such as other forms of financial aid and **College Savings Plans**, affording college can be more manageable than you think.

In addition to these tips, you can also learn more about the **7 Biggest Mistakes Parents Make When Saving For College.** And be sure to check out our **Family and Finances blog series** where we provide financial insights for families.

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Copied from Magellan Financial, Inc. Wells Fargo https://magellanlv.com/blog/educational-resources/fafsa-2022-23-

For a comprehensive FAFSA 101 guide to complete the FAFSA see this link:

### How to Complete the 2022-23 FAFSAStep by Step Guide by Scholarships360



## **Myths About Financial Aid**

## Don't fall for these myths about federal student aid and the application process!

### "Federal student aid is just 'free money' like grants."

Reality: Federal student aid includes three different kinds of financial help: grants, low-interest loans, and work-study funds (a part-time job on or near campus). To learn more about the different types of federal student aid, visit StudentAid.gov/types.

### "My parents make too much money, so I won't qualify for aid."

**Reality:** There is no income cut-off to qualify for federal student aid. Many factors—such as the size of your family and your year in school—are taken into account. And remember: when you fill out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA<sup>®</sup>) form, you're also automatically applying for funds from your state, and possibly from your school as well. In fact, some schools won't even consider you for any of their scholarships (including academic scholarships) until you've submitted a FAFSA form. Don't make assumptions about what you'll get—fill out the FAFSA form and find out.

### "Only students with good grades get financial aid."

**Reality:** While a high grade point average will help a student get into a good school and may help with academic scholarships, most of the federal student aid programs do not take a student's grades into consideration. Provided a student maintains satisfactory academic progress in his or her program of study, federal student aid will help a student with an average academic record complete his or her education.

### "I don't have good credit, so I can't get a student loan."

Realty: You don't need to get a credit check for most federal student loans (except for Direct PLUS Loans). Also, you won't need a cosigner to get a federal student loan in most cases.

### "My ethnicity or age makes me ineligible for federal student aid."

Reality: There are basic eligibility requirements (which you can find at StudentAid.gov/eligibility), but ethnicity and age are not considered.

### "My parents aren't U.S. citizens, so there's no way I'll get aid."

Reality: Your parents' citizenship status is NOT a factor, and the FAFSA form won't even ask you about it. If your parents don't have Social Security numbers, they must enter 000-00-0000 when the FAFSA form asks for their Social Security numbers.

### "The FAFSA® form takes forever to fill out, and it's really hard to do."

Reality: If you've got 30 minutes to spare, you're good. Because that's about how long it takes to fill out the FAFSA form. It's also not nearly as hard as you might think.

### "I support myself, so I don't have to include parent information on the FAFSA® form."

**Reality:** This is not necessarily true. Even if you support yourself and file taxes on your own, you may still be considered a dependent student for federal student aid purposes. If you are considered dependent, you must provide your parents' information on the FAFSA form. The form asks a series of questions to determine your dependency status. You can preview the questions at **StudentAid.gov/dependency**.

### "I can't file my FAFSA® form in October because I haven't applied to any schools."

**Reality:** Actually, you CAN complete your FAFSA form before submitting any college or career school applications. You'll need to list at least one school on your FAFSA form, but go ahead and add every school you're considering, because some schools have early deadlines to apply for their limited funds. Then later, you can add or delete schools on your FAFSA form.

### "I'll have to update my FAFSA® form after I file my taxes in the spring, won't I?"

Reality: Nope! Just enter the tax information the form asks for—or better yet, transfer it directly from the Internal Revenue Service if you're offered that option while applying—and you're good to go. No need to update later.

Remember: The FAFSA form asks for your and your parents' tax information from the tax year that was two years prior to the start of the school year for which you're applying for aid. For example, the 2018–19 FAFSA form asks for 2016 tax and income information, while the 2019–20 FAFSA form will ask for 2017 tax and income information.

## "I didn't qualify for financial aid last year, so filling out the FAFSA<sup>®</sup> form again is just a waste of time."

**Reality:** It's super important to fill out a FAFSA form every year you're in college or career school. Why? Because things can change. For instance, your school or state might create a new grant or scholarship, or the factors used to calculate your aid could change from one year to the next. Either way, if you don't submit a new FAFSA form, you're out of luck.

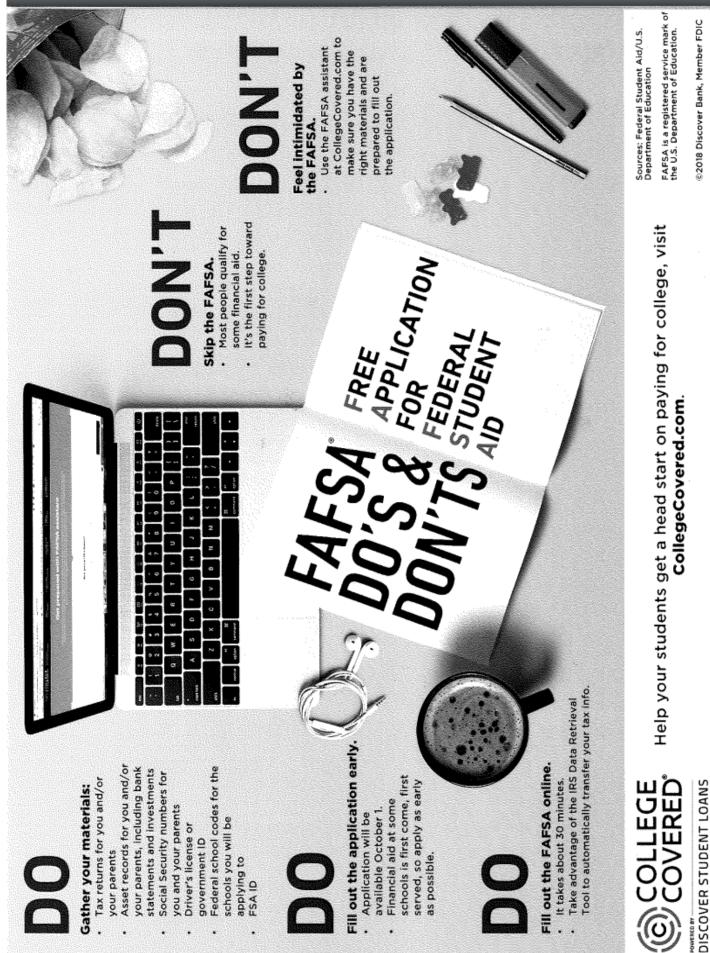
### So what's next?

