



# CRUSADER

## College Connection

JANUARY 2025 • [WWW.STDOMINICHS.ORG/COLLEGE](http://WWW.STDOMINICHS.ORG/COLLEGE)

### GUIDANCE *Spotlight*

#### ACT TESTING AT ST. DOMINIC | April 8, 2025

ACT - In April 2025, the National ACT will undergo some significant changes. The National ACT will be reduced to a two hour test with fewer questions and more time on each question. They are also making the science section optional. Please click on this link, [The ACT Test Is Evolving Article](#), to learn more.

Please note the 2025 District ACT test will remain the same- three hours in length, on paper with a science section. This is the test **ALL of our Juniors take on April 8, 2025**. St. Dominic registers students for this test.

**The February 8, 2025 National ACT will be offered at Saint Dominic and you can register/pay for this test by going to [ACT Registration Link](#).** You can pay for the TIR (Test Information Release) on the February ACT.

#### What is Test Information Release?

By purchasing Test Information Release (TIR), you will receive a digital copy of the multiple-choice test questions, your answers, a copy of your answer document, the answer key, and the conversion table used in determining your ACT scores. This is an extremely helpful tool that can be used to prepare for additional ACT tests.



Eisenbath Atrium

11:10- 12:00 PM

January 15



Kansas City Art Institute

Kansas City, MO

**ST. DOMINIC HIGH SCHOOL WILL BE HOSTING A FAFSA FRENZY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MISSOURI COLLEGE & CAREER ON JANUARY 15TH, 2025.**

FAFSA Frenzy Information: [FAFSA Frenzy](#). Want to learn more about the FAFSA and how to apply for financial aid? Please click here to learn more: [FAFSA Informational videos and slideshow](#).

### SCHOLARSHIP *Update*

There are many free scholarships available to apply for. Check out our live [Scholarship List 2024-2025](#). The document is organized by monthly deadlines, which can be found at the bottom of the page.

Also, check out these popular search engines to locate more scholarships specific to your student:  
[My Scholarship Central](#) | [Scholarships.com](#)

#### SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

- January 9** [Jack Robinson Foundation Scholarship](#)
- January 10** [Alert 1 Student for Seniors Scholarship](#)
- January 15** [Boeing Scholars Program](#) | [John Lennon Scholarship](#)
- January 20** [Antibodies Online Scholarship](#) | [Breanna Coleman Memorial Nursing Scholarship](#)
- January 30** [American Public Service Scholarship](#)

**2024-2025**  
[Scholarship Information](#)

[WWW.STDOMINICHS.ORG/COLLEGE/A-PROGRAM](http://WWW.STDOMINICHS.ORG/COLLEGE/A-PROGRAM) **Report Earned Scholarships [HERE](#).**



# LOOKING Ahead

WINTER 2025

## Jan. 9

College Graduate Panel for Juniors and Seniors during Empower Hour

## Jan. 14

Class of 2026 (Junior) Individual Registration Meetings begin with Guidance

## Jan. 14

Final Add/Drop Day for 2nd Semester Courses

## Jan. 15

FAFSA Frenzy at St. Dominic

## Jan. 20

No School Martin Luther King Day

## Jan. 27-31

Catholic Schools Week

## Feb. 3

2025-26 Course Registration Begins

## Feb. 14

2025-26 Course Registration Forms Due

## HELPFUL Links

**COLLEGE GUIDANCE**  
[www.stdominic.org/college](http://www.stdominic.org/college)

**SCOIR**  
[www.scoir.com](http://www.scoir.com)

**SCHOLARSHIPS**  
[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) | [myscholly.com](http://myscholly.com)

**FAFSA**  
[www.studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa](http://www.studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa)

**COMMON APP**  
[www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

**NCAA ELIGIBILITY**  
[web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3](http://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3)

**ACT**  
[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

**SAT**  
[www.satsuite.collegeboard.org](http://www.satsuite.collegeboard.org)

## Alumni Spotlight

### Sam Zoellner '18

UMKC | Doctor of Pharmacy and Master of Business Administration

Sam Zoellner is a 2018 graduate of St. Dominic High School who was very involved in student clubs and organizations including CRU, Student Ambassadors, Pro-Life, National Honors Society and Peer Ministry.

In addition, Sam was on the soccer, basketball and the very first field hockey team at SDHS. Following high school, Sam would go on to study Pharmacy at University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC).



