



Senior Newsletter

February 2021

Google Classroom: Class of 2021; code: 35blrba **Kim Aucoin, Career Coach**

Kim.Aucoin@apsb.org

Located in room 607 of the math bldg.

Parent FAFSA Night

When: Tuesday, February 23rd, 4:00 - 7:00 pm

Where: St. Amant High School (little theatre across from the library)

-Career Coaches will be on hand to assist parents/students with completing the FAFSA application.

-Students bring your school laptop & parents bring a copy of your 2019 taxes.

-Make sure to wear your mask; we will be spreading out in order to social distance

-Email your Career Coach, Kim.Aucoin@apsb.org with any questions.

State-Mandated Senior Graduation

Requirement:

FAFSA - is your Free Application for Federal Student Aid- your “one stop shop”. It is your TOPS application, TOPS Tech Application, Pell Grant application, Student Loan application, and Work Study program application. Many colleges and technical schools (LSU, Aveda...) require the FAFSA to be completed as part of their application process. If for some reason you are unable to complete the FAFSA application, contact Mrs. Kim Aucoin at Kim.Aucoin@apsb.org for another option; either the TOPS Only Application or a Parental OPT-Out form.

In order for me to check you off in power school as complete, you must email or print and drop off a copy of your FAFSA confirmation page, TOPS application confirmation page, (or) completed Opt-Out form to Attn: Kim Aucoin, kim.aucoin@apsb.org, room 607.

THIS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE YOU GRADUATE!!!



Local Scholarships are Open!

Make sure to check the Scholarship Section of this newsletter for details and links to apply as well as your google classroom.

These are just a few:

BASF STEM Scholarship

Ascension Sheriff

Lewy Physical Therapy

Dawn Shivers

EFCU Financial

Jump Start Construction

Dante Bail Bond

And more...

Roger Clouatre Memorial Scholarship

George Rodrigue Art Scholarship



SPRING 2021 IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 6 ACT @ SAHS

Feb 9 Early dismissal 12:40

Feb 15-17 Mardi Gras Holiday - no school

Feb 23 Parent/Student FAFSA Night 4-7pm (SAHS little theatre)

Mar 9 Schoolwide ACT Test & Early dismissal 12:40

Mar 19 Ring Night (if allowed)

Mar 23 Makeup ACT & Early dismissal

Apr 2-9 Easter Holidays

Apr 17 ACT @ SAHS

Apr 20 Early dismissal 12:40

Apr 24 Prom @ The Grand Venue (if allowed)

Apr 27 CTE Awards Night

May 3-5 Senior Exams

May 5 Senior's Last Day

May 11 Senior Award's Night

May 12 Graduation Practice

May 13 Graduation @ The Pit - 7:00

May 21 Student's Last Day/11:00 dismissal

Senior Checklist

Spring 2021



- ❑ **Focus on your ACT-** only your highest scores count, so keep working on your ACT composite and sub-scores for English and Math!! Many colleges require you to have an ACT sub-score in English of an 18 and a 19 in Math. Remember that you need a **20 (ACT) composite for TOPS** and a **17 composite for TOPS Tech** (or **3 silvers on workkeys**) to qualify. **The TOPS scholarship program is not Test-Optional... you must have the required composite ACT score to qualify.**

Make sure you are signing up for the ACT

test– there are only 2 test dates, Feb. 6th & April 17th, besides the junior’s state-wide ACT test on March 9th (seniors are automatically signed up for the March 9th test at SAHS during the day if you have below at 21 composite on the ACT) to qualify for 8 semesters of TOPS!

Check out these free online prep resources:

1. **ACT Practice Test (from the ACT):** <https://pages.act.org/free-practice-act-test.html?ga=2.268077067.406942252.1568046829-664466279.1549903268>
2. **ACT Vocabulary Games and Tests:** <http://quizlet.com/6991782/act-test-vocabulary-prep-flash-cards/>
3. **ACT and SAT Test Prep (Vocabulary)** <http://www.myvocabulary.com/act-test-prep/>
4. **Practice Tests and Flashcards:** <https://www.march2success.com/main/learnmore/collegeprep>
5. **ACT Reading Comprehension Practice:** https://www.testprepreview.com/act_practice.htm
6. **ACT Resources and Articles:** <https://www.thoughtco.com/act-test-prep-4132572>
7. **ACT and SAT Practice tests:** <https://www.4tests.com/act-practice-test>
8. **ACT and SAT Tips and Practice tests:** <https://www.testpreptoolkit.com/act-practice-test>
9. **ACT Tips and Practice tests:** <https://www.mometrix.com/academy/act-practice-test/>
10. **ACT Prep, Expectations, Practice tests:** <https://magoosh.com/hs/act-practice-test/>
11. **ACT Sample Tests** <http://actstudent.org/sampletests>
12. **ACT Test Strategies** <https://www.princetonreview.com/college-advice/4-act-tips>

