March 12, 2026

Good afternoon and welcome to this early edition of the Future Ready Update. Next week, the update will return to Friday, March 20th. This week, you will find information on many topics including a virtual college fair, a virtual trade night with great resources for students interested in that field, and a free webinar for seniors on choosing your college. In addition, in school activities include the NACAC college fair on March 24th, several opportunities for pre-apprenticeship programs in the area where students can have paid apprenticeship opportunities senior year, and ASVAB testing sign up for grades 11 and 12; scholarship opportunities, including Hannah's Heart, a local scholarship for seniors; out of school experiences, including an open house at Aerotech, Inc with apprenticeship opportunities; summer experiences at several new locations, including a student experience at Point Park University with NASA experts; and job/volunteer opportunities.

Quick Links:
In School Activities
Scholarships
Out of School Activities
Summer Activities
Job and Volunteer Opportunities

Virtual College Fair
You and your students are invited to the NACAC Virtual College Fair happening on Sunday, March 15 from 1- 6 p.m. ET. The virtual fair provides students with the wonderful chance to connect with hundreds of colleges and universities, all from the comfort of their home. Plus, it is completely free.
Registration Link

Virtual Pathways to Skilled Trades Event
You are invited to a Zoom meeting.
When: Mar 18, 2026 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Register in advance for this meeting:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/48hwpHNWQfCXQyfz35NcYA
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.
Come and learn about post-secondary education and programs in the skilled trades. Use the link above to register or the QR code on the attached flyer.
Registration Flyer
Trade Matrix - Local Union Information, Website, CCAC Credits and Application Links

Trade Union Presentation

Free Webinar
TOPIC: Making Your Admission Decision - Which College Should You Attend?
DATE & TIME: Thursday, March 19, 2026 - 4pm PT / 7pm ET
During this session, we will cover:

- Comparing colleges for academic fit
- Weighing financial aid offers
- Cultural fit and personal considerations
- Access to internships and career opportunities
- Key strategies for making a confident decision
- Live Q&A for student and parent questions

In School Activities

Field Trip(s)

Pittsburgh NACAC College Fair - Rescheduled!
Tuesday, March 24th, 2026
9:15am - 1:30pm
Lunch on site!
You MUST complete the registration link below to attend this fair. Parent Permission forms MUST be signed!
Registration Link - you MUST register by Friday, March 20th to attend - **NEW registrations only.**
Parent Permission Form - Due Friday, March 20th, 2026 - **ALL students**

Can't make it? No worries, you can attend Tuesday evening 6:00pm - 8:30pm at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center - details here.

Catalyst Connection IMT Pre-Apprenticeship Program
IMT stands for Industrial Manufacturing Technician and covers four main topics.

- Safety, Quality (IMT pre-apprenticeship)
- Processes and Production, Maintenance Awareness (Advanded IMT Pre-apprenticeship)

The purpose of the IMT Pre-Apprenticeship is to help high school students begin a pathway to a career in manufacturing.
Email or schedule a meeting with Dr. Maloney to get more information or get started!
Informational Flyer
Informational Website

Other apprenticeship opportunities
More apprenticeship opportunities available at this website below. See Dr. Maloney for more information.
Apprenticeship Headquarters Website
German Chamber of Commerce Pre-Apprenticeship Flyer
German Chamber of Commerce Apprenticeship Flyer

ASVAB Testing
Taking the **ASVAB** (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is a key step for students to identify their natural strengths and explore a wide range of career paths within and outside the military. This comprehensive exam measures your abilities in areas like mathematics, science, and mechanical comprehension to help match your skills with specific job roles. By signing up, you gain access to personalized career exploration tools that can help you plan your future with confidence and clarity. The ASVAB also meets an alternate pathway for graduation requirements. Students in grades 11 and 12 are encouraged to take the assessment, scores will NOT be sent to military institutions unless requested by the student and/or parent. Limited space, please sign up by Friday, April 17th, 2026.
ASVAB Testing Sign Up

Scholarships

Scholarships are updated in Xello under College Planning, then scholarships.

Hannah's Heart Scholarship
Nominations/Applications:

- DUE: **March 25, 2026 to Counseling Office**
- Answer the Application in 250 words or less
- Must include clear example of why you should be nominated for this award
- Sponsorship Award presented from the Hannah Milbert Memorial Fund
- Monetary Scholarship(s) will be awarded at AHS Spring Spectacular - May 13th, 2026

Informational Link
Application Questions

Rachel Carson Healthy Planet Award - Chatham University
The Rachel Carson Healthy Planet Award is a long standing, national book award for emerging leaders in sustainability, environmental activism, social justice, and community engagement. Schools may nominate one deserving current junior from each high school across the United States who embodies the spirit of Rachel Carson.

WINNERS OF THE AWARD WILL RECEIVE:
A special edition of Silent Spring–Carson's groundbreaking book that helped launch the modern environmental movement
Up to $2,500 merit scholarship (renewable annually) to Chatham University*
A Certificate of Achievement to commemorate the student's commitment and bolster their resumé.
Email Dr. Maloney a cover letter and resume no later than Friday, March 27, 2026, if you would like to be considered for this award!

