# SAGUARO HIGH SCHOOL

# GRADUATION, COLLEGE AND CAREER PLANNING INFORMATION



# SAGUARO COUNSELING DEPARTMENT



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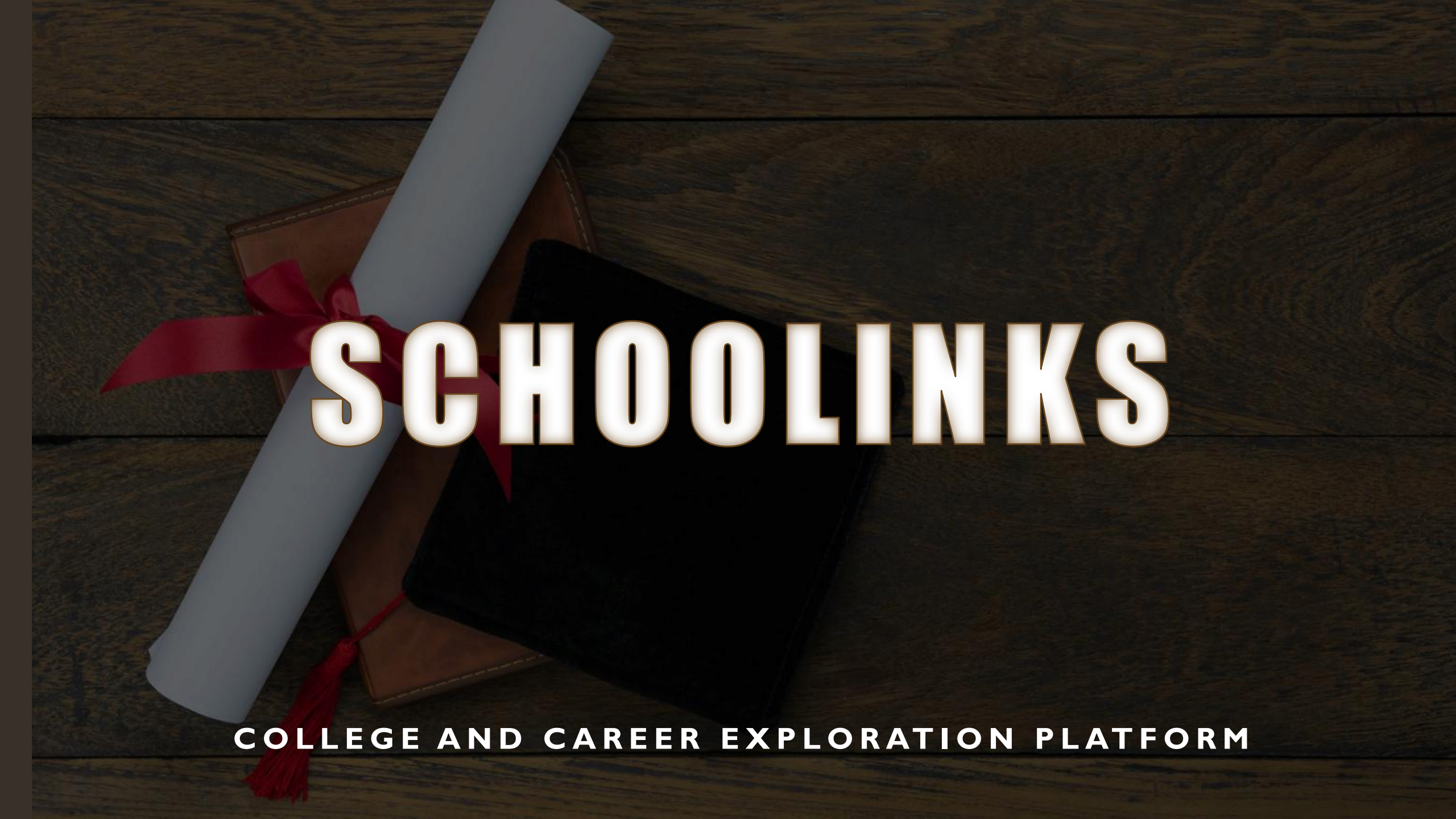
**Mrs. Donna Wittwer**
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# SAGUARO COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER

