College & Career Planning Guide

DoDEA Pacific South 2019-2020
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MESSAGE FROM YOUR KUBASAKI HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Welcome to one of the most important times of your life – planning and preparing for life after high school! As your school counselors, we understand while this can be a very exciting time, it can also be overwhelming and full of questions.

Please use this helpful guide as a resource for all of the steps you will need to take to plan for your future and for life after high school.

In addition to this guide, our doors are always open if you have any questions or concerns. We feel extremely proud to be a part of this journey alongside you and your family.

Sandra Ruffin
SENIOR Counselor

Patricia Clark
JUNIOR Counselor
Freshman Counselor (A-L)

Steve Casner
SOPHOMORE Counselor
Freshman Counselor (M-Z)
TRANSCRIPTS

There are several ways you can have your transcripts sent to colleges. You also will want to provide transcripts to military recruiters and other post-secondary organizations and institutions.

**Hard Copy**

Hard copy transcript requests must be made using the Official Transcript Request form available in your school’s counseling office. Sending your transcript through the mail can take a little time, so please plan accordingly.

**The Coalition for College**

The Coalition is a an online service used by some colleges to upload supporting application documents to colleges and universities.

[www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/)

**The Common Application**

The Common App is an online portal where you can apply, and send all documents in one location. This should be your first attempt when applying to more than one school. More information can be found at:

[www.commonapplication.com](http://www.commonapplication.com)

**Parchment**

Parchment provides you with the ability to request transcripts through a secure website. Transcripts requested online are sent securely to the colleges, universities, or scholarship funds that you select. The student must set up a Parchment account, pay the small fee associated with the Parchment service, and request your school counselor to process your transcript through Parchment. More information can be found at: [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com)

**SENĐedu**

SENĐedu is a an online service used by many colleges to upload supporting application documents to colleges and universities. [www.sendedu.org](http://www.sendedu.org).

**Apostille**

For students continuing their education abroad please provide: A Copy of the High School Diploma, A Final Transcript (Reflecting Date Of Graduation), A Graduation Certification Letter (Signed by the School Principal), A Letter Concerning The Purpose of the Request, The Name(s) of the Intended School(s), The Country of the Requested School, and Signature, Full Name Under Which Enrolled At Time of Attendance, Date of Birth, The Name of School, Country And Year of Graduation or Last Date of Attendance, An Email Address, A Daytime Telephone Number, The Address the Transcript/Record Should Be Mailed to the following email: transcripts@hq.dodea.edu
**PATHWAYS TO HIGHER EDUCATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 Year Colleges &amp; Universities</th>
<th>2 Year Community Colleges</th>
<th>Careers in the Military</th>
<th>Trade and Vocational Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four-year colleges and universities focus on offering educational programs that lead to bachelor’s, master’s, or professional degrees. Many students start college studies at a community college and later transfer to a four-year college or university. This allows students to complete courses at a less expensive community college and later use the credits to meet the graduation requirements at a four-year college.</td>
<td>2-Year Community colleges are designed to meet the vocational and educational needs of the community. Individual colleges vary widely and can offer programs ranging from classes in continuing education and certificate programs to vocational programs and associate degrees. Students can transfer into Bachelor’s degree programs after completing an Associate degree.</td>
<td>The United States Military is part of the Department of Defense, the largest employer in the world. There are opportunities to work full-time or part-time, get a degree or participate in hobbies, travel the world or sit at a desk. Each branch of the Military has a unique mission. Taken from: <a href="http://www.careersinthemilitary.com">www.careersinthemilitary.com</a></td>
<td>Trade and vocational colleges focus on developing practical career skills. These colleges offer programs that concentrate on developing a specific skill, often leading to a certificate, or diploma, and are designed to get students into the workforce quickly.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WEEKLY EARNINGS & EMPLOYMENT RATES BASED ON EDUCATION LEVEL IN 2017**

**Education is an investment in your future!**


**Note:** Data are for persons aged 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers
JUNIOR YEAR
COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING TIMELINE

Fall (August - November)
- Continue to take challenging courses and maintain satisfactory grades.
- Become familiar with your overall academic standing, including course grades, class rank, and GPA.
- Evaluate your higher education options. Have an idea as to if you would like to attend a traditional 4-year college or university, a 2-year community or technical school, or enter into one of the branches of the Armed Forces.
- Register for a Profile Page or Certification Account with the NCAA Eligibility Center at eligibilitycenter.org.
- Make a list of potential colleges that you are interested in. This list should include schools that meet your most important interests, criteria, and priorities. Consider the size of the school, location, cost, academic majors offered, and special programs. The best way to gather information about colleges is to go to their website or speak with a college representative. Attend college fairs, go on college campus visits, and speak with the college representatives who visit and ask them any questions that you may have about their program.
- Organize a testing plan. Register to take important tests such as the PSAT, ACT, and/or SAT. Be sure to register by the deadlines and contact your counselor for strategies on how to properly study and prepare for each exam.