- ❑ **Make a list of your top career choices.** This will help you decide which school or work training program will be the best fit for you. If you have not already taken a career interest assessment; go to <https://navigator.kuder.com> and **log in with clever**. (Your username and password are the same as your laptop login)

- ❑ **Research colleges & Review admission requirements**– take into consideration the program availability, location, size, environment, extra-curricular activities, and cost. Visit their websites for virtual tours and events - many have started taking appointments for private tours. *(go to your **Class of 2021 google classroom** for **LA College/School Contact list** -admission recruiter contacts, website links, phone numbers, and campus preview and virtual dates and **Admission Requirements for LA Universities & Schools** (under Important Senior Documents post on 9/15); see Mrs. Kim Aucoin if you have questions).*

- ❑ **Start & Complete the college application process!!** It's time to complete your applications. LSU requires the Common Application *(it is a lengthy application that requires a Letter of Recommendation from a teacher -make sure to give them a few weeks to complete the recommendation letter)*. Teachers and counselors will be bombarded with requests, so get yours in early!

- ❑ **FAFSA- Make sure you are completing the 2021-2022 FAFSA application!!!** It is part of your **senior graduation requirement** and most colleges and schools require this to be completed as part of their application process . Remember, College is not FREE!! And TOPS alone will not pay for the entire cost of college and technical schools!!!
 FAFSA is your application for: (1) TOPS/TOPS Tech, (2) Pell Grants, (3) Student Loans, (4) On campus jobs, and (5) Parent PLUS Loans. Need help?? Contact your Career Coach, Kim.Aucoin@apsb.org if you have any questions or need to schedule a private appointment. We will be updating you as we schedule additional FAFSA virtual and on-campus assistance sessions.

- ❑ **Create a TOPS Award System Account** – this will allow you to track your TOPS status once your ACT scores and transcript information has been reported. It is very important that you create this account and keep your login information in a safe place. If there are any issues with your TOPS award, you will need to check status in your award system account. Instructions and your LA Secure ID can be found in your **Senior “Yellow” Folder** that was handed out on Sept. 30th & Oct. 1st. Contact Kim.Aucoin@apsb.org if you still need to pick up your folder.

Have you done a TOPS check?? Create your **LOSFA Student Hub account** (instructions in senior yellow folder) and check your TOPS GPA. Remember --you need to have a 2.5 TOPS GPA as well as a 20 on the ACT to qualify for TOPS and a 2.5 TOPS GPA as well as a 17 on the ACT (or) 3 silvers on WorkKeys to qualify for TOPS Tech



ACT & SAT Dates 2020-21

ACT Test Dates 2020-21

- **Online registration:** <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>.
- **Cost:** (NOTE: All fees are subject to change. Please check the ACT website to confirm fees)
 - Full test with writing = \$70
 - Full test without writing = \$55
 - Section Testing: 1 Section = \$44; 2 Sections = \$48; 3 Sections = \$52
 - Late fee = \$30
 - Section retesting will be available in 2021. Check the ACT website for exact dates.
- **Fee Waivers** – students are allowed up to 4 fee waivers total (Juniors & Seniors only). Students requesting a waiver must have applied and qualify for free or reduced lunch for 2020-21.
- **LOSFA Code** (to send your scores for TOPS qualification) = 1595

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration (extra \$30 fee)
September 12, 2020	August 14, 2020	
September 19, 2020	August 31, 2020	No
October 10, 2020	September 25, 2020	Late
October 17, 2020	September 25, 2020	Fees
October 24, 2020	September 25, 2020	
October 25, 2020 (Sunday)	September 25, 2020	
December 12, 2020	November 6, 2020	November 20, 2020
February 6, 2021	January 8, 2021	January 15, 2021
April 17, 2021	March 12, 2021	March 26, 2021
June 12, 2021	May 7, 2021	May 21, 2021
July 17, 2021	June 18, 2021	June 25, 2021

SAT Test Dates 2020-21

- **Online registration:** <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat>
- **Cost:** (NOTE: All fees are subject to change. Please check the SAT website to confirm fees)
 - Without writing = \$52, With Writing = \$68, Late fee = +\$30
- **Fee Waivers** – a limited number of fee waivers are available. Students requesting a fee waiver must have applied and qualify for free or reduced lunch for 2020-21.
- **LOSFA Code** (to send your scores for TOPS qualification) = 9019

