

Senior Year: Planning for After High School

Parent & Student Presentation

September 16, 2024

Agenda

- Senior class information
- Post-secondary options – process & timeline
- Q&A / short break
- Financial aid information
- Q&A



Bridgett Hubbard Senior Class Advisor

- Measure for caps & gowns during Resource on October 2. Deadline to order will be October 31. I will send specific instructions on what is needed when I receive the information. Cost is \$33.99 plus tax and shipping. Late fee will be an additional charge. We encourage use of the many units that are in the community! (you can just order a tassel or a hat and a tassel!)
- Local scholarships
 - Released in January (class meeting during Resource to explain)
 - Due end of February
 - [Scholarship FAQ](#)
- Scholarship database on SS website for scholarship opportunities
 - Extremely important this year!

Options for the Future

- Work
 - Apprenticeship
- Military
 - ROTC
- Higher education
 - 2 year technical college
 - 2 year freshman/sophomore college
 - 4 year college/university
 - Trade school



Work and Military Process

- Work
 - Prepare a resume & cover letter
 - Practice interviewing skills
 - Consider your professional image
 - Network
- Military
 - Take the ASVAB (October 22 & March 4 at OHS)
 - Talk to a recruiter

Academics are just as important because employers need highly skilled and knowledgeable employees!

College Application Process

Steps to a complete application

- Apply online (A)
 - Apply early
 - Consider your professional image
 - Is your school on the Common Application?
- Payment (*)
 - Online payment (non-refundable)
 - Many colleges waiving application fees for all
 - UW Schools \$25-\$70 - Most free, Western \$30
 - See counselor for help with fees
- High school transcript (A) OR self-reported grades
 - Request via Google form on OHS [website](#) OR provide your counselor's email address if requested electronically
 - Even if "Not required" [send your transcript!](#)

A = All schools

4 – 4 yr schools

* = varies by school

Self-Reporting Grades on Common App

- UW Madison, U of MN, other 4 year campuses

Transcript #1 - Onalaska High School

School Name *
Onalaska High School

School Year *
2021-2022

Grading Scale *
A-F

Subject *	Course Name *	Course Level *	Semester Grades *			Semester Credits *		
			S1	S2	Final	S1	S2	Final
Geometry	Geometry	Regular/Standard	A	A-		0.5	0.5	1
English	English 9	Accelerated	A-	A-		0.5	0.5	1
Foreign/World Language	French 1	Accelerated	A-	B+		0.5	0.5	1
Science (Other)	Physical Science	Regular/Standard	A	B		0.5	0.5	1
History/Social Science	US History	Regular/Standard	A	B+		0.5	0.5	1
Art (Visual or Performing)	Meris Chorus	Regular/Standard	A	A		0.5	0.5	1
Art (Visual or Performing)	Concert Band	Honors	A	A		0.5	0.5	1
Physical Education/Health	PE/Wellness	Regular/Standard	A			0.5		0.5

College Application Process, continued

- Test scores*
 - Most college(s) are test optional at this time
 - Double check with your college(s)
 - Consider sending if your score could help
 - ACT/SAT
 - Essay(s) (4*)
 - "What should I write about?"
 - Consider your English 11/AP Language essay
 - Share something not already shared in the application
 - An opportunity for disclosure
 - Be aware of cutting & pasting essays
 - Many are used for scholarships
- A = All schools
4 – 4 yr schools
* = varies by school

SHARED ESSAY

All campuses use the following essay:

This part is all about you. Tell us about something you've done—academically or personally—and what you've learned from it. Was it a success or a challenge? Did it represent a turning point in your life? How did this particular moment in your life influence you, and how will it continue to influence you as you pursue your college education?

ADDITIONAL ESSAYS

A couple of campuses have additional essays.