- College Visits
- School Specific resources
- Upcoming events for Career / Military
- Scholarship info
- Employment/ job openings
- Internship / summer opportunities
- Test prep info and materials



Contact: Mrs. Chan – bchan@susd.org


SCHOOLINKS
COLLEGE AND CAREER EXPLORATION PLATFORM

# SCHOOLINKS
# COLLEGE AND CAREER EXPLORATION

## What is SchooLinks?

SchooLinks is an online platform used by SUSD for students to complete their **Educational Career Action Plan (ECAP)**. Students can enter the courses they are taking, complete personality and learning style inventories, explore careers and colleges, and even apply to colleges or request transcripts. This information, along with other School Links activities, will be utilized to guide students in planning their academic and career pathways.

## When will you use it?

- Once SchooLinks is available, students will receive guidance and instructions on how to access and use the platform.

## How Do Students Access SchooLinks?

- Log on through SUSD Single SignOn.
- Click on 'Student Apps' at the bottom right of the page.
- Click on the 'SchooLinks' Icon. You will be automatically taken to your SchooLinks landing page from your Single SignOn account.

# What Are the Requirements For Graduation?

**Students also need to pass the Civics test to meet graduation requirements.**

- **In order to graduate, the 22 credits must be distributed in the following manner**:

| | CREDITS: |
|---|---|
| ENGLISH | 4 |
| MATH | 4 |
| SCIENCE | 3 |
| SOCIAL STUDIES | 3 |
| PHYSICAL EDUCATION | 1 |
| FINE ARTS OR CAREER TECH | 1 |
| *ELECTIVES | 6 |
| | **Total: 22 credits** |

For In-State Colleges: 2 consecutive years of the same World Language
For Out of State Colleges: 3 consecutive years of the same World Language recommended