*"I always knew I wanted to help people, but I wasn't drawn to the hands-on work of a physician. The role of a pharmacist, who helps patients "behind the scenes," captured my interest. Seeing the strong relationship my grandmother, a cancer patient, had with her pharmacist inspired me to explore this field further. I decided to shadow a hospital pharmacist, and the experience was so fulfilling that I couldn't stop talking about it. Job shadowing solidified my decision to pursue a career in pharmacy."*

While earning her degrees in Doctor of Pharmacy and Master of Business Administration at UMKC, Sam felt prepared for the challenges of a difficult program of study due to rigor of courses she took at St. Dominic HS. *"The college credit courses offered at SDHS helped me get ahead academically and build a strong foundation of knowledge. The teachers of these courses challenged me in ways similar to my college professors, preparing me for the rigors of higher education. Additionally, the small class sizes at SDHS fostered close relationships with my teachers, which made me feel confident reaching out to mentors in college."*

Sam graduated from UMKC in May 2024 and is now a Pharmacy Resident at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and offers the following advice for those looking to follow a similar path. *"Pharmacy is a small world, so start building connections early—you never know when they might come in handy. I also encourage job shadowing or working in a pharmacy to help determine if it's the right fit for you. Finally, the time management skills you develop in high school will be invaluable in college and pharmacy school."*

## Monthly Wellness

Amy Bauer | Wellness Counselor  
[abauer@stdominichs.org](mailto:abauer@stdominichs.org)

### Small Moments, BIG JOY: Celebrating Resilience

As we close out another transformative year, we're reminded that resilience isn't just about overcoming challenges. It's about celebrating the small moments that help us grow. Resilience can be cultivated through simple, consistent actions that create ripples positively in our lives and communities.

**Celebrate the Small Wins.** By completing a difficult project, working through a tough day or taking a deep breath during a low moment, every win sparks achievement. Let these moments fuel your momentum.

**Open the Door to Connection**  
Human Connection is the key to resilience. Bonding and connecting with others lowers stress and helps us to feel safe and supported. A thank you, a kind word, even a shared laugh can strengthen bonds and remind us that we are not alone in facing challenges.

**Extending Grace to Yourself and Others**  
When you pause to rest, recover, and offer understanding to yourself and others, you create the mental space needed to build resilience and move forward with clarity.

**Impactful Group**

## COLLEGE GUIDANCE OFFICE

BLAKE MARKWAY | [bmarkway@stdominichs.org](mailto:bmarkway@stdominichs.org)  
Guidance Director & 9th Grade College Guidance Coordinator

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10-12th Grade College Guidance Coordinator (A-K)

LISA KOEPKE | [lkoepke@stdominichs.org](mailto:lkoepke@stdominichs.org)  
10-12th Grade College Guidance Coordinator (L-Z)

# FAFSA Frenzy

WHAT IS  
THE FAFSA?

WHAT'S  
CHANGED?

HOW TO FILL  
OUT THE FORM

*and more!*

## JANUARY 15, 2025

5:30 pm-8:00 pm | Learning Commons Classroom

The St. Dominic College Counselors will be hosting a **FAFSA Frenzy** with the assistance of Missouri Association of Financial Aid Personnel to help answer any FAFSA questions you may have.

### SENIORS AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS:

(last name A-K) 5:30pm-6:45pm | (last name L-Z) 6:45pm-8:00pm

*Please make sure that you have your FSA ID already created and that you can log into your FAFSA account. We will have school laptops available for your use.*

## The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) *is now open!*

Please see the video links and slideshow to learn more:

[Overview of the Financial Aid Process](#)

[What is the FAFSA](#)

[What's Changed for the 2024-2025 FAFSA Form](#)

[How to create an account and username \(FSA ID\) for StudentAid.gov](#)

[How to Fill Out the FAFSA Form](#)

[FAFSA: Determining Your Dependency Status](#)

[What Happens After Your FAFSA Form is Processed](#)

[FAFSA Slideshow](#)

**QUESTIONS?** please contact your College Counselor:

(last name A-K) Mrs. Nero [jnero@stdominichs.org](mailto:jnero@stdominichs.org)

(last name L-Z) Mrs. Koepke [lkoepke@stdominichs.org](mailto:lkoepke@stdominichs.org)