CAMPUS	ADDITIONAL ESSAY
UW-La Crosse	Please respond to the following: How will your life experiences, commitments, and/or characteristics enrich the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse campus community? Tell us why you are interested in attending UW-La Crosse and what aspects of the campus are especially important to you?
UW-Madison	Tell us why you would like to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In addition, please include why you are interested in studying the major(s) you have selected. If you selected undecided, please describe your areas of possible academic interest.

College Application Process, continued

- Letters of recommendation (*)
 - If needed/required
 - UW-Madison requires one
 - Email school counselor/teacher if an electronic recommendation is needed
 - Pink profile sheet in GC
- Help Days
 - Oct. 23-24 at OHS During Resource

A = All schools
4 – 4 yr schools
* = varies by school

Onalaska High School Letter of Recommendation Request - Student Worksheet

Name: _____ Date Due: _____

Purpose of Letter: one) ___ college app. ___ scholarship app. ___ other _____

Letter to be addressed to: (please include name, title and complete address)

Find this in the Senior Google Classroom & our website under "Important Forms"

Academic Awards, Honors & Activities (please provide dates):

Extracurricular Awards, Honors & Activities (please provide dates):

Community Awards, Honors & Activities (please provide dates):

College Application Process UW Direct Admit



- Students opted-in - Spring 2024
- Email from Universities of WI - August 2024
 - Not seeing an email?
- Log in/create account in the Direct Admit Portal
 - Complete Direct Admit Form
- Direct Admit offers expire May 1, 2025
- See your Counselor if you have questions

Resources

- Senior Google Classroom
 - Students can invite you to a guardian account
 - Military recruiters/college rep virtual meetings
 - College fairs
 - Financial Aid
 - Cap/gown info
- STAR Conference folder from junior year
- Xello (assessments, occupations, education)
 - Access through PowerSchool
- OHS Student Services office & website
- Assessments (ACT, ASVAB, etc.)
 - UW System pre-tests (math &/or Eng)
 - November 13-14 during Resource
- College websites - college fairs & tours

Resources continued

- Western Career Coaching
 - Once EVERY month at OHS (Oct 8 - first meeting)
 - Career Coach will meet/plan with students individually
 - Sign up in Student Services
- Western Open House
 - Tour programs
 - Apply for FREE! (\$30 fee waived)
 - October 9 between 4-7 pm



FAFSA Assistance

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- College Goal Wisconsin (virtual)
 - Fill out & submit your FAFSA for FREE
 - Jan 28 at OHS LMC 6 - 8 PM
- FAFSA Completion & Scholarship Workshop
 - Feb. 12 & 13 at OHS during Resource

Questions?

5 minute break

next up

Financial Aid Presentation





Financial Aid

{How to unlock money for college}

What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses

Primary goal is to assist students in paying for college and is achieved by:

- Evaluating family's ability to pay for educational costs
- Distributing limited resources in an equitable manner
- Providing a balance of gift and self-help aid

Financial Aid Eligibility

Who can apply?

You must:

- Be a citizen or eligible non-citizen of the U.S.
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Be enrolled at least half-time (6 credits)
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress as determined by your college

Cost of Attendance

Cost of Attendance (CoA)

- Tuition and Fees
- Housing and Food (previously Room and Board)
- Books
- Related Expenses (transportation, personal expenses)

*Cost of Attendance is different at each college and is required to be published on their school website

Student Aid Index (SAI)

- Stays the same regardless of college
- Based on student and parent income reported on the FAFSA and a federal formula

How is Financial Need Determined?

