

SOPHOMORES – APRIL NEWSLETTER

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Hello from the Counseling Center at Moon Area High School. My name is Julie Sitko and I am the College and Career Counselor. This is the time start thinking about life after high school. My role is to advise and support students and families in the college search and to help identify “best fit” colleges and universities, and to assist students in realizing their post-secondary goals. This monthly newsletter will keep you on track for post-secondary planning. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Emails from Post-Secondary Schools:

If you have not yet, you will be getting inundated with emails from colleges. I have a few suggestions on how you can manage the emails.

1. Create an email address just for post-secondary planning. That way, all of the emails you get from colleges won't flood your regular inbox.
2. Create a folder in your email and filter emails from the colleges you think you want to look at later. You can also create a folder of schools that you are interested in, so you don't miss any important messages from them.
3. Check this email account once a week or every few days. Delete messages you're not interested in. You're going to be overwhelmed with information from colleges and managing the emails is necessary, so you don't miss anything important.

If you are looking for good college resources, here are two of my favorites:

[Georgia Tech Admission Blog](#) has a lot of great information not specific about Georgia Tech, but about the college search and selection process in general. The blog is insightful, educational, and humorous.

[The College Essay Guy](#) – another great website for assistance in writing college essays, along with general information about the college search/selection process. He is witty and has awesome advice on essays. He charges a fee to review essays, but he also has a lot of free information on his website.

Summer Programs:

[Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week \(PFEW\)](#) is a one-of-a-kind summer program that offers in-coming high school juniors and seniors a unique and challenging opportunity to see what it is like to run their own business. Participants will make up an "imaginary" management team where they will learn first-hand about the Free Enterprise System. Their task - turn their failing company into a financial success. They will develop their own marketing strategies, design a website and, make all the decisions that are demanded of real-life company executives. This weeklong program is at Lycoming College, in Williamsport and students have the option to choose between four different weeks. PFEW is FREE, although there is a \$295 non-refundable registration fee.

[The Wildlife Leadership Academy](#) enriches Pennsylvania teens and empowers them to become certified conservation ambassadors through a five-day residential summer field school program. Program costs \$500 for the week, and scholarships are available.

[Duke University](#) offers summer academic opportunities for students. Rising seniors are invited to take classes with Duke Professors, where you can earn college credit. Students also have an option to take personal enrichment courses, with a global perspective, through the Summer Academy.

[The Ice-T Project](#) is an initiative of The Citizen Science Lab, Black/African-American High School Youth will learn the computational and experimental techniques required to examine the physiology, biochemistry, and voltage potential of microbial fuel cells (MFC), a living battery made powered by bacteria. Once participants learn the basics they will then build and create their own device powered by these living batteries. More information will be share on the website as it becomes available.

[Black College Institute at Virginia Tech](#) – for Black students who are intellectually curious and interested in attending Virginia Tech. To be eligible:

1. Must be a rising junior or rising senior in high school
2. Must have an interest in attending Virginia Tech
3. Must be highly motivated and academically curious
4. Application deadline April 1, 2023.

[Bucknell Academy Summer Experience \(BASE\)](#) is a collaborative residential experience where students are invited to explore the value of a liberal arts perspective in making challenging decisions to improve today's world. At BASE, students will experience interdisciplinary study from top tier professors while challenging their thought processes. This year's theme is To Share or Not to Share: How has social media impacted society and what can we learn from it?
When: June 25 - 30th, 2023

Who: Rising juniors and seniors in high school are welcome to apply

[Pitt Information Technology will host the Air Force Association CyberCamp](#) June 19-23, 2023. This week-long program is free and open to high school students and teaches cybersecurity principles, skills, and future career opportunities.

[Pitt RxPLORE](#) is a professional summer camp designed by current PITTPharmacy PharmD students for high school students to explore pharmacy as a possible career option. This is a three-day program, but you must register for each day separately and there is no overnight stay on campus. The program runs from 9-4 daily. You can attend any or all of the three days.

[Joy of Coding through University of Michigan](#) is an online course specially created for anyone who wants to experience first-hand the power and thrill of coding computers to do amazing things. Created with high school students in mind, it is a great way for anyone to step into the wondrous world of coding. Using Python, students will learn how coding powers apps such as Snapchat, TikTok, Instagram and Siri, and even learn how to code their own versions of Snapchat lenses. Program runs June 21-August 2 and students can anticipate to spend 4-6 hours per week. The program costs \$125 and need-based financial aid is available.

[Duquesne University STEM Camp](#) will be held from June 19-23 from 8:30-5:00 PM for students who have demonstrated a strong interest in science. This will be an immersive, diverse, hands-on learning experience. Students who successfully completes the camp will receive a \$250 stipend at the conclusion. Application deadline is May 5.

[2023 STEM Summer Camp Scholarship](#) – gives high school females up to \$750 in scholarships to attend a STEM focused summer camp. You find the summer camp and include that information in the application.

Summer Programs at Carnegie Mellon:

The [Summer Academy for Math and Science](#) is a six-week residential experience that provides students from underrepresented communities who have interest in engineering and/or the natural sciences, with the opportunity to achieve skills in order to pursue and complete majors in STEM fields.

The [Computer Science Scholars](#) program provides students who are traditionally under-represented in the field of computer science an opportunity to receive exposure to computing and additional computer science pre-requisites.

The curricula of these programs include a combination of hands-on learning and research via projects, and lectures by Carnegie Mellon faculty, teachers and graduate students. Students will also have the opportunity to engage in extracurricular activities that introduce them to new people, topics, and career opportunities. College students also serve as classroom assistants, tutors and mentors.

[Carnegie Mellon](#) is offering several in-person Summer Pre-College Programs in architecture, art, computational biology, design, drama, music, gaming and game design, and writing and culture. The also offer the following programs at no-

cost; computer science, summer academy for math and science, and an artificial intelligence program called AI4ALL. For more information about any of these programs, you should attend an [information session](#)

Financial Aid Program:

Financial Aid and Planning Q&A with PHEAA_ **4/6 Thursday @6:30pm; 4/18 Tuesday @Noon**

Articles related to funding a higher education are in the news almost every day, and it can lead even the most knowledgeable of us into information overload. Have you ever wanted to simply ask a few specific questions, yet couldn't find anyone to ask? Maybe you have questions about planning for college, finding the right school, applying for scholarships, applying for federal and state aid, understanding offer letters, completing loan applications, comparing federal loans to private loans, repaying/refinancing loans after graduation, etc. Join Linda Pacewicz and Daniel Wray of PHEAA for a wide open one-hour Q&A session. Ask your questions to "Everyone" in the chat or privately to the presenters. Hope to see you there!

[REGISTER HERE](#) or at <https://www.pheaa.org/virtual>