Go to fafsa.gov and fill out the form. If you applied for admission to a college or career school and have been accepted—and you listed that school on your FAFSA form—the school will receive the information from your FAFSA form, calculate your aid, and send you an electronic or paper aid offer telling you how much aid you're eligible for at the school.

### Have questions? Contact or visit the following:

- StudentAid.gov
- a school's financial aid office
- studentaid@ed.gov

- 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) toll free
- TTY for the deaf or hard of hearing: 1-800-730-8913



## **Reading Your College Award Letter**

College award letters can be confusing. Here's what you need to know.

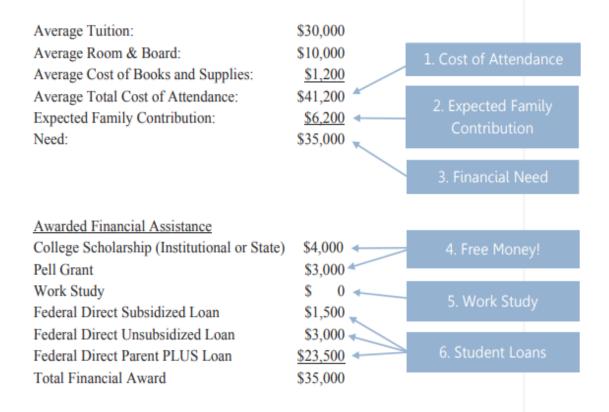


### Sample University · 7651 S. University Rd SAMPLE AWARD LETTER

Jane Doe 123 Park Street Anytown, Texas 76767

Dear John,

Your Offer of Financial Assistance for the 2019-2020 academic year is based on your demonstrated financial need, as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). A detailed statement of your financial aid award is below.



Your billed (direct costs) are estimated to be \$40,000. In addition, you should anticipate books, supplies, transportation and personal expenses (indirect costs) of approximately \$1,200 annually.

### **Reading Your College Award Letter**

College award letters can be confusing. Here's what you need to know.

### 1. Cost of Attendance

Your award letter will detail the total estimated costs of attending college for one year, and will include tuition and fees, books and supplies, room and board, and personal costs. This is the total **Cost of Attendance (COA)**.

### 2. Expected Family Contribution

The **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)** is a number calculated to determine how much financial aid you are eligible to receive. This is *not* the amount you or your family will have to pay for college. It is used to determine the amount of eligibility for grants and loans.

### 3. Financial Need

The financial need is determined by taking the total **Cost of Attendance (COA)** and subtracting the **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**. This may not be the total amount of need your family has or actually pays.

### 4. Free Money!

Scholarships and grants that **do not have to be paid back**. Other private scholarships may not be listed if provided directly to student. Use these sources of financial aid first! Note: You may still have to complete the application process for these forms of aid.

### 5. Work Study

Award based on work! This is a limited job opportunity offer from the school, normally paid directly to the student. The listed amount may or may not be realized based on the amount of work and time put into the program.

### 6. Student Loans

**These are loans and must be repaid!** The student loans listed are Federal Student Loans. The lender of these student loans is the Federal Government. The terms, like interest rate and repayment terms of these student loans are not listed on your Award Letter. You can find the terms of the student loans offered in your award letter at https://studentaid.gov/

There are sources of loans other than Federal loans available that are **not** listed on your award letter. You do not have to accept Federal Student Loans and are free to research, compare, and choose the student loans that best fit your financial and family situation. Some features you should research to make an informed decision are interest rates, repayment terms, total cost, repayment plans and forgiveness options.



### The New York Times



The Choice Getting into College

### **Tip Sheet: What to Do After Your Admissions Decision Arrives**

Spring – the season of transformation, not just for flowers, trees, and hibernating animals but also for high school seniors.

You are no longer an applicant; a decision has been made. Since the middle of March, college admissions offices have been sending out their decisions and your long wait is over. The news is here. The contents of each letter can be the cause for joyous celebration, great disappointment, or bewilderment (or a mixture of all three) about what to do next.

For many of you, now you have to make a decision. It needs to be one that is judicious, and it needs to be done in a timely fashion.

### **Do Not Rush Your Decision**

The National Candidates' Reply Date is May 1. Each acceptance letter should clearly state that you have until that day to submit your deposit and reserve your place in the class of 2017. No college should request a deposit before that date.

### **Review Your Options Carefully**

Use your time wisely between now and then to gather as much information as possible about your future options. Compare financial aid and scholarship offers, attend prospective student events at the colleges to which you were accepted, and talk with your parents and high school counselor about what you are thinking. Where are you going to be happy, healthy and able to grow?

### Accept Only One Offer

If the decision is proving difficult, you cannot buy more time by sending deposits to multiple schools. This is an unethical practice that may result in your acceptances being withdrawn by the colleges involved.

If you need more time to make a decision, contact the admissions offices to request an extension.

### Notify the Colleges That You Chose Not to Attend

Continued...

### Notify the Colleges That You Chose Not to Attend

For those colleges that you will now deny, notify those admissions offices that you will not be attending. It is courteous, and by letting them know that you will not be coming, the admissions officers will be able to begin assessing whether or not they will need to go to their wait list.

### **Develop a Plan for Wait-List Offers**

Perhaps the most frustrating letter for a senior to receive is one that invites them to join the wait list. No decision yet, just more waiting.

You should only accept a spot on the wait list if you really intend to attend that college, if they offer you admission. Remaining on a wait list simply to see if you will be offered admission is unfair to your peers on the wait list and to the college.

Should you accept a spot on a wait list, there are some specific actions you should take:

- **Submit your college enrollment deposit elsewhere.** Be sure to send a deposit by May 1 to a college where you were accepted, since there is no guarantee you will be offered admission to your wait-list school.
- Do not pay to remain on the wait list. Admissions offices are not permitted to request a deposit for a student to remain active on a wait list. They should also notify students and families on the wait list about financial aid and housing availability at the earliest possible time.
- Develop an action plan with your college counselor. Be sure to notify your counselor that you have accepted a place on a wait list and have a conversation about your next steps. Though it is called a "wait list," you should not be waiting passively to hear the college's final decision.
- Get your acceptance in writing before submitting a deposit. Wait lists remain active until the incoming class is full but should not be used after Aug. 1. If you receive an offer of admission from the wait list, you should be given a reasonable amount of time (at least 72 hours) to respond to the offer. The offer of admission should be a written letter or through electronic communication. If at all possible, the offer should also include your financial aid package (if you applied for aid) and housing information. No admissions officer should ask for a commitment to enroll from a student on the wait list before the student receives this written communication.