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration (extra \$30 fee)
August 29, 2020	July 31, 2020	August 18, 2020
September 26, 2020	August 26, 2020	September 15, 2020
October 3, 2020	September 4, 2020	September 22, 2020
November 7, 2020	October 7, 2020	October 27, 2020
December 5, 2020	November 5, 2020	November 24, 2020
March 13, 2021	February 12, 2021	March 2, 2021
May 8, 2021	April 8, 2021	April 27, 2021
June 5, 2021	May 6, 2021	May 26, 2021

TOPS Information – 2020-21

Requirements

Requirements	Opportunity Award	Performance Award	Honors Award	TOPS Tech
TOPS GPA	2.5	3.00	3.0	2.5 (TOPS Tech GPA)
ACT Score (Superscore not accepted)	20*	23	27	17 or <u>WorkKeys Silver</u>
SAT Score	1020	1130	1280	900
Award Amount	TOPS Tuition amt.**	TOPS Tuition + \$400	TOPS Tuition + \$800	TOPS Tech tuition amt.
Can be used for	CC or 4-year program	CC or 4-year program	CC or 4-yr program	2-year technical programs only

Required ACT score may change each year based on the State average. Actual required score is released in October. **TOPS and TOPS Tech tuition amounts are set each year and are subject to change. Amounts vary based on college/university. TOPS Tech eligible programs are subject to change each year (see TOPS Tech information sheet for eligible programs).

Applying for TOPS:

To apply for TOPS, students must:

1. Complete and submit the** Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA www.fafsa.gov) **or** the TOPS Online Application (<https://www.osfa.la.gov/AwardSystem/faces/jsf/onlineApp/onlineAppFAFSA.jspx>). ****Students in need of grants, loans or work study have to complete the FAFSA, not the TOPS Online Application.**

Please note that if you complete the TOPS Online Application, you may NOT submit the FAFSA. You can only complete one or the other, not both.

2. Send qualifying ACT (<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/scores/sending-your-scores.html>) or SAT (<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/scores/sending-scores/how-to-send>) scores to LOSFA. The codes for sending scores to LOSFA are: 1595 (ACT) and 9019 (SAT). Please review your TOPS Tracker account (see below) to determine if your scores have been reported to LOSFA.

Tracking your TOPS Eligibility

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Aid (LOSFA) has created a system which allows students to track their TOPS eligibility. Students must create a LOSFA Student Hub account to access this system. Students should check their information to ensure it is correct and contact LOSFA at 1-800-259-5626 with questions. Final eligibility information will not be posted for a student until qualifying ACT/SAT scores have been received by LOSFA **and** the student submits a FAFSA or TOPS online application. All Seniors will pick up their “Senior ‘Yellow’ Folder” on Oct. 1st which will have instructions on how to create their LOSFA Student Hub account. Questions?? For information about TOPS/TOPS Tech, program eligibility, and award amounts, contact Mrs. Aucoin (Kim.Aucoin@apsb.org) .

