Senior Scholarships and Announcements (Set 1—Sept 3, 2026)

1. Keep a senior folder to stay informed, reminded, and organized about your senior year responsibilities. Use your senior handbook as a reference guide. Senior handouts are emailed out to you on the senior group email AND there are copies at Mrs. Roger's door and the Guidance bulletin board. CHECK EMAIL REGULARLY for other announcements, events, and opportunities. Recently emailed about Alabama Advantage and Huntingdon Teacher scholarship, NWS Manufacturing Day…)
2. **Important Dates**: Homecoming Sept 18; Prom March 12; Awards Day May 18; Graduation May 24 at 7:30pm.
3. **Yearbook pictures** for seniors: Schedule an appointment for your SENIOR TUX/ DRAPE YEARBOOK PICTURE. You can set up a time with Greg Brooks in his studio (256-476-4135), OR plan to get it done here when he comes to campus October 8. Mrs. Singleton will have a sign-up list for pictures taken here.
4. Yearbook Staff will be selling ads (senior casual pictures/ messages for the back of the yearbook) in October. Take care of casual pics now if you haven't already.
5. **Senior Fees** are $150. This covers the costs of Homecoming, Prom, and Graduation. Senior fees are due by **Oct 9**. After Oct 9, fees increase by $25. If you are not going to Prom, the "Graduation Only" fee is $50. Fees go to Mrs. Rogers.
6. **Graduation supply order packets** – we are now using JOSTENS for graduation supplies, so disregard info in your handbook about MikeMills/ Balfour. Our Jostens Rep will be at LCHS Wednesday, Oct 14 at 9:40 with grad supply order packets and information. Also a parent info meeting @ Oct 19 5:15pm. "Basic" order that includes cap / gown / tassel / diploma / diploma cover will be around $75, and you can add more optional items (announcements, etc) to your order.
7. **Begin applying to colleges** NOW for Fall 2027. Don't wait on an ACT score or GPA. Those can be updated later. Go to the college website and click on "Admissions" or "Prospective/Future Students" and follow directions to apply for undergraduate admission, First-time Freshman for Fall 2027. For colleges with admission application fees, students on free/reduced lunch can use 4 waivers from Guidance Office. DO NOT USE YOUR SCHOOL EMAIL FOR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS. Use a personal email so you can continue to use that after graduating high school…. And check that account regularly for messages.
   a. Refer to your senior handbook page 11-14 about types of colleges and how to choose a college. Degree programs? Admission requirements? Location? Cost?
   b. When you apply, the college will need your high school transcript. Create an account at parchment.com (using the registration code emailed to you last month) to request a transcript to be sent. Costs $5 to send a transcript. Students on free/reduced lunch / talent search get 2 free orders. See Mrs Welborn or Martin to have your account marked for waivers – do this BEFORE placing an order.
   c. ACT scores are used for admission and registering for classes. Log in to your ACT account (actstudent.org) to send your highest scores to your colleges if you did not list them when you tested. You created an ACT account last year at school.
8. TAKE THE **ACT**. Remember, colleges use ACT for admission and scholarship determination. Higher ACT = $$$ for you.
   a. ACT October 17: Deadline to register without a late fee is Sept 11. Register at actstudent.org. Fee Waivers (2) available in Guidance Office for Free/Reduced lunch or Talent Search students. Make sure you list college codes (who will get your scores), as well as NCAA (code 9999) if you plan to play collegiate sports. You must upload a picture ID or you'll be removed from the test roster. Oct Test is the LAST ACT for scholarship consideration for colleges with a Dec deadline
9. Senior ACT **WorkKeys** Test is Oct 20. All seniors will take this test! This test is one of the College and Career Indicators that "grades" our school AND can qualify you for CLEAR status in May (Completed Learners Earning Advanced Release).
10. **ASVAB** Test for Military entrance is Nov 12. See Mrs. Martin if you need to take or re-take this test. No cost.
11. Explore college and career pathways at helpful websites like bigfuture.com , alcareerinfo.org, onetonline.org, careerkey.com, mynextmove.org, and mymajors.com. We also have career coaches (Kaci Quails kquails@lawrenceal.org and Tabitha Pace tpace@lawrenceal.org) who can meet with you individually to help you explore the best career pathway for you. Career Coaches are on our campus on Fridays.
12. If you plan to play collegiate sports, register for NCAA eligibility at eligibilitycenter.org. Fee waivers available for free/reduced lunch students.
13. **EVERYONE COMPLETES THE FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). **First Step**: Each senior and a parent must create an FSA ID at fsaid.ed.gov. **Step 2**: On or after Oct 1, your parents will need to gather their 2025 tax return documents to complete the 2027-28 FAFSA at fafsa.gov. **The FAFSA application opens October 1.** DO NOT USE SCHOOL EMAIL FOR FSA ID/ FAFSA OR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS. You will resubmit your FAFSA every year in college, so use your personal email.
14. Use FREE* scholarship search sites like Appily, Unigo, GoingMerry, FastWeb, BigFuture, finaid.com, and studentscholarships.org to do your own personal scholarship searches. I will list scholarships each month but there are THOUSANDS more to research as potential money makers for you! Also remember that I will usually only list "community" scholarships. ***NEVER PAY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH…Avoid SCAMS.**
15. **COLLEGE PREVIEW DAYS** and TOUR DAYS are fun and helpful- go to your college website to schedule / register for a campus visit.