# TRANSCRIPTS

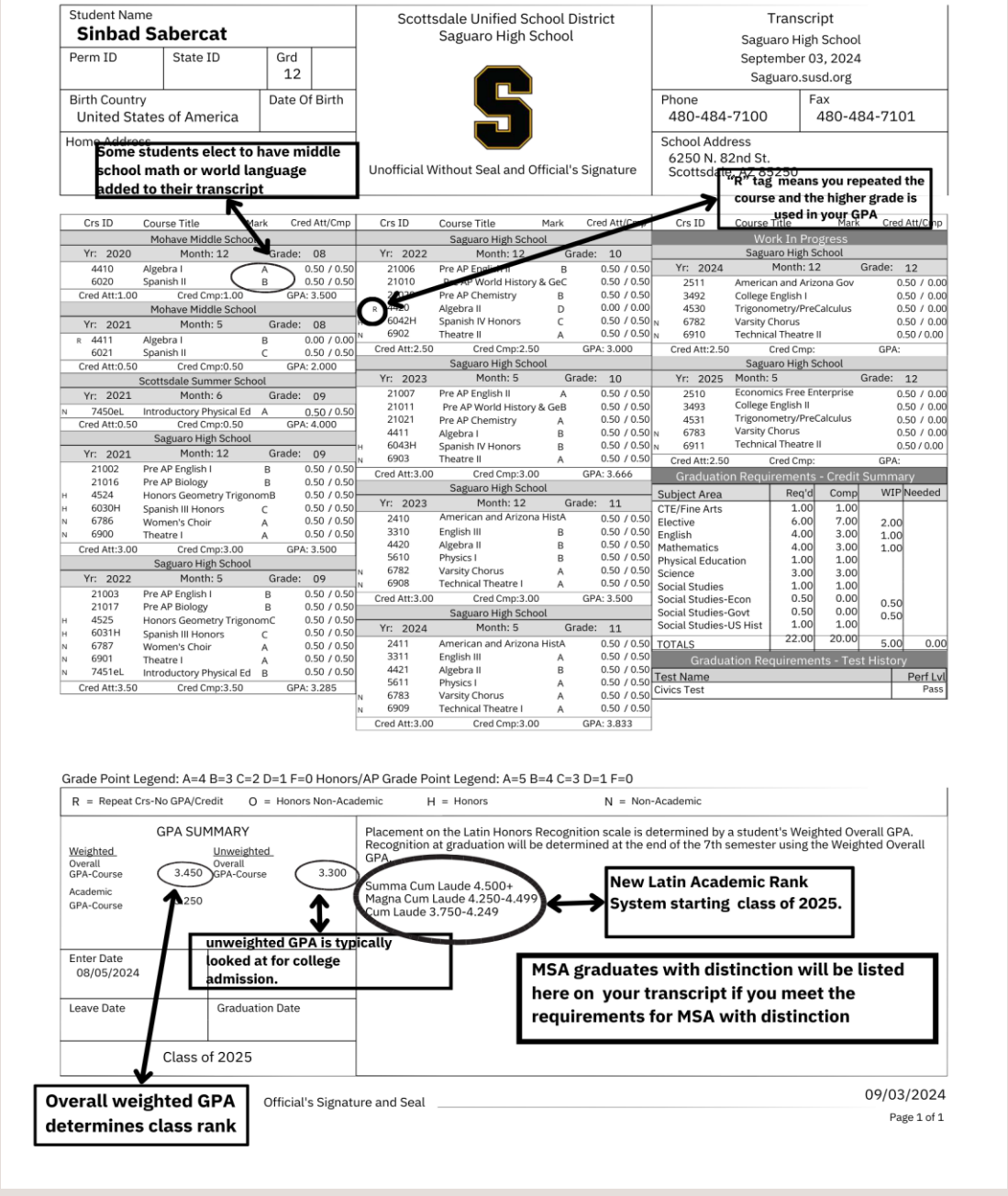
TRANSCRIPT/SCORE REQUESTS:

1. Send test scoTest) or College Board (SAT/AP Tests) res directly from ACT (ACT (some colleges require this).
2. Order your transcript from www.parchment.com. Official transcripts cost $10.

***To Downoad your unofficial transcript using ParentVue or Student Vue:

- Go to Course History
- ClickTWICE on the blue 'Unofficial Transcript' button at the top of the page.***

www.aztransfer.com Find out how DE classes / AP Scores can transfer to Universities/Colleges in Arizona



# LATIN HONORS SYSTEM OF ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

**Latin Honors Distinction will be used (based on Overall Weighted GPA):**

**Summa Cum Laude: Students with a GPA of 4.500+**
**Magna Cum Laude: Students with a GPA of 4.250-4.499**
**Cum Laude: Students with a GPA of 3.750-4.249**

**Additional types of recognition:**
**Seal of Fine Arts Proficiency**
**Seal of Biliteracy**
**Seal of Civics Literacy**
**Seal of Personal Finance**

**Math and Science Academy Recognition**



# COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPTIONS

Maricopa Community Colleges – 10 campuses throughout the Phoenix Metro Area

- Most of our students opt for Scottsdale Community College
- All are accepted
- Low tuition, scholarships available
- Option to transfer to a 4-year university to complete your degree after 1-2 years at CC



Coconino Community College - CCC2NAU program, allows students to attend CCC and pay CCC tuition, but also take advantage of many of the perks of being an NAU student, ex: NAU housing, dining, and activities. Seamless transfer from CCC to NAU once CCC coursework is complete.