Sig Ep - Balanced Men Scholarships
With this in mind, we wanted to remind you and the students you work with that we have over $300,000 in scholarship opportunities through the Balanced Man Scholarship at over 100 campuses nationwide. Qualifying for the Balanced Man Scholarship is simple, as all incoming students need to do is submit an online application and enroll full-time at any of these institutions for the fall 2026 term. These applications are not labor-intensive for students, typically taking less than 30 minutes to complete.
Application Link

Out of School Activities

Auberle Youth Build
Auberle's YouthBuild program has open spots for individuals 16-24 who are in need of a GED or diploma equivalent. Participants also earn a Pre Apprenticeship Construction Training Curriculum and learn skills relevant to several trade unions as well as partake in community leadership initiatives. To refer any interested clients contact Samuel Shay at Samuels@auberle.org | 412-552-0879 or follow the qr code on the attached flyer!
Informational Flyer

Aerotech Machine Shop Open House
Prior registration is appreciated by using the QR Code on the flyer, but walk-ins are welcome. Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thursday, April 2, 2026
3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
610 Epsilon Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
Informational Flyer

Summer Activities

Summer Institutes - UCLA

Registration is now open for UCLA Arts High School Summer Institutes. These programs offer motivated high school students the opportunity to learn, create, and collaborate at one of the nation's leading public universities.
UCLA Arts High School Summer Institutes include five distinct programs—with both in-person and online options available—designed to help students:

- Strengthen college applications
- Earn college credit from a leading research university
- Develop a portfolio of UCLA-quality work
- Collaborate with passionate, like-minded peers
- Learn from renowned faculty and emerging artists, designers, and scholars

Our programs offer transformative experiences in architecture, studio arts, game and graphic design, AI, and emerging technologies, some of which students won't find elsewhere:

- Summer Art Institute: Learn drawing, painting, photography, or sculpture from the nation's #1 graduate fine arts program
- AI & Art Summer Institute: Only program of its kind exploring the intersection of artificial intelligence and art
- Design Media Arts Summer Institute: Explore design across 2D and 3D worldbuilding, motion design, and interactive media
- Game Lab Summer Institute: Learn game design as an artistic practice
- TeenArch Studio: Experience a college level architectural studio

2026 informational flyer
summer.arts.ucla.edu

The Blackbird Academy ~ High School Summer Camps
Nashville, TN
3 DAY - High School Summer Recording Camps
June 17-19, July 8-10, July 22-24 & July 29-31, 2026
Ages 13-19
$1200
WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Teens 13-19 who want to learn the production side of the audio industry, where the biggest names in music come to record.
WHAT YOU WILL LEARN: Audio Basics, Session Setup, Recording & Mixing a band, Pro Tools & audio gear, Overdubs, Immersive Audio and much more!
Informational Link

Model United Nations Institute
Various Locations

Step into the shoes of global leaders, tackle issues, enhance your public speaking skills, get feedback from mentors, and make friends who care about the world at the MUN Institute!
June 15 - August 8
Ages 9-18
$349 - $3,100
Tackle pressing issues, enhance your speaking and debate skills, gain confidence, and receive daily personalized feedback from mentors. Experience simulations, speaking labs, trivia, games, and explore your dream campus. The MUN Institute's vibrant atmosphere, filled with flags and positive energy, will bring out the best in you, inspiring you to debate diplomatically in our polarized society and change the world! Use code TEENLIFE to save!
Informational Link

Summit STEM Fellowship (SSF)
Applications for the 2026 Summit STEM Fellowship (SSF) are now open!
Summer 2026
Grades 8 - 12
$875
The Summit STEM Fellowship (SSF) is a virtual summer program bringing together top STEM students around the world. Students learn from mentors from Harvard, Stanford, MIT, and other top institutions. The fellowship is a 10-15 hours/week commitment, and students may participate alongside other summer activities. The early admissions deadline is approaching March 15.
Informational Link

If P then Q Camps: New York Footwear & Accessories Design Camp
Master industrial footwear and bag design at our Montclair, NJ Annex, where 5:1 mentorship and factory-grade machinery skip gatekeeping to forge your signature professional builds and high-caliber design school portfolios.
July, August
Grades 6-12, postgrad, and college
$3,000 - $6,999
This residency begins with a mandatory two-week immersion in industrial footwear and bag construction. Upon successful completion, students may opt for a third week to engineer an original "hero piece." This expert-led foundation offers technical autonomy, preparing students to enter top-tier design schools as experienced makers among their peers. The dialogue starts with a required interview. Registration by invitation only.
Informational Link

Enter Video by Mar. 8: Million Dollar Pitch Competition for Kids & Teens
Enter the Mott Million Dollar Challenge by creating a quick video that showcases your big idea to make life better at school, at home, in your community, or in business.
Submissions Due: March 8 at 11:59 p.m. ET
Grades K - 12
Free
Enter the Mott Million Dollar Challenge, a pitch competition for you! If you're in grades K-12 and live in any U.S. state or the District of Columbia, enter on your own or as a team (see rules). Create a 30- to 90-second video with your idea for making life better at school, at home, in your community, or in business.
Informational Link

University of Dayton High School Summer Camp Opportunities
SUMMER ENGINEERING EXPERIENCES AT UD (SEE-UD)
One-day camps offered June 15-17
SEE-UD camps, offered by our School of Engineering, provide students with an opportunity to explore the diverse fields of engineering, computer science and physics and learn more about these programs at UD through interactive modules and hands-on lab experiences. At our three daylong camps on June 15, 16 and 17, participants will learn about specific disciplines in engineering, computer science and physics while striving to solve problems our world faces today.
SEE-UD registration will close when capacity is reached. We anticipate all camps to fill quickly. Please share this flyer with interested students.