### The Waiting List

Colleges may put you on a waiting list if you meet their admission requirements, but they've already admitted the maximum number of applicants they can accommodate for this fall. You may or may not be offered a place in the class -- it will depend upon how many places become available and where you are on the waiting list.

Colleges use the waiting list in very different ways – make sure to read the decision letter carefully. Many colleges will ask you to let them know if you are interested in staying on their waiting list and will require a response by a specific deadline. Some colleges will provide information about whether they rank their waiting list and what you should (or shouldn't) submit. Typically, colleges don't decide who will be admitted from the waiting list until the

May 1 decision deadline has passed. You should prepare to attend another school by completing appropriate paperwork and submitting a non-refundable deposit so that you are assured enrollment for next fall. If you're accepted off of the waiting list, you will forfeit your deposit at the first school and be required to submit a deposit to the second.

### What is the waiting list?

The waiting list is formed by applicants who are qualified for admission, but were not offered a place in a college's class, initially. After May 1, colleges look at the number of students who've sent in deposits and then determine if they can accept more students. Colleges can use the waiting list to create a more diverse or well-rounded class. For example, if a school is concerned about gender balance, diversity initiatives, or enrollment in specific majors, the waiting list can act as a means to meet the school's priorities.

### Should I stay on the waiting list?

If you get a waiting list notice, decide whether you really want to attend that school before you agree to remain on the list. If this school isn't a top choice, don't stay on the waiting list – you may end up taking a spot from someone who truly wants to be there. Sometimes it is difficult emotionally to stay on a waiting list, not knowing what the final outcome is going to be. In the meantime, though, choose another school while waiting to hear if you are eventually admitted to the school that waitlisted you.

### When should I expect to hear about my waiting list status?

Any waiting list movement typically takes place after May 1 – the National Candidate's Reply Date. If you're eventually accepted, you often get only a few days to decide. Also investigate the conditions attached to being wait-listed; you may lose priority housing or financial aid options.

### Who should contact the admission office with questions?

All contact with admission offices regarding the waiting list should come from the *student*. Students may ask to use a phone in their guidance or college counselor's office. Certainly any letter written to an admission office should be authored and signed the by the applicant.

### What are appropriate next steps?

• Get a better sense of your chances of admission.

• Colleges sometimes rank waiting lists. The higher you rank on the list, the better your chances are of being accepted. Contact the admissions office to find out if it ranks wait-listed students or if it has a priority list. Most admissions officers are willing to tell you about your status.

• Contact the admission office by email, phone or letter.

• Being wait-listed means that the school has already determined you are qualified for admission. You could provide an update on recent accomplishments or activities that were not part of your initial application. You could emphasize your strong desire to attend the college and make a case for why you're a good fit and what you feel that you have to offer. You could also indicate that if you are accepted, you will enroll, but such a promise should be made only if it's true!

• Study hard.

 $\,\circ\,\,$  This is no time to slack off. If you're wait-listed, you may be reevaluated based on your 8th semester grades.

- Stay involved.
  - Show admissions officers you're committed to sports, clubs, and other activities.
- Realize that you've already achieved something.
  - $\,\circ\,$  You were wait-listed, not turned away. Many students were not as successful.
- Reconsider the colleges that accepted you.
  - $\circ$  Thoughtfully select another school and submit your deposit. Get excited about it, learn more about it and plan to attend! If the college that waitlisted you offers you admission, you can consider both options at that time.



Brian Harke Ed.D. Dr. Brian Harke, Dean of Students, University of Southern California

### The Waiting Game

Each year, high school seniors spend the month of March in a nail-biting, gut-churning, adrenaline-fueled state of anticipation. It's the anxiety that each March brings as thousands wait for their college acceptance letters.

Like many associated with college admissions departments, I have started to receive dire calls and emails from potential students hoping for an early indication of their admittance status. As I reflect on these communications, I realize how controlling we have allowed the college admissions decision to become.

Yes, getting into your first pick college is important, but let's keep it in perspective. Being accepted by your first choice college is certainly something to celebrate, but it's not the end of the world if it doesn't work out exactly as you'd hoped. Too often I see students who don't get admitted into their first pick college beat themselves up, think they did something wrong, or succumb to the belief that they weren't good enough. I've heard of friendships that end because one student got admitted to the college and the other didn't. To add to the drama, parents often take the admittance or denial as a personal victory or defeat. Some wear it as a badge of pride while others blame themselves and see it as failure. It isn't!

Here are some things to keep in mind if you receive a denial letter from your first pick college:

### 1. The process is very subjective.

Forget about your GPA, SAT score and all the advance placement classes you took. Yes, the numbers are important, but when compared to other's scores they are just that: numbers. Looking at applications through a quantitative lens, one would think that the highest scores should get accepted. Oh, if it were that easy. There is a qualitative component that makes getting admitted to college much more subjective than most students and parents realize. Subjectivity comes into play as application reviewers contextualize what you have submitted in comparison to what they have reviewed in the past. Reviewers have their own take on things and there is no black and white with subjectivity. It is out of your control.

### 2. As hard as it is, don't take denial personally.

Someone at the college just didn't think you were the right fit at the time. Try to trust that they know what's best. As much as you wanted to get into the college, chances are pretty

good that the admissions team did you a favor. If they didn't see you as a good fit, you'd probably end up disliking the college had you gotten in. There is a lot of thought about "fit" and student success when making the decision to admit students. Sometimes the shoe just doesn't fit no matter how much we think we love them.

### 3. You are not a failure.

Too many students assume they are a failure by not making it into their top pick college. Nothing could be further from the truth. Remember subjectivity? It is really out of your control. There are so many variables in making the admit decisions that I could write books and books on the topic. You are still the same successful person you were before you got your admit or denial letter. Don't forget that. The sting of a denial will go away.