Ex: NWS Patriot Preview Day Sept 22; UNA Preview Days Oct 9 and Nov 7; JSU Oct 13 and Nov 7; AL Sept 21, Oct 12, Oct 16, Nov 6 Huntingdon Oct10, Nov14 Alabama E-Day (engineering): March 12 Register at eng.ua.ed/e-day by Dec 15. Calhoun Health Care and Technology Open House Nov 17 (see Martin)

16. REPS coming to LCHS (so far): Sept 10: Army, Navy, NWS, AL October 8: Calhoun, UNA, WSCC, UAH, Troy Nov 5: MSU, Air Force, NGuard Dec 10: Calhoun
17. GO TO COLLEGE WEBSITES to apply for **College scholarships** such as leadership, foundational, or academic scholarships. Each college has its own process for scholarship applications, so become familiar with the steps and deadlines necessary for YOUR colleges of interest!

COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP LIST: SEPTEMBER 2026

Scholarship	Description	$$	Deadline	Contact
Gates Scholarship	Minority with 3.3 GPA; pell-eligible, 4-year college	Up to $30K	Sept 15	thegatesscholarship.org
Better Business Bureau	Essay, transcript	$1000	Sept 23	Emailed link to you Aug 13; first 150 applicants are accepted
Huntingdon College Rural Teacher Scholarship program	For future teachers, 3.25 GPA; full pell grant eligible	Covers all expenses	Not given	Emailed info to you Aug 25
No Sweat – Cirkled IN (age 13 or older)	Create an account, create your portfolio	$2500	Sept 30	https://www.cirkledin.com/scholarships/
Don't Text and Drive (Grades 9-12)	Your response to a short prompt	1000	Sept 30	https://www.digitalresponsibility.org/scholarships Several others listed here as well, with later deadlines.
Shout it Out (Grades 9-12)	Essay Contest (250 words or less)	$1500	Sept 30	unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/shout-it-out-scholarship *just one example of unigo.com scholarships!
Home Depot Path to Pro	Enrolling in a 2-year program building-related	$2500	Sept 30 and Dec 31	https://webportalapp.com/sp/login/skillpointefoundation_homedepot-pathtopro
Regions Riding Forward (age 16 and older)	Video or essay about a person who inspires you	$8000	Sept 30 & Dec 31	https://www.regions.com/about-regions/inclusion-belonging-impact/supporting-communities/essay-contest-scholarship
Coca-Cola Scholars	Academics, Leadership, Service, 3.0 GPA	$20,000	Sept 30	coca-colascholarsfoundation.org
AAFEPA (one for ed majors, one for any degree)	Resume, transcript, essay, 3 rec letters	$1500	Sept 28	Paper copies in Guidance (file box, on left inside of Guidance entrance)
Jump Start Pay It Forward (grades 10-12)	Personal statement	$1000	Sept 30	http://www.jumpstart-scholarship.net/ scroll to bottom of page – several listed here for the year
Quest Bridge National College Match*	"A" student; household earning <$65,000	Varies	Oct 1	www.questbridge.org *See their list of college partners before applying- this only applies to their specific list of colleges (only 55 - none are local to us)
AES Engineers Scholarship	GPA; Personal essay; engineering field	$500	Oct 8	https://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.php
Voice of Democracy (grades 9-12)	Audio Essay, 3-5 minutes on the given topic	Up to $35,000	Oct 31	https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships
Linda Thompson Memorial	Students in hospitality /events field; video essay	$2500	Nov 1	https://www.admei.org/scholarship---academic
Chick-fil-A Community Scholars *employees not eligible	3.0, resume, agree to mentoring program	Up to $25K	Nov 3	https://www.chick-fil-a.com/communityscholars
Trash Pandas Scholarship	Essay,letter/ tech, 2 or 4 yr	$2000	Nov 20	https://www.milb.com/rocket-city/community/foundation/scholarship
NACME	Minority going into engineering or Comp Sci	$5000	varies	https://www.nacme.org/scholarships "Submit Common Application" – different scholarships/ different colleges

****Ask your parents if their workplace or bank/ credit union offers scholarships for dependents. NUCOR and Listerhill are 2 examples who do so.