Scholarships

Deadline	Name	Description
Feb 12	Linda & Wayne Zaunbrecher Scholarship (Ascension Parish Farm Bureau)	(5) \$2,000 -Applicants or their parents must be current members of the Louisiana Farm Bureau® Federation. gpa of 2.5 or higher for 4 years of high school must attend an accredited Louisiana college or university during the fall and spring immediately following their high school graduation must pursue a career in agriculture by choosing a curriculum in agriculture, vocational agriculture, agribusiness, agriscience, or other curriculum directly benefiting the agricultural sector of Louisiana's economy. https://lafarmbureau.org/foundation
Feb 18	Amazon Future Engineer Scholarship	\$10,000 (renewable up to \$40,000) Be US Citizens or permanent residents Be high school seniors who are currently enrolled in or who have completed a high school or college dual degree course where computer science is the subject. Be planning to attain a bachelor's degree in computer science, software engineering, computer engineering or other computer science related field of study Have a minimum cumulative gpa of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. https://www.amazonfutureengineer.com/scholarship
Feb 26	BASF STEM Scholarship Local Scholarship for each Ascension Parish High School	(8) \$1,000 **Awarded to one male and one female at each Ascension Parish High School . Student must be pursuing a degree in a STEM field (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), have a 3.0+ GPA, and write a 500-word essay on why you are pursuing a degree in a STEM-related field. *Paper application available outside Career Coach room 607 of Math Bldg. Fillable application available in seniors Class of 2021 google classroom; code: 35blrba . Completed Applications must be turned into your Career Coach, Kim Aucoin, rm. 607 (red folder on door) by the due date. If you have any questions, contact her at Kim.Aucoin@apsb.org
Feb 26	George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts Louisiana Scholarship	\$1,000 - \$5,000 - Visual Art Competition based on the theme "Alone Together: Art in the Time of Pandemic" https://georgerodriguefoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarship-art-contest/
Feb 26	George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts Louisiana Scholarship	\$1,000 - \$3,000 – Song Writing Competition based on the theme "Alone Together: Art in the Time of Pandemic" https://georgerodriguefoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarship-art-contest/
March 12	Lockheed Martin STEM scholarship	\$10,000 (renewable total \$40,000). U.S. Citizen with demonstrated financial need Current HS seniors with 2.5 or higher gpa Planning to major in Aerospace Engineering, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering or Physics. https://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/who-we-are/communities/stem-education/lm-scholarship-program.html
Mar 15	Jump Start Construction Connect Scholars Program Louisiana Scholarship can be used at ABC & a LA. Comm. College	(40) \$1,000 scholarships awarded . Must have a National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Credential, will earn a Jump Start diploma, enroll in a <u>Louisiana Community and Technical College System</u> or an <u>ABC</u> training program in the summer or fall semester immediately following graduation. https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/jumpstart/jump-start-construction-connect-scholars-application-2020-2021.pdf

Mar 31	Blacks at Microsoft Scholarship	<p>\$1,000- \$20,000-Be a US-based high school senior of African descent (for example, African American, African, Ethiopian, etc.)</p> <p>Plan to pursue a bachelor's degree in engineering, computer science, computer information systems, or select business programs (finance, business administration, or marketing)</p> <p>Demonstrate a passion for technology.</p> <p>Demonstrate leadership at school or in the community.</p> <p>Have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher.</p> <p>Write essay (500 words max), describe how you plan to engage in the technology industry in your future career.</p> <p>Write essay (250 words max), regarding your financial need for this scholarship.</p> <p>https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/diversity/programs/blacks-scholarships.aspx</p>
Mar 31	All American \$1,000 Car Review/Essay Scholarship	<p>\$1,000 -The candidate should be 18 years or older</p> <p>The candidate has to secure admission in any approved undergraduate course in any reputed US educational institute.</p> <p>The candidate should submit a non-plagiarised Review or an Essay of a Car that is on sale in the USA in 2020.</p> <p>The Review/Essay should between 1200-1500 words.</p> <p>The Top 10 entries will be featured on the website and the Best Review wins the \$1000 Scholarship.</p> <p>https://www.carhp.com/news/all-american-1000-car-review-essay-scholarship</p>
Mar 31	Superpower Scholarship	<p>\$2,500 -"Which superhero or villain would you want to change places with for a day and why?" (250 words or less) https://www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/superpower-scholarship</p>
Mar 31	Driver Education Initiative Scholarship	<p>Submit Essay (750 word minimum) answering questions such as:</p> <p>What is the importance of driver education in reducing the number deaths as a result of driving?</p> <p>What steps can be taken to reduce the number of deaths related to driving?</p> <p>What steps can you take to be a better and safer driver as well as help others become safer on the road? https://www.dmvedu.org/scholarship/</p>
Apr 1	Lewy Physical Therapy Scholarship Program Local Scholarship	<p>(2) \$500 students in Ascension Parish</p> <p>Applicant should include any personal or academic achievements and community involvement in their 500 word essay as well as why you are choosing a career in the health field. <u>Paper application</u>—posted outside of room 607 of the math bldg.</p> <p>https://doc-0o-74-apps-viewer.googleusercontent.com/viewer/secure/pdf/br1mi6bkp0b3mf1i96juuravt83mes4h/3du8rjm1agiotoh5k71ebp2ql7ej12p6/1612546650000/gmail/09216044400602278093/ACFrOgCZAQVlhuWxslrWQ7iIDuFcXJ5nDMiO1GIXZK72NVIfIDzD19wtXj9ufSLVff0WtDBqwgDddybSuiFNyV9-nis1iE4CfppKXwczfY-Grgoz5iuA4Ujf_3RegPg=?print=true&nonce=gvopaa52rdj46&user=09216044400602278093&hash=up evu1920m9vrbhil8b7q1det97v0nl</p>
Apr 1	Dawn Shivers Memorial Scholarship Fund Ascension Sheriff	<p>\$500 – 500 word essay on “Indicate a person who has had a significant influence on you, and describe that influence”.</p> <p>Application is available on Class of 2021 google classroom; code: 35blrba under Ascension Parish Sheriff’s post on 1/20. A paper copy is available outside of room 607, Math bldg.</p>