### 4. Celebrate the colleges you do get into.

Whether it is your first choice or third, any college you get into is something to celebrate. For every college you get into, someone else didn't. Keep that in mind and be humble. It is an incredible accomplishment.

### 5. There is always a transfer option.

I recommend students go to the college they got into, and after a year if they are still not happy, try to transfer. However, if you go to a college with the intent of transferring, you will never give the college a real try. You'll avoid settling in and experiencing the true nature of the college. Most who go this route end up staying at the college they were admitted to. They figured out that the admissions team from the college that denied them did them a favor.

### 6. Parents, give your students a break.

The selection process belongs to them, not you. You've had years to learn how to deal with the rejections life often throws our way. This may be the first major rejection many students experience. Be supportive and find the good in the situation. There is always good.

The bottom line: You are a success regardless of the college you get in to. Don't let a college admittance letter take that away.

So, stop biting your nails and worrying about your life crashing down if you don't get into your first choice college. Whatever your future holds will unfold as it is supposed to. Trust me, I was one of those students who didn't get into their first pick college. I did okay and so will you.

#### Plan B: What if I'm Not Accepted to College?

After all of the time, energy and effort you've put into the college application process, the last thing you want to think about is not getting into the school(s) you've chosen.

However, as there are no guarantees-

and admission committees make their decisions for all kinds of reasons a rejection letter or two may be something you have to face. This situation is rare (especially when students include at least one "safety school"), but it does happen.

Whatever you do when faced with such undesired results, though, don't despair.

There are still many options for you. You can still go to college and to a college of your choice. There is always plan B.

#### Late Openings

First, see your high school counselor.

"The counselor can do a bit of digging and find out why the applicant was not successful," said one director of college counseling.

Perhaps you aimed too high, didn't include a safety school, or just faced a more competitive pool of applicants than expected.

But don't lose hope. In early May, the National Association for College Admission Counseling maintains a list of colleges that still have openings—called the Space Availability Survey. Your counselor can help you decide which of these colleges you should apply to.

"We look for schools that have the type of atmosphere [the students] want—a campus that frequently has cross-applicants with the one they really wanted to go to, but has slightly lower admission standards," said another college and career counselor.

Remember—just because you're not accepted at one college doesn't mean you wouldn't be another college's first choice student.

#### Nontraditional Admission Options

Some colleges may have nontraditional admission options. For example, you might be able to enter college for the winter semester rather than starting in the fall. Or you could be admitted conditionally or

on probation until you prove your ability to handle college work. Talk to your counselor about these options or call the admission office of the colleges that interest you.

#### **Community Colleges**

Community colleges and some other two-year colleges have open admission policies. That means that all qualified applicants are accepted. Often, students who excel at a community college can then transfer to the college of their choice after a year or two. In addition, community colleges often offer a more personalized approach to education—smaller classes and in-depth academic and career counseling. Many community colleges have extensive resources for students who need a little extra help, and a growing number have honors programs. Plus, community colleges tend to be much less expensive than four-year colleges, which can help you save money.

"I do not think of [community college] as a last-choice option," the college and career counselor said. "It provides a nice stepping stone to four-year colleges."

If you go the community or two-year college route, look for a college that routinely sends students to the four-year college you ultimately want to attend, and work closely with your academic advisor to make sure that you take the courses you need to transfer.

#### A Year Off

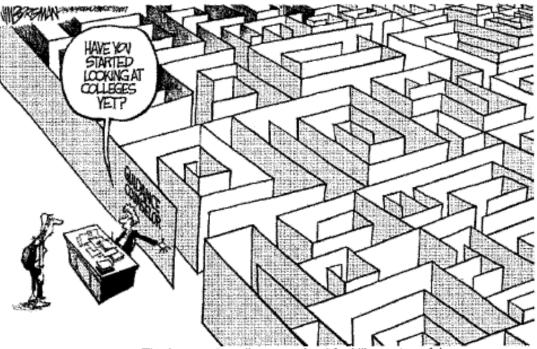
If you're a bit unsure whether you're ready for college at all, consider taking a year off. You can use that year to work, explore career options, travel, volunteer, or participate in any of hundreds of programs for young people.

If this option appeals to you, begin by researching possible activities for the year. As attractive as it may seem right now, hanging out in front of the TV gets old fast—and it doesn't help you with your college or career decisions. Talk to your counselor and your family about options for a year off. You may find yourself teaching English in a foreign country, living in a kibbutz in Israel, studying endangered species in a remote area, or building houses in an economically disadvantaged area. Your experience may even make you more attractive to your first-choice college—or change your mind about what college you wish to attend.



## Ways to Reduce Stress in the College Process

POSTED ON JULY 31, 2017 BY JILL MADENBERG



The journey to college need not feel like a stressful maze.

In my nearly 25 years in the college admissions field, I have worked with many students and parents who were in a mild state of panic about the college process. They come to my office with lists of questions about standardized tests, college visits, extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation, the Common Application, high school classes to take, and more. Students feel like they need to start a new club or small business so they can convince colleges that they're leaders. Parents worry that their children won't get jobs after graduation if they don't go to name-brand schools.

Unfortunately, this overwhelming anxiety can spoil a process that can be informative and fun. It can also create a hostile home among children and their parents. One of my roles as a college counselor is to provide students and their families with practical strategies for navigating the college admissions process. Equally important is my role in reducing the stress in the household surrounding the topic of college.

Here are some of my favorite tips for keeping the stress level down:

 I remind the student and parents that there are about 4,000 colleges in the country. A student who wants to go to college and is willing to put in the necessary work can absolutely find schools that would love to have him or her. My daughter Amanda, coauthor of <u>Love the Journey to College: Guidance from an Admissions Consultant and Her Daughter</u>, who recently went through the college application process herself, wrote "getting into college does not have to worry you because if you apply to several schools—including schools below your academic range—you will get into college."