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Cost of Attendance} \\ &\text{- } \underline{\text{Student Aid Index}} \\ &= \text{Financial Need} \end{aligned}$$

Completing the FAFSA

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) helps families access:
 - Federal funds
 - Grants, work-study, student loans, and parent loans
 - State funds
 - Grants, scholarships

Federal Grants

Pell Grant **up to**

\$7,395

Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG) **up to**

\$4,000



Federal Work Study

- Flexible hours
- On Campus
- Paid for hours worked

Federal Student Loans

DIRECT STAFFORD LOANS	MAXIMUM AMOUNT FRESHMAN YEAR	INTEREST FREE WHILE IN COLLEGE?	INTEREST RATE	FEES	REPAYMENT
Subsidized	\$3,500	Yes	6.53%	1.057%	Six months after graduation OR if enrollment drops below ½ time
Unsubsidized	\$2,000	No	6.53%	1.057%	

*ALL students can receive up to \$5,500 between subsidized and unsubsidized direct student loans

Federal Parent PLUS Loans

DIRECT PLUS LOAN	MAXIMUM AMOUNT EACH YEAR	INTEREST FREE WHILE IN COLLEGE?	INTEREST RATE	FEES	REPAYMENT
Parent PLUS (credit check required)	Up to cost of attendance minus all other aid	No	9.08%	4.228%	Can pay as you go OR once student drops below ½ time, leaves school, or graduates

WI State Grants & Scholarships

- WI State Grant (up to \$3,150)
- Academic Excellence (\$2,250 for 4 years)

Additional application required:

- Technical Excellence (\$2,250 up to 3 years)
- TIP Grant (up to \$1,800, 0 SAI required)
- Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant
- Hearing/Visually Impaired Student Grant

*Must attend a WI public, private, technical, or tribal school

Scholarships

Money gifted to students that can be based on:

- Academic merit
- Special skills and talents
- Membership and/or service to an organization
- Financial need
- Other

Scholarships

Where to look and who to ask:

- School counselor
- Church or Community foundations
- Employer
- Businesses and service organizations
- College websites and financial aid offices
- Online:
 - Fastweb.com
 - Niche.com
 - Scholarships.com

Private Loans

Money borrowed by student or parent:

- Explore your options
- Credit check required
- Terms vary by lender
 - Interest rates and loan limits
 - Limited repayment plans
 - May require co-signers
 - May require collateral

Completing the FAFSA

Apply at **FAFSA.gov**

Create an FSA ID

- Acts as an electronic signature
- Requires Social Security number
- Consists of username and password
 - Student and parents each need their own FSA ID
 - Parent will use the same FSA ID for all of their children
 - Complete this step 3-5 days before the FAFSA!

To complete the FAFSA students and parents need:

1. Social Security number
2. Dates: birth, death, marriage, and divorce
3. Most recent bank balances (cash, savings, checking)
4. Amounts of any income not reported on taxes
5. Net value of assets (personal and business)

Changes to FAFSA

- Streamlined application process
 - 108 questions to 35!
- FSA ID required to access FAFSA form
- Tax information transferred directly into FAFSA form via IRS direct data exchange (secure)
- EFC updated to SAI
- Now included in reportable assets
 - Value of small business, family farm



- Projected to be available Dec 1st
- **APPLY** before each college's priority date – located on financial aid webpage

When can you complete the FAFSA?

The screenshot shows the FAFSA.gov homepage with a navigation bar, a main heading 'Get Money to Pay for School', and a '2025-26 FAFSA Form' section. A yellow banner reads 'FAFSA.go v FAFSA form'. Below the banner are sections for 'Check FAFSA* Deadlines for the State You Live In' and 'Who Should Complete This? How Long Will it Take? What Do I Need?'. The 'What Do I Need?' section lists: Verified StudentAid.gov account, Social Security Number, Parent or spouse contributor email addresses, and Income and asset information, if required.

Start the FAFSA

- **Two ways to complete the FAFSA:**
 - Student starts app, invites parent(s)
 - Parent starts app, invites student

* The following slides will be shown from the Student starts application perspective (recommended way to complete FAFSA)

Invite Contributors

The slide is titled 'Understanding the FAFSA* Form' and is slide 2 of 4. It focuses on 'Contributors to the FAFSA* Form'. It explains that parents or spouses need to be identified and that contributors will provide personal and financial information. A list of required information or documents includes: Tax returns, Records of child support received, Current balances of cash, savings, and checking accounts, and Net worth of investments, businesses, and farms.