FEMALE ASPIRING BUSINESS SCHOLARS (FABS) SUMMER PROGRAM
June 28 – July 1, 2026
FABS is a four-day overnight camp offered by UD's School of Business Administration that provides young women hands-on learning through team projects, leadership experience, career exploration and mentorship. Campers will build skills essential for success in college and business, connect with peers and experience life as a UD student.
Visit our website to learn more and view the full program schedule. Our FABS registration deadline is May 10. This camp has a limited capacity and will fill on a first-come, first-served basis.

NAIOP Pittsburgh Skyline Academy - Carlow University
The 4th Annual NAIOP Pittsburgh Skyline Academy will take place this summer on the campus of Carlow University. This weeklong residential camp sponsored by NAIOP Pittsburgh, the Commercial Real Estate Association, will introduce 25 rising high school juniors and seniors to career possibilities in commercial real estate.

The program emphasizes practical skills, industry exposure, and hands-on learning through workshops, site visits, and a culminating group case study presentation. Please read more about the camp in a letter specifically for our school partners.
This year's camp will take place Monday, June 22, through Saturday, June 27. There is a $100 reservation fee, refundable at the conclusion of program participation. Meals, snacks, overnight accommodations, and all program materials will be provided.
share this flyer

Summer Teen Art Institute - Rhode Island School of Design
RISD Continuing Education celebrates five years in its return to Shanghai for the 2026 Summer Teen Art Institute. This residential program, hosted at the HD Shanghai School, connects high school students with RISD's renowned approach to art and design education.
As a Summer Teen Art Institute student, you will:

- Attend live Zoom classes with RISD instructors and daily studio hours with RISD alumni tutors.
- Complete project-based, experiential coursework to explore new ways of thinking and making.
- Participate in critiques to strengthen your creative process and develop your visual language.
- Build friendships and community with social events and enrichment opportunities.
- Take part in a final exhibition to showcase your work and celebrate your accomplishments.
- Have your portfolio reviewed by a RISD Admissions representative.

2026 Program Dates:

- Full 5-Week Experience: July 5–August 8
- 3-Week Foundations Experience: July 5–25
- 2-Week Major Intensive: July 26–August 8

New students can enroll in the full five-week program or participate in the three-week Foundations Experience or two-week Major Intensive. Returning students can continue their experience by enrolling in the two-week Major Intensive.

Moon 2 Mars - Point Park University
Moon 2 Mars Foundation announces a Student Space Hackathon. Our panel of experts who want to work with your students includes

- Dr James Green, former Chief Scientist, NASA
- Jim Adams, former Deputy Chief Technologist, NASA
- Dr Ray Wheeler, former Senior Scientist, NASA
- Soyeon Yi, retired Astronaut

We've identified three areas from NASA's 2025 Gap Analysis, challenges NASA staffers see need addressing to be able to complete their Moon to Mars Mission.
Our experts have identified three that high school students can help develop solutions for:

- Space agriculture - how to feed space explorers
- Robotics and automation in space environments
- How to improve the sociological and humanistic aspects of extended space exploration.

More information is available on the Moon 2 Mars Foundation website
https://www.moon2marsfoundation.org/hackathon
Informational Flyer

Job and Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers and Summer Intern - Sweetwater
We are accepting volunteers for ages 14-17yrs old and have limited paid internships for students who will be 18+ during our summer semester from June 8th - Aug 14th
Application Link and Flyer

Camp Counselor Position - PITT KIDS program
The PITT's KIDS program provides instruction in aquatics, games, and sports instruction to children ages 3 to 13 years old (fall/spring semesters) and 5 to 13 years old (summer only). *Camp Counselor positions are available for students 14-16.*

Chase the Antelopes Volunteer
We're looking for high school students that can volunteer at our annual Chase the Antelopes 5k Run & One-Mile Walk on Saturday, April 25 from 8-10 am.
Students can volunteer to direct runners/walkers on the course, help out at the registration/raffle prize table, or hand out water/snacks to participants.
The event will be held rain or shine on Saturday, April 25 with the starting/finish line at Lenzner Field and the run/walk taking place throughout Avonworth Heights and Cobblestone. High School students can sign up to volunteer using this link:
Volunteer at Chase the Antelopes

Please let me know if you have any questions or need further information.

Have a great weekend and let's go Lopes!

Dr. Lisa Maloney
Avonworth School District

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