- 2. Designating one hour per week that the family can devote to college admissions talk can help. Sunday afternoons from 3:00PM to 4:00PM tend to work well. The rest of the week should be kept off-limits, meaning that parents are not to mention "college" at any other time, unless the conversation is initiated by the child. That way, the child doesn't need to worry about being bombarded with questions, especially in moments when she or he is trying *not* to think about college.
- For rising high school seniors, I highlight the need for them to set aside time to get some rest over the summer. Junior year can be extremely challenging, with standardized tests, AP classes/ exams, and college visits, and students need time to recharge.
- 4. While taking a break is important, too much rest and relaxation over the summer could set students up for an unnecessarily heavy workload during the school year, with regular school work, finalizing college lists, and completing college applications and essays. On the other hand, rising high school seniors who make a significant dent in his or her college applications and essays over the summer definitely lightens the load for senior year. There needs to be a balance between taking time to have fun and relax, and getting some college admissions work done to make senior year a bit easier.
- 5. With respect to extracurricular activities, I always encourage students to remain authentic and not get caught up in what "looks good" for college. Some students think that particular activities are regarded more favorably by colleges than others, so they participate just to make their resumes look good. Or, they avoid participating if they think they won't be a leader in the group. It is certainly nice if you can land a titled leadership position such as *president*or *secretary* when you are more senior in high school, but it is far more important to make a significant contribution to the club. Titles do not actually mean that much; it's more than fine if you are a "quiet leader." My suggestion is that you find a niche in a few clubs that you enjoy and make a real, visible difference.
- 6. Students should be open to looking beyond rankings and the list of 30 colleges to which everyone they know applies. You can have an amazing college experience at a school you've never heard of, or at a school that doesn't usually receive applications from your high school. Colleges try to create diversity by accepting students from all over the country and the world, so you only help yourself when you distinguish and differentiate yourself from students within your own high school.

I strongly encourage students to embrace the journey to college as a period of maturation and self-exploration, with an honest assessment of skills and interests, and to remain authentic throughout the process. Rather than being stressful, the journey to college can be manageable and even exciting.

#### Finish High School on a High Note

The last bit of information is that you need to finish your senior year strong – both academically and socially.

Reread your acceptance letters. The first time through, it is not uncommon for most of the words after "Congratulations!" to become a blur. The acceptance letter or a document that accompanies it usually informs you that your joyous news is conditional upon the successful completion of your senior year.

With very little time left in high school and good reasons to celebrate on the horizon, it is often easy to lose sight of the fact that the race is not over yet. Colleges can, will, and do rescind their offers of admission if a student's grades significantly decline or if a student becomes involved in a serious disciplinary situation after the offer of admission is made.

Congratulations, you have almost completed the college admissions process. Enjoy your last few weeks of high school, support and watch out for one another, be safe, and finish in a manner that will make yourself proud.



#### HIGH-DEMAND OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2028

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENT AND SHORT-TERM TRAINING				
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE	
Animal Caretakers	1,230	11.8	\$10-\$13	
Childcare Workers	4,660	3.0	\$10-\$12	
Construction Laborers	3,730	4.8	\$15-\$25	
Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	1,520	3.6	\$13-\$23	
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aqua. Animals	920	7.3	\$11-\$15	
Fast Food and Counter Workers	23,990	7.1	\$10-\$12	
Helpers-Production Workers	2,550	16.2	\$11-\$16	
Home Health Aides	3,960	22.6	\$11-\$13	
Hosts & Hostesses, Rest. Lounge, & Coffee Shop	3,300	1.2	\$10-\$12	
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	2,380	1.5	\$14-\$22	
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers	10,620	1.1	\$12-\$18	
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	4,980	4.0	\$12-\$17	
Light Truck Drivers	3,620	2.3	\$11-\$23	
Loan Interviewers and Clerks	560	5.9	\$16-\$23	
Pass. Veh. Dvrs., Except Bus Dvrs, Transit & Intercity	1,710	3.3	\$13-\$18	
Psychiatric Aides	380	6.1	\$14-\$23	
Recreation Workers	2,730	1.2	\$11-\$15	
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	710	3.9	\$15-\$24	
Social and Human Service Assistants	1,550	8.3	\$12-\$18	
Vet. Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	760	20.1	\$11-\$16	

#### HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-WAGE OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2028

OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	220	2.2	\$29-\$46
Architectural and Engineering Managers	780	1.0	\$53-\$76
Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	120	5.3	\$31-\$54
Chemists	360	5.4	\$26-\$47
Civil Engineers	620	1.2	\$30-\$45
Computer and Information Systems Managers	780	1.9	\$46-\$74
Computer User Support Specialists	1,750	2.5	\$18-\$29
Electrical Engineers	660	2.4	\$36-\$52
Engineering Teachers, Postsecondary	160	9.9	\$41-\$67
Environ. Sci. and Specialists, Including Health	350	4.3	\$25-\$40
Industrial Engineering Technicians	450	2.5	\$21-\$33
Industrial Engineers	2,540	8.6	\$35-\$52
Information Security Analysts	150	19.9	\$34-\$55
Mechanical Engineering Technicians	470	2.4	\$21-\$34
Mechanical Engineers	3,190	2.8	\$35-\$54
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	260	3.7	\$23-\$46
Operations Research Analysts	160	17.7	\$31-\$50
Sales Reps., Tech. and Scientific Products	820	-0.5	\$32-\$63
Software Dev. and Quality Assurance Testers	2,620	12.2	\$34-\$53
Web Developers	280	2.0	\$22-\$39

LABOR & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY & TRAINING WORKS!

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## MICHIGAN'S CAREER OUTLOOK THROUGH 2028

#### HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-WAGE OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2028

POSTSECONDARY CERTIFICATE OR MODERATE-TERM TRAINING				
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE	
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	280	0.0	\$18-\$34	
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	360	3.6	\$16-\$22	
Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers	570	6.2	\$19-\$29	
Commercial Pilots	140	0.8	\$26-\$53	
CNC Tool Programmers	300	23.2	\$21-\$30	
Computer User Support Specialists	1,750	2.5	\$18-\$29	
Construction and Building Inspectors	340	-1.1	\$19-\$32	
Ctrl. & Valve Install. & Repairers, Ex. Mech. Door	190	-1.7	\$25-\$42	
Dental Laboratory Technicians	270	25.6	\$16-\$26	
First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives	160	-1.5	\$33-\$47	
Flight Attendants	410	2.3	\$22-\$32	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	7,030	2.2	\$16-\$25	
Insurance Sales Agents	1,310	2.8	\$18-\$39	
Massage Therapists	500	12.1	\$12-\$28	
Operating Engineers	1,000	4.0	\$21-\$30	
Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	930	-0.1	\$18-\$30	
Roofers	410	6.0	\$17-\$26	
Sales Reps., Except Tech. and Scientific Products	5,070	-1.6	\$20-\$44	
Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers	150	8.8	\$17-\$28	
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	1,530	0.2	\$16-\$23	