Confirm your Information

The first screenshot shows the 'Student Identity Information' section where the user reviews their name (Raya A. Tran), date of birth (05/05/1995), and social security number (***-**-1234). The second screenshot shows the 'Student State of Legal Residence' section where the user selects 'New York (NY)' as the state and '01' as the month and '2000' as the year they became a legal resident.

5 Steps to complete FAFSA!

1. Personal Circumstances
2. Demographics
3. Financials
4. Colleges
5. Signature

Personal Circumstances

FAFSA® 2025-26 Student Raya Tran Save FAFSA Menu

1 Personal Circumstances 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Signature

Student College or Career School Plans

When the student begins the 2025-26 school year, what will their college grade level be?

First Year (freshman)

Second Year (sophomore)

Other undergraduate (junior or senior)

College graduate, professional, or beyond (MBA, M.D., Ph.D., etc.)

When the student begins the 2025-26 school year, will they have their first bachelor's degree?

Yes No

Previous Continue

Student Dependency Status

The student is currently serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces for purposes other than training.

The student is a veteran of the U.S. armed forces.

The student has children or other people (excluding their spouse) who live with them and receive more than half of their support from the student now and between July 1, 20XX and June 30, 20XX.

At any time since the student turned 13, they were an orphan (no living biological or adoptive parent).

At any time since the student turned 13, they were a ward of the court.

At any time since the student turned 13, they were in foster care.

The student is or was a legally emancipated minor, as determined by a court in their state of residence.

The student is or was in a legal guardianship with someone other than their parent or stepparent, as determined by a court in their state of residence.

None of these apply

Student Other Circumstances

At any time on or after July 1, 2024 was the student unaccompanied and either (1) homeless or (2) self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

Yes No

Enter Parent Information

FAFSA® 2025-26 Student Raya Tran Save FAFSA Menu

1 Personal Circumstances 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Signature

Invite Parents to your FAFSA® Form

You will need to provide information for your parents

Based on your answers in the previous section, you'll need to provide information about both of your parents on your FAFSA form. You can invite your family members to your form to help you complete all required sections.

Enter names of parents, identified on the prior page, and we'll send electronic requests on your behalf.

Please make sure to provide information that your parents would use to login to StudentAid.gov.

Parent	Parent Spouse (optional)
First Name Alcina	First Name
Last Name Tran	Last Name
Date of Birth Month: 05 Day: 05 Year: 1973	Date of Birth Month: Day: Year:

Who Provides Parent Info

- Both biological or adoptive parents if they are:
 - Living together, regardless of marital status or gender
- If parents are divorced, legally separated, or never married AND do not live together:
 - the parent who provided the most financial support provides their information
 - If that parent is remarried, student must also include step parent information
- Not necessarily the same as who claims child on taxes
- If parents support equally, then the parent who makes more provides info on the FAFSA

Demographic Information

- Gender, Race, Ethnicity (answers do not affect Financial Aid status)
- Citizenship
- Parent Education level
- Student High School Information

Student Financials

FAFSA® 2025-26 Student Raya Tran Save FAFSA Menu

Personal Circumstances Demographics **Financials** Colleges Signature

Student 2023 Tax Return Information

Refer to the student's 2023 tax return to answer the following questions.
Convert all currency to U.S. dollars.

Amount of College Grants, Scholarships, or AmeriCorps Benefits Reported as Income to the IRS (optional)
The student paid taxes on these grants, scholarships, or benefits. These usually apply to those renewing their FAFSA form, not to first-time applicants.

\$.00

Foreign Earned Income Exclusion

\$.00

Previous Continue

Student Financials

FAFSA® 2025-26 Student Raya Tran Save FAFSA Menu

Personal Circumstances Demographics **Financials** Colleges Signature

Student Assets

Current Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts
Don't include student financial aid.