# 4-YEAR IN-STATE UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

4 years of English
2 years of Social Studies (must include American/AZ History or equivalent)
4 years of Math (Algebra 1, Geo, Algebra 2 & 1 additional that requires Algebra 2 as the pre-requisite)
3 years of Lab Science
2 years of World Language (same language/consecutive years)
1 year of Fine Arts or Career Tech Ed

**Minimum 3.0 GPA (unweighted)**

- **ASU – 3.0 Unweighted GPA in 16 core classes or 22 ACT / 1120 SAT**
- **U of A – Holistic Review, ABOR GPA, essay optional but highly recommended!**
- **NAU – 2.5 Unweighted GPA, world language not required**

# APPLYING TO IN-STATE UNIVERSITIES/COLLEGES

1) **Application:**

Apply directly through the university's website or using the Common App
www.arizona.edu (University of Arizona) www.asu.edu (Arizona State University)
www.nau.edu (Northern Arizona University www.maricopa.edu (Maricopa Community Colleges)
www.gcu.edu (Grand Canyon University) www.erau.edu (Embry Riddle Aeronautical University)
www.arizonachristian.edu (Arizona Christian University)

Fill out the online application. Submit with the application fee (if fee is required). **Use the Self-Report** option for classes and grades- it will save you money and your admission status will be sent sooner. You can use your unofficial transcript from Synergy or Major Clarity (DO NOT use course history for self-reporting of grades). If you are applying to an Honors program, you will need to have an official transcript sent. Be sure to check Honors College requirements and deadlines.

**2) Transcript:** Go online to www.parchment.com and order an official transcript to be sent to the school(s) you are applying to. If you are considering the Obama Scholarship/ASU Assurance Program, you are required to send your transcript by the application deadline.

**3) Test Scores**: Go online to www.collegeboard.org (for the SAT/AP) and/or www.actstudent.org (for the ACT) to send your official test scores to the school(s) you are applying to. If you requested to send scores at the time of the test, you do not need to do this again.

Arizona State University | NAU Northern Arizona University | The University of Arizona

# IN-STATE HONORS COLLEGES

- ASU Barrett, W.A. Franke Honors, and NAU Honors
- Competitive admissions
- Need rigor – Honors and AP classes
- Separate application required AFTER admission to university
- Essay is very important!
- Letters of Recommendation needed for Franke and Barrett
- ASU Barrett – November 1 Priority Deadline

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
W.A. Franke Honors College

ASU Barrett The Honors College
Arizona State University

NAU NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
Honors College

# APPLYING TO OUT OF STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

**TO APPLY TO AN OUT-OF-STATE COLLEGE,** you'll follow a similar process for most colleges:

**Complete your application through the Common App**
This is your main "one-stop shop" for applying to many colleges.

**Send official test scores (if required)**
This may include SAT, ACT, and/or AP scores.

For step-by-step help with Common App, click **HERE**

If a college is *not* on Common App, apply directly through that university's website.

**IF YOU NEED A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM A COUNSELOR:**
1) Email your counselor to request a letter of rec form / brag sheet.
2) Allow a minimum of at least 3 WEEKS for the letters to be completed. The counseling office is closed over Fall Break and Winter Break, so please plan ahead.

**WUE- Western Undergraduate Exchange- reduced out of state tuition rates at participating schools.**

- **WUE link HERE**
- **List of participating WUE schools HERE**

# MILITARY SERVICES ACADEMIES

- United States Air Force Academy – www.usafa.af.mil
- United States Naval Academy – https://www.usna.edu/homepage.php
- Merchant Marine Academy – www.usmma.edu
- United States Military Academy – www.usma.edu
- United States Coast Guard Academy – https://www.uscga.edu/aboutcga/

## THE FIVE MILITARY ACADEMIES RANK AMONG THE MOST SELECTIVE COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY.

Four years of college education leading to a bachelor of science degree.

Tuition and housing are completely free, some academies provide a stipend.

Graduates receive regular commissions and must serve on active duty for at least 5 years

Students are evaluated on academic, extracurricular and physical fitness criteria.