ASSOCIATE DEGREE/LONG-TERM TF	RAINING/APF	PRENTICE	SHIPS
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE
Brickmasons and Blockmasons	290	4.4	\$23-\$31
Bus & Truck Mech. & Diesel Engine Specialists	970	2.5	\$18-\$27
Carpenters	3,030	2.8	\$17-\$30
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	180	8.0	\$26-\$35
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	320	2.2	\$24-\$45
Electricians	3,040	5.5	\$22-\$37
HVAC and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	1,070	8.0	\$18-\$30
Industrial Engineering Technicians	450	2.5	\$21-\$33
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	2,280	7.0	\$20-\$30
Machinists	2,880	3.1	\$16-\$26
Mechanical Engineering Technicians	470	2.4	\$21-\$34
Millwrights	270	12.0	\$27-\$36
Occupational Therapy Assistants	150	16.7	\$22-\$29
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	760	9.1	\$19-\$29
Physical Therapist Assistants	520	7.0	\$22-\$30
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	1,630	7.4	\$21-\$38
Respiratory Therapists	330	13.0	\$25-\$31
Sheet Metal Workers	370	3.7	\$19-\$34
Structural Iron and Steel Workers	230	5.6	\$23-\$33
Web Developers	280	2.0	\$22-\$39

STATE OF MICHIGAN Department of Technology, Management and Budget Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initia IT'S **BIGGER** THAN DATA.

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#### BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER

OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE
Accountants and Auditors	3,510	0.7	\$26-\$42
Educational, Guidance, and Social Counselors	960	8.2	\$20-\$34
Elementary School Teachers	2,910	3.5	\$23-\$41
Financial Managers	1,440	11.0	\$42-\$75
General and Operations Managers	5,460	2.4	\$30-\$73
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	610	17.6	\$29-\$66
Industrial Engineers	2,540	8.6	\$35-\$52
Industrial Production Managers	1,020	2.8	\$42-\$68
Lawyers	930	1.4	\$35-\$69
Loan Officers	900	4.8	\$23-\$46
Management Analysts	1,920	4.6	\$31-\$51
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Spec.	2,500	15.1	\$22-\$41
Mechanical Engineers	3,190	2.8	\$35-\$54
Medical and Health Services Managers	1,110	7.1	\$34-\$60
Nurse Practitioners	340	16.1	\$44-\$59
Physical Therapists	450	9.4	\$36-\$49
Physician Assistants	360	18.0	\$46-\$60
Registered Nurses	6,620	9.8	\$30-\$40
Secondary School Teachers	1,740	3.8	\$23-\$37
Software Dev. and Quality Assurance Testers	2,620	12.2	\$34-\$53

Note: These lists include occupations that show a favorable mix of projected long-term job growth, projected annual job openings, and median wages. They do not necessarily reflect current hiring demand. Hourly wage represents the 25th to 75th percentiles. Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget

## HIGH-DEMAND OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2028

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENT AND SHORT-TERM TRAINING	ENT AND		
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL	GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE
Animal Caretakers	1,230	11.8	\$10-\$13
Childcare Workers	4,660	3.0	\$10-\$12
Construction Laborers	3,730	4.8	\$15-\$25
Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	1,520	3.6	\$13-\$23
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aqua. Animals	920	7.3	\$11-\$15
Fast Food and Counter Workers	23,990	7.1	\$10-\$12
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Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	2,380	1.5	\$14-\$22
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers	10,620	1	\$12-\$18
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	4,980	4.0	\$12-\$17
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Psychiatric Aides	380	6.1	\$14-\$23
Recreation Workers	2,730	1.2	\$11-\$15
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	710	3.9	\$15-\$24
Social and Human Service Assistants	1,550	8.3	\$12-\$18

# HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-WAGE OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2028

		HEMATICS	(NIEM)
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL	GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	220	2.2	\$29-\$46
Architectural and Engineering Managers	780	1.0	\$53-\$76
Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	120	5.3	\$31-\$54
Chemists	360	5.4	\$26-\$47
Civil Engineers	620	1.2	\$30-\$45
Computer and Information Systems Managers	780	1.9	\$46-\$74
Computer User Support Specialists	1,750	2.5	\$18-\$29
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Software Dev. and Quality Assurance Testers	2,620	12.2	\$34-\$53
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## MICHIGAN'S CAREER OUTLOOK THROUGH 2028

\$11-\$16

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Vet. Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers

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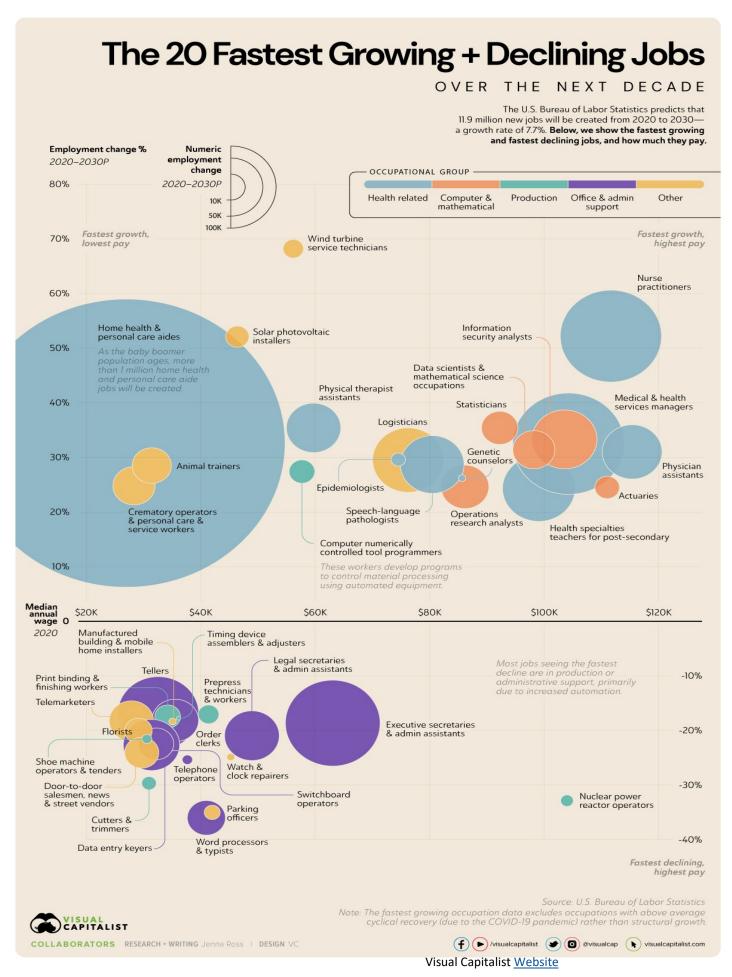
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HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-WAGE OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2028