\$.00

Current Net Worth of Businesses and Investment Farms
Enter the net worth of the student's businesses or for-profit agricultural operations. Net worth is the value of the businesses or farms minus any debts owed against them.

\$.00

Current Net Worth of Investments, Including Real Estate
Don't include the home the student lives in. Net worth is the value of the investments minus any debts owed against them.

\$.00

Previous Continue

Colleges

FAFSA® 2025-26 Student Raya Tran Save FAFSA Menu

Personal Circumstances Demographics **Colleges** Signature

Where should we send your FAFSA?

Search for the colleges to which you'd like to send your FAFSA information.
You can add up to 20 colleges to your FAFSA form.

0 of 20 Schools Selected View Selected Schools

Search by School Name Search by School Code

State: California (CA)

School Name - optional

Q Search

Previous

1	University of California Northridge, CA	Federal School Code 603453	Remove	View Info
2	University of California Northridge, CA	Federal School Code 603453	Remove	View Info
3	University of California Northridge, CA	Federal School Code 603453	Remove	View Info

Signatures

- Student and Parent both sign and submit
- FAFSA is not complete until both processes are done

Parent portion of FAFSA

- 3 Steps:
 - Demographics
 - Address, Marital Status, Legal state of residence
 - Financials
 - Signature

FAFSA® 2025-26 Student Raya Tran FAFSA Menu

You're Almost There!
The Student Section is complete!

Parent Contributors

Requirements for Dependent Students
Your FAFSA form is not complete until your parents complete the contributor section of the form and sign it. Once completed, your FAFSA form will be submitted for processing.

Parent Contributors	Date Request Sent	Status
Alcina Tran	07/13/2024	Invite Sent Edit
Travis Tran	07/13/2024	Invite Sent Edit

Track and Manage Your FAFSA Application and Your Contributors

This application has been added to My Activity in your StudentAid.gov account. Go there to:

- Review, edit, or cancel any FAFSA application information.
- Revise your household size, contact your schools.
- Start your state application to apply for state-based financial aid

View Status

Parent Financials

- Federal benefits
- Tax filing status
- Family size
- Number of people in college
- Other income
- Asset information
 - Do not include the value of the home you live in, life insurance, or retirement accounts

FAFSA® 2025-26 Parent of Raya Tran

Demographics Financials Signature

Parent 2023 Tax Return Information

Refer to the parent's 2023 tax return to answer the following questions.
Convert all currency to U.S. dollars.

Did the parent receive the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)?

Yes No

Don't know

Amount of College Grants, Scholarships, or AmeriCorps Benefits Reported as Income to the IRS (optional)

The parent paid taxes on these grants, scholarships, or benefits. These usually apply to those renewing their FAFSA® form, not to first-time applicants.

\$ 0 .00

Foreign Earned Income Exclusion

\$ 0 .00

Previous Continue

FAFSA® 2025-26 Parent of Raya Tran

Demographics Financials Signature

Annual Child Support Received

Enter total amount received in child support for the last complete calendar year.

\$ 0 .00

Parent Assets

Current Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts

Don't include student financial aid.

\$ 10,000 .00

Current Net Worth of Businesses and Investment Farms

Enter the net worth of your businesses or for-profit agricultural operations. Net worth is the value of your businesses or farms minus any debts owed against them.

\$ 0 .00

Current Net Worth of Investments, Including Real Estate

Don't include the home you live in. Net worth is the value of your investments minus any debts owed against them.

\$ 5,000 .00

Previous Continue

Next Steps

Understanding the FAFSA® Form

4 of 4

After Submitting the FAFSA® Form

Once the student's FAFSA® form is submitted, the student will need to check on its status and make corrections, if required.

- The student's form will be processed in 1-3 days.
- The student will receive a FAFSA Submission Summary. It will include their Student Aid Index (SAI), a number used to determine federal student aid eligibility.
- Schools will use the student's SAI to create their financial aid offer that explains the types and amounts of aid they are offering to the student. Most schools will wait to send the student an aid offer only after they are accepted for admission.