Each academy has its own specific requirements, however the recommendations here are a safe guide to follow

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR A MILITARY ACADEMY, YOU ARE ADVISED TO START THE PROCESS DURING YOUR JUNIOR YEAR.**

**ACADEMICS:**

- English – 4 years
- Math - 4 years including Algebra I through Trigonometry
- Science - 4 years including Chemistry and Physics
- Social Studies – 3 years
- Computer Science or similar class highly recommended
- Foreign Language, minimum of 2 years, highly recommended

- **PHYSICAL FITNESS:**
- Strenuous physical fitness test is required
- **QUALIFICATIONS:**
- Students must meet the academic course requirements listed above.
- Rank in the upper fourth of their graduating class.
- SAT/ACT test score minimum – see academy websites.
- All military academies utilize a **NOMINATION** procedure wherein a student must apply through and be nominated by their State's Federal Representatives and/or Congressperson. The Coast Guard Academy does not use the nomination procedure. Rather, it has competitive admissions just like any other college.

# ARIZONA SENATORS & CONGRESSMEN

**Senators**
Ruben Gallego (Democrat)
Senator for Arizona
https://www.gallego.senate.gov/
**602-598-7327**

Mark Kelly (Democrat)
Senator for Arizona
www.kelly.senate.gov
**602-671-7901**

**Congressional Representative for Arizona's 1st District**
David Schweikert (Republican)
Representative for Arizona's 1st congressional district
http://schweikert.house.gov/
**480-946-2411**
Official Website

If you live outside of Saguaro boundaries, your Congressional Representative may be different, as they are based on your home address. Please confirm your Representative before contacting them.
You can use this site to determine who your Representative is.
https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/AZ#representatives

****Application Deadlines in Early Fall of Senior Year****

# COLLEGE SEARCH AND GENERAL INFORMATION

- www.usnews.com - U.S. News and World Report (Premium Version In Career Center)
- www.mymajors.com - information and interest survey suggests career/course of study
- www.campustours.com - view a college campus
- www.chatterhigh.com – college and career exploration made fun with games and giveaways
- www.nacacnet.org – National Association for College Admission Counseling
- www.collegeconfidential.com – college chat and college search/match tool, EFC calculator
- www.nces.ed.gov – National Center for Education Statistics

# SAT & ACT TESTING

- College admissions tests that may be used for admissions and scholarships
- Can retake to improve score
- SAT INFORMATION: CLICK HERE
- ACT INFORMATION: CLICK HERE
- What's the difference between the two exams? Click HERE
- Consult college websites for testing requirements related to admissions and merit-based scholarships.

Any Special Education or 504 accommodations must be made through College Board or ACT directly, several months before the student plans to test. If you feel the school can assist, for Special Education contact Karen Glenn at 480-484-7100 ext. 7213 or email karen.glenn@susd.org. For 504's, contact Brandee Chan at 480-484-7162 or email bchan@susd.org.

# SAT & ACT TEST PREP



**Online**

**Resources**

# FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid /FAFSA Completing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form allows you to be considered for federal student aid. In addition, states and colleges use FAFSA information to award their own grants, scholarships, and loans.
  **Application is expected to open October 1st, and it is recommended that students apply early.**
- Overview of Financial Aid Process Video
- FAFSA "What to Expect"
- CSS Profile (Register for the CSS Profile only if your college requires it)

**Types of Financial Aid**

- **Pell Grants:** Money provided by the Federal government to college students who demonstrate significant financial need. These do not need to be paid back.
- **Work Study:** Federally sponsored program that provides students with part-time employment (often on campus) during college. Eligibility is based on need. Students must complete the FAFSA for consideration.
- **Scholarships:** Financial awards for a wide variety of activities, including academic achievement, community service, athletic achievement and more. These do not need to be paid back. Most scholarships require an application, and dollar amounts vary.
- **Loans:** Money that needs to be paid back with interest.

# SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

Below are resources for students to explore as they begin researching the cost of college. While it is the student's responsibility to navigate potential scholarships, the resources below will help start the process. Saguaro is also extremely lucky to have Brandee Chan in the college and career center who can also help students navigate scholarship opportunities.