Apr 1	LSU Balanced Man Scholarship	\$1,000-\$2,000 -Must be a male planning to attend LSU who has shown academic excellence, leadership skills, and a commitment to their health and well-being. https://lsu.sigep.org/bms/
Apr 3	Louisiana's Sheriff's Scholarship Program Ascension Sheriff	\$500 -Louisiana Residents Only! You must be planning to attend a Louisiana college or university https://www.ascensionsheriff.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/LSA-APP-2020.pdf
Apr 22	Student-View Scholarship	(1) \$5,000, (3) \$1,000, (10) \$500 scholarships NO ESSAY Simply complete a 15-20 minute application survey about colleges in your area. www.student-view.com
Apr 30	Roger J Clouatre Memorial Scholarship Local Scholarship	Must be graduating from a public high school in Ascension Parish, Louisiana Must be enrolling full-time into a university or college Minimum cumulative GPA requirement: 3.0 Must demonstrate leadership qualities and have shown initiative in school or the community https://www.brafscholarships.org/directory
Apr 30	EFCU Financial Foundation Scholarship Local Scholarship	\$1,000 scholarship -Applicant or applicant's parents must be an EFCU member for at least 1 year. Write a 500 word essay on given prompt. https://www.efcufinancial.org/media/201743/2021-scholarship-application.pdf
Apr 30	Dudley Debosier Louisiana HS Senior	(8) \$1,000 scholarships -350 to 500 word essay answering the following question: Dudley DeBosier is committed to helping our clients overcome the obstacles they face when involved in an accident. What qualities and values do you possess, and how have those qualities and values helped you overcome certain obstacles in your life? Finally, why do you deserve to be awarded this scholarship? Must be HS Senior in Louisiana https://www.dudleydebosier.com/ddb-does-right/college-scholarship/
Apr 30	Dudley Debosier Louisiana HS Senior	\$2,000 scholarship - The Public Service Announcement Video Contest is designed to give graduating high school seniors the opportunity to submit a PSA video (25-30 seconds) of their own creation on the topics of either "Drunk Driving," "Texting while Driving," or "Distracted Driving" Must be HS Senior in Louisiana https://www.dudleydebosier.com/ddb-does-right/college-scholarship/
May 1	Dante's Bail Bonds Local Scholarship	(4) \$500 scholarships to <u>Ascension Parish graduating seniors</u> . - 750 - 1500 word essay on your opinion of the criminal justice system in America. Include what you feel makes it work and/or what you feel could make it work better. - Also provide a brief personal biography - Submit: Scholarships@Dantesbailbonds.com

Please check your google classroom for an updated list of scholarships through July 2021: The spreadsheet is updated often and any additional scholarship opportunities that arise between newsletters will be posted in Google Classroom; Class of 2021; code: 35blrba.

Please read scholarship requirements carefully and know that late applications **WILL NOT BE** accepted. Remember that the biggest bang for your buck is university scholarships. These scholarships are renewable for 4 years and are based on your GPA and ACT/SAT scores. For most colleges, you are screened for university scholarships when you submit the application for admission.

WRAP UP



For Class of 2021 Test Updates

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid-19.html> .

Need help studying for the ACT? ACT is working to offer additional resources for the Class of 2021.

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid19.html> for a listing of all upcoming events and resources.

Websites and Apps

Additional scholarship information may be found at:

www.askLela.org

www.braf.org

www.fastweb.com

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

www.scholarships4students.com www.FinAid.org

www.grantsscholarshipsandmore.org www.zinch.com/decachapters

www.BlackExcel.org – list of scholarships for minorities

http://beautyschools.org/careers-in-beauty/grants_scholarships/ - cosmetology scholarships

<https://ascension.kuder.com/landing-page> - log in with Clever and use the same Login used to log into your school computer.

Scholarship Apps: Scholly

Scholarship Grab (free)

Sail– Simple scholarship search (99 cents)

ScholarshipAdvisor (free)

Each of these apps allows you to search for scholarships based on criteria you enter.

***** This information was compiled to the best of our ability. We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions.**

Carla Hollifield
carla.hollifield@apsb.org
Career Coach
9th & 10th grade

Kim Aucoin
kim.aucoin@apsb.org
Career Coach
11th & 12th grade

Located in:
Room 607 of Math
Bldg.