Next Steps

- Review SAR and make corrections if needed
- Check future college portal:
 - Review financial aid offers
 - Accept financial aid
- Receive financial aid (Fall semester)

Help is Available!

- College Goal Event
 - Jan 28th 6-8pm at OHS!
- College Financial Aid Office
- 1-800-4-FED-AID
- FAFSA.gov
- StudentAid.gov

Senior Year Timeline 2024-25

- ***Seniors – First semester, before Thanksgiving** – Complete your college applications
- ***All Year** - Meet with college representatives and military recruiters. Watch the scrolling message board outside Student Services for upcoming visitors and ask for a pass.
- ***All Year** – Apply for scholarships (check [Freddy's Footnotes](#), Student Services [Scholarship Database](#), Student Services office, the colleges you are applying to, websites such as [fastweb.com](#))
- ***Senior Men, when you turn 18 years old** – Register with Selective Service System at [sss.gov](#) or see Mrs. Morrison in Student Services

September 9-13 – Homecoming Week

September 10 – Senior classroom with counselors

September 16 – Senior Parent & Student Night and Financial Aid Info 6:15 pm in the OHS PAC

September 20 – Registration deadline for October 26th ACT test

September 26 – Baby Ads and Senior Photos due

September 30 – All AP Students should be enrolled in their AP classrooms

October 1 – Early College Credit and Start College Now applications due for *second* semester course

October 2 – Jostens at OHS for Cap & Gown measurements, Empire at OHS for Senior Photo, During Resource

October 8 – Western Admissions/Career Coach at OHS

October 9 - Western Technical College open house 4-7 PM (La Crosse campus)

October 16-17 – Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 14 – Senior classroom with counselors

October 22 - ASVAB - Hilltopper Room

October 23-24 - College application completion help during Resource

November 1 – AP exam registration deadline (payment due November 8) - Select **Yes** or **No** in AP Classroom

November 2 – SAT test (please see your counselor for additional test dates and info) Register by Oct. 18

November 4 – Academic Awards Night (6:30 pm) & NHS Induction (6:00 pm)

November 7 – Tentative campus tour/bus trip to U of M & UW Eau Claire

November 8 – AP exam payment due \$99

November 8 – Registration deadline for December 14 ACT test

November 12 – Western Admissions/Career Coach at OHS

November 13-14 – UW System Placement Pre-Tests (Math & English), During Resource

November 15 – Senior goal: Have all college applications submitted!

Beginning December 2024 – Apply for financial aid as soon as possible on [FAFSA.gov](#) (will need completed 2023 tax documents for student and parent(s)) - **See below for FAFSA help!**

December 10 – Western Admissions/Career Coach at OHS

December 14 – ACT test (Registration deadline November 8)

January 14 – Western Admissions/Career Coach at OHS

January 15-17 - Finals Week

January 17 - End of semester 1

January 29– Local scholarship meeting/Application distributed

January 28 – College Goal Event - OHS LMC, 6:00-8:00 pm

February 19 – Local scholarship application deadline 3:00 pm

February 11 – Western Admissions/Career Coach at OHS

February 12-13 - FAFSA/Scholarship application completion help during Resource
February 28 – AP Macroeconomics exam registration deadline (payment due March7)

March 4 - ASVAB

March 7 – AP Microeconomics exam payment due \$99

March 11 – Western Admissions/Career Coach at OHS

March 12-13 - Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences

April 8 – Western Admissions/Career Coach at OHS

April 30 - Build My Future - Careers in construction event - OMNI Center

May 6 - 16 – AP testing

May TBD – Seniors last day of classes, Senior Awards, Senior Walk

May 13 - Western Career Coaching

May 21 - Graduation practice AM & Senior Scholarship Night PM

May 24 – Class of 2024 **Graduation at 1:00pm!**

June 1 – Western Technical College Common Scholarship application deadline

Updated 9/9/24

Class of 2025!