- ASU Scholarship Estimator: ASU awards scholarships to incoming first year students with outstanding academic ability upon admission to ASU in the fall semester. This scholarship estimator can help determine the amount of scholarship money that students may be eligible to receive.
- Net Price calculator: Net price calculators are available on a college's or university's website and allow prospective students to enter information about themselves to find out what students like them paid to attend the institution in the previous year, after taking grants and scholarship aid into account.
- CSS Profile: (College Scholarship Service Profile):The form, administered and maintained by the College Board, opens the door to nonfederal scholarships and other kinds of institutional aid that can make a big difference when it comes time to pay for college. The CSS Profile offers opportunities for families to describe any unique or extenuating circumstances affecting their ability to pay. Additional details about the CCS profile can be found HERE
- AZ529: The Arizona Family College Savings Plan is a state-sponsored 529 plan designed to provide a parent, grandparent or future student an opportunity to save for educational expenses in a tax-deferred manner. You can open an account today for $25 or less. For more information click HERE

- **SCHOLARSHIP DATABASES:**

- Raise Me
- Going Merry
- Cappex
- Fastweb
- Scholarships.com
- StudentScholarship.org
- Goodcall
- www.tuitionfundingsources.com
- A Complete Guide to Finding Scholarships and Financial Resources for Hispanic Students | MoneyGeek.com
- www.azfoundation.org
- www.accessscholarships.com

# INFORMATION FOR ATHLETES

Please go to www.ncaa.org – National Collegiate Athletic Association if you are planning to participate in sports – Division 1 or 2. You are responsible for checking to see that you are meeting the requirements for athletics. Following the 4-year university requirements for out of state colleges is strongly recommended.

*****10/7 rule applies where 10 core classes must be completed by the start of Senior year (7 must be in English, Math, and Science) GPA minimum of 2.3 required in all 16 core areas for D1 and D2 *eligibility*)*****

## HIGH SCHOOL TIMELINE FOR ATHLETES:



Grade 9:
Plan

*Start planning now! Take the right courses and earn the best grades you can.
*Ask your school counselor for a list of your high school's NCAA core classes to make sure you take the right classes. Or, find your high school's list of NCAA core courses at www.eligibilitycenter.org/courselist.



Grade 10:
Register

*Register for a Certification Account or Profile Page with the NCAA eligibility center at www.eligibilitycenter.org.
*If you fall behind on courses, don't take shortcuts to catch up. Ask your counselor for help with finding approved courses or programs you can take. Any repeated courses must be completed before the beginning of your senior year.

# INFORMATION FOR ATHLETES

Grade 11:
Study
*Check with your counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate on time.
*Make sure you have a plan for any repeat courses you want to take to better your grades prior to the start of senior year.
*At the end of the year, use www.parchment.com to upload your official transcript.

Grade 12:
Graduate
*Request your final amateurism certification after April 1.
*After you graduate, use www.parchment.com to upload your **final official transcript with proof of graduation.**

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- **STUDENT ATHLETES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHECKING THAT THEY MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETICS.**
- **PASSING GRADES SHOWING AS A (P) ON A HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE COUNTED AS A LETTER GRADE OF (D) BY NCAA FOR ELIGIBILITY PURPOSES.**
- **IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT STUDENTS FOLLOW THE 4 -YEAR OUT-OF-STATE UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS.**
- **ALL INFORMATION FOR DIVISION 1 OR DIVISION 2 REQUIREMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE NCAA WEBSITE.**
- **FOR A HIGH SCHOOL TIMELINE FROM NCAA, CLICK HERE**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.NCAA.ORG** **FOLLOW ON TWITTER: @NCAAEC**

# EAST VALLEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TRADE PROGRAMS

- EVIT provides technical training programs for junior/senior students enabling students to learn a trade while attending a half day at Saguaro.
- Applications open **November 1st** Students must have a solid GPA and good attendance.
- Clipboard in front office to request documents needed for application (immunizations, discipline)
- Transportation is provided.
- **For more information, please visit the EVIT website at www.evit.com or call 480-461-4000.**

evit
COLLEGE AND CAREER

# ASVAB

## ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY

Career exploration test that helps students
link their skills with related occupations.
Required for entrance to the military,
but **ANYONE** can take it for career identification purposes
without obligation to the armed services.