POSTSECONDARY CERTIFICATE OR MODERATE-TERM TRAINING	MODERATE	-TERM TR	AINING	ASSOCIATE DEGREE/LONG-TERM TRAINING/APPRENTICESHIPS	RAINING/APP	RENTICE	SHIPS	BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)		GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE	OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL	GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE	OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL	GROWTH (%)	WAGE RANGE
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Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	360	3.6	\$16-\$22	Bus & Truck Mech. & Diesel Engine Specialists	970	2.5	\$18-\$27	Educational, Guidance, and Social Counselors	960	8.2	\$20-\$34
Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers	570	6.2	\$19-\$29	Carpenters	3,030	2.8	\$17-\$30	Elementary School Teachers	2,910	3.5	\$23-\$41
Commercial Pilots	140	0.8	\$26-\$53	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	180	8.0	\$26-\$35	Financial Managers	1,440	11.0	\$42-\$75
CNC Tool Programmers	300	23.2	\$21-\$30	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	320	22	\$24-\$45	General and Operations Managers	5,460	2.4	\$30-\$73
Computer User Support Specialists	1,750	2.5	\$18-\$29	Electricians	3,040	5.5	\$22-\$37	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	610	17.6	\$29-\$66
Construction and Building Inspectors	340	11	\$19-\$32	HVAC and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	1,070	8.0	\$18-\$30	Industrial Engineers	2,540	8.6	\$35-\$52
Ctrl. & Valve Install. & Repairers, Ex. Mech. Door	190	4.7	\$25-\$42	Industrial Engineering Technicians	450	2.5	\$21-\$33	Industrial Production Managers	1,020	2.8	\$42-\$68
Dental Laboratory Technicians	270	25.6	\$16-\$26	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	2,280	7.0	\$20-\$30	Lawyers	930	1.4	\$35-\$69
First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives	160	-1.5	\$33-\$47	Machinists	2,880	3.1	\$16-\$26	Loan Officers	006	4.8	\$23-\$46
Flight Attendants	410	2.3	\$22-\$32	Mechanical Engineering Technicians	470	2.4	\$21-\$34	Management Analysts	1,920	4.6	\$31-\$51
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	7,030	2.2	\$16-\$25	Millwrights	270	12.0	\$27-\$36	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Spec.	2,500	15.1	\$22-\$41
Insurance Sales Agents	1,310	2.8	\$18-\$39	Occupational Therapy Assistants	150	16.7	\$22-\$29	Mechanical Engineers	3,190	2.8	\$35-\$54
Massage Therapists	500	12.1	\$12-\$28	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	760	9.1	\$19-\$29	Medical and Health Services Managers	1,110	1.1	\$34-\$60
Operating Engineers	1,000	4.0	\$21-\$30	Physical Therapist Assistants	520	7.0	\$22-\$30	Nurse Practitioners	340	16.1	\$44-\$59
Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	930	-0.1	\$18-\$30	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	1,630	7.4	\$21-\$38	Physical Therapists	450	9.4	\$36-\$49
Roofers	410	6.0	\$17-\$26	Respiratory Therapists	330	13.0	\$25-\$31	Physician Assistants	360	18.0	\$46-\$60
Sales Reps., Except Tech. and Scientific Products	5,070	-1.6	\$20-\$44	Sheet Metal Workers	370	3.7	\$19-\$34	Registered Nurses	6,620	9.8	\$30-\$40
Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers	150	8.8	\$17-\$28	Structural Iron and Steel Workers	230	5.6	\$23-\$33	Secondary School Teachers	1,740	3.8	\$23-\$37
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	1,530	0.2	\$16-\$23	Web Developers	280	2.0	\$22-\$39	Software Dev. and Quality Assurance Testers	2,620	12.2	\$34-\$53

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget

Note: These lists include occupations that show a favorable mix of projected tong-term job growth, projected annual job openings, and median wages. They do not necessarily reflect current himing demand. Hourly wage represents the 25th to 75th percentiles.



## JUNIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

	TASK	DATE	✓
1.	Review interests and skills.	On-going	
2.	Explore career fields.	On-going	
3.	Obtain information from schools of interest. Admissions applications process/dead-lines Determine entrance test(s) required	On-going	
4.	Review college literature. Select schools with programs suited to per- sonal interests Consult school websites for information and applications	On-going	
5.	Review college choices. Visit campuses of interest Speak with academic departments Talk to currently enrolled students and alumni at schools of interest	On-going	
6.	Register for and take the PSAT/NMSQT.	October	
7.	Attend College Night.	October	
8.	Attend college visits/meet college reps at your school.	Sept - November	
9.	Register for SAT and ACT tests.	Winter of Junior year	
10.	Take SAT and ACT tests.	Spring of Junior year	
11.	Review transcript sent home with your gradua- tion credit check in June. Contact Records Secre- tary for any errors or additions (i.e. summer school.)	June - September	

## SENIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

	TASK	DATE	<b>~</b>
1.	It is recommended that you apply to four to six colleges, on average. Competition for college admission varies every year. Send your applications in as early as possible.	On-going	
2.	Review your transcript before it is sent to col- leges. <b>Allow time for requested corrections.</b>	September	
3.	Send ACT/SAT scores to colleges you are applying to directly from ACT or College Board.	June until you've completed taking tests.	
4.	Feel free to retake the ACT or SAT to improve your score.	September - January	
5.	Don't get "Senioritis!" Your senior classes and grades do make a difference. Notify the schools you have applied to if there is a change in your schedule.	On-going	
6.	Continue to visit colleges you are interested in.	June - November	
7.	Apply for financial aid. First step is the FAFSA. Attend Financial Aid Night.	October-January	
8.	Research scholarship opportunities.	On-going	
9.	Attend College Night.	October	
10.	Attend small group meetings with college representatives visiting our school.	Sept - October	
11.	After you've decided on the college you plan to attend, notify all other colleges to which you have been admitted of your decision.	On-going	