Saguaro has opportunities to take the ASVAB at least once a year.
Sign up in the Career Center in the Library with Mrs. Chan or email
Mrs. Chan at bchan@susd.org.




ASVAB
CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAM

# STRATEGIES FOR GRADE IMPROVEMENT

Utilize the teacher's office hours to get extra help and communicate about topics or skills that you are struggling with and need additional support to master.

Explore Apps that help with time management and organization skills that will be necessary for college success. Stay organized and aware of due dates- generate a reasonable schedule to get things done. A sample organizer is included HERE

Practice good note taking skills and ask questions when you need clarity. For more information on note taking strategies, click HERE

Set up a study group via Zoom or another format with a group of academically like-minded peers.

Consider getting a tutor for subjects that you find particularly challenging. A list of tutors is available on the Saguaro Counseling web page.

# Glossary of College Terms

**ACT**
A standardized college admission test. It features four main sections: English, math, reading and science — and an optional essay section. For more information click HERE

**Admission Tests**
Also known as college entrance exams, these are tests designed to measure students' skills and help colleges evaluate how ready students are for college-level work. The ACT and the College Board's SAT are two common standardized admission tests used in the United States. Please review college admission requirements to determine if SAT or ACT scores are required for admission.

**Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery/ASVAB:**
A multiple-choice test that helps students identify which Army career (Military Occupational Specialties) would be best suited for their skill set. For more information click HERE

**Common Application**
A standard application form accepted by colleges that are members of the Common Application association designed to streamline the application process for students. Students can fill out this application once and submit it to one or several of the nearly 700 colleges that accept it. For more information click HERE

# Glossary of College Terms

**Deferred Admission**
Permission from a college that has accepted you to postpone enrolling in the college. The postponement is usually for up to one year.

**Early Action (EA)**
An option to submit your applications before the regular deadlines. When you apply early action, you get admission decisions from colleges earlier than usual. Early action plans are not binding, which means that you do not have to enroll in a college if you are accepted early action. Some colleges have an early action option called EA II, which has a later application deadline than their regular EA plan. Learn more about applying early.

**Early Decision (ED)**
An option to submit an application to your first-choice college before the regular deadline. When you apply early decision, you get an admission decision earlier than usual. Early decision plans are binding. You agree to enroll in the college immediately if you are admitted and offered a financial aid package that meets your needs. Some colleges have an early decision option called ED II, which has a later application deadline than their regular ED plan. Learn more about applying early.

**Federal Student Aid/FASFA**
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the form you fill out to get any financial aid from the federal government to help pay for college. Information on how to fill out the FASFA can be found HERE.

# Glossary of College Terms

**Financial Aid**

Financial aid is money to help pay for college or career school. Grants, work-study programs, loans, and scholarships help make college or career school affordable.. For an overview of financial aid **click HERE**

**Priority Date or Deadline**

The date by which your application — whether it's for college admission, student housing or financial aid must be received to be given the strongest consideration.

**Rolling Admission**

An admission policy of considering each application as soon as all required information (such as high school records and test scores) has been received, rather than setting an application deadline and reviewing applications in a batch. Colleges that use a rolling admission policy usually notify applicants of admission decisions quickly.

**Transcript**

The official record of your course work at a school or college. Your high school transcript is required for college admission and for some financial aid packages.

**SAT**

The College Board's standardized college admission test. It features two main sections: math and reading and writing (combined), which can include a written essay. For more information click HERE