## **HELPFUL WEBSITES**

## College Search

Campus Tours	campustours.com
College Board	<u>collegeboard.org</u>
Big Future	https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/find-colleges/ how-to-find-your-college-fit/college-search-step -by-step
College Data	<u>collegedata.com</u>
Саррех	cappex.com
Go College	gocollege.com
Youversity	youniversitytv.com/
Michigan Association of Collegiate Reg- istrars and Admissions Officers(Michigan College Mall)	<u>macrao.org</u>
Naviance Student	student.naviance.com/bloomfieldhhs
College Results Online	<u>collegeresults.org</u>
Peterson's	petersons.com
Princeton Review	princetonreview.com
U.S. News & World Report	<u>usnews.com</u>

### ACT/SAT Test Prep Sites

ACT	www.actstudent.org
SAT	www.collegeboard.org
Princeton Review	www.princetonreview.com

### Financial Aid/ Scholarships

FAFSA(Free Application for Fed- eral Student Aid)	www.fafsa.ed.gov
FinAid! (Financial Aid Info)	www.finaid.org
Nat'l Association Of Student Financial Aid Administrators	www.nasfaa.org
Sallie Mae Student Loan	www.salliemae.com
Michigan Scholarship Search	MISSG STUDENT PORTAL
Scholarship Search	www.fastweb.com
Merit-Based Scholarships	www.meritaid.com

### Career Exploration

Naviance Student	https://student.naviance.com/bloomfieldhhs
Occupational Outlook Handbook (Bureau of Labor Statistics)	www.bls.gov/ooh
Michigan Labor Market Info	www.milmi/org

## GLOSSARY COLLEGIATE TERMS

#### Advanced Placement (AP)

A college may permit a freshman to skip, or even receive credit for an introductory course if they demonstrate readiness for an advanced course. Many students prove their competence by enrolling in advanced placement courses in high school, and then passing an advanced placement exam given by College Board. These exams are graded from 1 (low) to 5 (high) and most colleges grant advanced placement credit or class waivers with a grade of 3 or better.

#### American College Test (ACT)

The American College Testing Program is the organization that administers the scholastic aptitude examination known as the American College Test. The ACT is one of the two major nationally standardized assessments and covers English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning. The highest score is 36. Students should check with each college individually to determine what testing is required for admission purposes.

#### **Candidates Reply Date Agreement**

Sponsored by the College Board, this agreement established a common date, May 1, which is the earliest time a subscribing college may require an accepted applicant to say whether or not they plan to attend.

#### **Common Application**

Uniform College Application used by over 500 colleges

#### **CSS/Financial Aid Profile**

This is the form used by the College Board and some schools (many private) to award their own private financial aid funds. Students pay a fee to register for the PROFILE and send reports to institutions and programs that use it. This is NOT a federal form and may not be used to apply for federal student aid. This form is also available at www.collegeboard.com.

(DP) IB Diploma Programme From www.ibo.org/diploma: The IB Diploma Programme is designed as an academically challenging and balanced programme of education with final examinations that prepares students, normally aged 16 to 19, for success at university and life beyond. The programme is normally taught over two years and has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities. The DP exams are graded from 1 (low) to 7 (high).

#### **Early Action**

Under this program, you may file only one early application. If admitted, you are under no obligation to matriculate and may apply to other colleges under their regular programs. Early action is designed for students who feel comfortable about applying on the basis of their junior year record. (This is not the College Board approved Early Decision Program.) Early Action applicants will be notified by January 1 as follows: ADMIT, DEFER, or DENY.

#### **Early Decision**

Some colleges will notify applicants of acceptance or rejection during the first semester of their senior year. There are two types of early decision plans; the single-choice plan and the first -choice plan. In the single-choice plan, students cannot apply to other colleges unless the early decision college has notified them with an acceptance or a rejection letter. In the first-choice plan, students may apply to other college as the first choice plan, students may apply to other college as the first choice and agree to enroll at that college and withdraw all other applications if accepted.

#### Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

This is the form used to apply for financial aid from federal student aid programs. Some states and college financial aid programs may require additional information. Forms may be filed after October 1 of the year for which one is seeking aid. FAFSA forms are available at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

#### **Financial Aid**

Money which may be derived from a variety of sources (grants and scholarships, loans and work-study), will help pay for college costs. The "package" of funds is determined by family financial need and the availability of funds.

#### Financial Need

Financial need is the difference between the cost of education and what the family or the applicant can reasonably be expected to contribute.

#### General Education Development Examination (GED)

This is a series of tests that adults take to qualify for a high school equivalency certificate or diploma. Many colleges will accept satisfactory GED test results in place of a high school diploma. Individuals in Michigan must be 18 years of age and their class must have graduated before they can take the GED.

#### International Baccalaureate Programme (IB)

From ibo.org/mission: The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

#### MME - Michigan Merit Exam

The Michigan Merit Exam is given to all current juniors throughout the State of Michigan. This assessment includes an actual ACT Assessment with Writing that students may use for college admission purposes.

#### **Naviance Student**

An online tool to determine one's best college and career pathway.

#### PSAT/NMSQT

A shorter practice version of the SAT: Reasoning Test, the PSAT is administered by high schools every year in October. The PSAT/NMSQT serves as the qualifying test for scholarships awarded by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation when taken as a junior. We encourage students to take the PSAT as a junior if they feel they may qualify for the National Merit Scholarship.

#### **Rolling Admissions**

This type of admission is used by colleges to give a decision as soon as possible after an application is completed and mailed and does not specify a notification deadline. Usually, it is wise to apply early to these colleges, as applications are normally not accepted after their admission quota has been reached.

#### SAT

The SAT, administered by the College Board, is one of the two major nationally standardized assessments. This multiple-choice test is designed to measure proficiency in mathematical and reading and writing ability. The highest score in each section is 800.

#### Student Aid Report (SAR)

This report is produced by the US Department of Education and sent to students in response to their having filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The report contains the federally calculated amount that the family is considered capable of contributing to educational expenses.

#### Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

This is a test of listening comprehension, structure and written expression, reading comprehension and vocabulary. This test is used specifically for students who use English as their second language.