Winter (December - February)
- Continue to stay involved in extra-curricular activities and be sure to properly balance them with your course load. Keep in mind that colleges look for consistency and depth in the non-academic activities that you pursue. Taking on leadership roles and making a commitment to the same groups are more important than trying numerous activities each year.
- Create a Common Application account at www.commapp.org.
- Organize your college information. Set up a filing system with individual folders for each college's correspondence and printed materials. This will make it easier to locate the specific information you are looking for.
- Begin narrowing down your college choices. Check details such as entrance requirements, tuition cost, room and board costs, course offerings, student activities, financial aid, etc. Begin comparing the schools by the factors that are the most important to you.
- Prepare for standardized tests. Find out if the colleges that you are interested in require the SAT, ACT, or SAT Subject Tests. Register to take the tests that you need. Most Juniors begin taking their tests in the Winter or Spring. You can take the tests again in the Fall of your Senior year if you are unhappy with your scores.
- Speak with your family, particularly about the colleges you are interested in and what your options are as far as paying for college.

Spring (March - May)
- Prepare a challenging course load for your Senior year. Speak with your school counselor to make sure you are meeting graduation requirements.
- Begin a scholarship search. Use online scholarship searches such as Choices360.com, Cappex.com, Fastweb.com, Collegeboard.org, and updates from the counseling department to become aware of the opportunities for scholarships that may be applicable to you.
- Contact your letters of recommendation writers. Consider whom you want to ask and notify them so that they will have enough time to prepare a quality letter before the deadline. Ask teachers who know you well, and who have positive things to say on your behalf.
- Apply for a summer job or internship. Summer employment and internships in career fields that you are interested in will look appealing on a college application or resume.
- If you plan to apply early decision to any school, take the time to visit the school again and make sure that you are willing to commit to attending if accepted.
- At the end of the year, ask your counselor to send or upload your final official transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center.
SENIOR YEAR
COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING TIMELINE

August - September

- The deadline to take the October SAT/ACT is early/mid-September. Request your SAT/ACT test scores be sent to prospective college when you sign up for the tests. It will cost you additional money if you request scores after the registration period ends.
- Look and listen for announcements of college representative visits; meet with as many as possible whenever your schedule permits. Sign up in guidance.
- Finalize college list. Remember to include "Dream," "Realistic," and "Safety" schools.
- Research potential scholarship sources on at least a weekly basis and apply for all eligible scholarships.
- More and more scholarships become available throughout senior year.
- Meet with your school counselor to discuss post-secondary plans and confirm graduation requirements.
- Register for the SAT Reasoning test, SAT Subject and/or ACT. Use the December test date as a "last resort" only.
- Review college admissions requirements and begin to review applications online.
- Discuss Early Decision / Early Action options with your school counselor, if interested.
- Read college materials mailed/ emailed to you.
- Anticipate financial aid need by using the FAFSA4caster on the FAFSA website: www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- Attend the Senior Parent Night with your family.
- Make an appointment with your school counselor to help complete the FAFSA starting October 1st.

October

- FAFSA applications may be filed no earlier than October 1st. The final deadline in order to qualify for all federal and state aid is usually March 15th, although a majority of colleges expect the form to be filed no later than mid-February. Some selective schools have a priority financial aid deadline of February 1st. Make sure applications are filed as soon as possible. Be aware of college financial aid deadlines.
- Attend College Night to learn about college opportunities.
- Register for the SAT Reasoning test, SAT Subject and/or ACT test. Remember, it is your responsibility to have all test scores sent to the colleges to which you are applying.
- Begin to fill out college online applications, write essays, and ask teachers to write recommendations. Give your teachers at least two weeks notice prior to the application due date. All recommendation requests should be submitted no later than December 1st regardless of the application deadline.
- If required by a prospective college, complete the CSS Profile for financial aid consideration for selected independent/private colleges. You can apply for the CSS Profile at the College Board website: www.collegeboard.org.
- School counselors will notify parents/guardians if your child is at risk of failing a required course for graduation in mid-October.
- Research scholarship sources on at least a weekly basis and apply for all eligible scholarships.
- Continue to communicate with college representatives.
- Take the ASVAB. Sign up in the school counseling office. The ASVAB provides valuable career information.
November

- If you haven’t already, make an appointment with your school counselor to help complete the FAFSA.
- Be aware of application deadlines for prospective colleges.
- Ask teachers to write letters of recommendation. **You must give teachers and counselors at least two weeks to write a recommendation.** This is your responsibility. Be sure to provide your teacher with a resume/recommendation form. Fill it out and give a copy to each teacher you are asking for a recommendation. Make sure also that you thank your teachers after the application process is over.
- Continue to investigate no-need, merit scholarships. Merit scholarships often require extra essays and/or interviews. Their deadlines often occur early in the senior year.
- Continue to communicate with college representatives.
- Submit your college applications! Be sure your teachers sent off your recommendations. It is always a good idea to submit the application earlier than later, although there is no penalty as long as an application is submitted between November 1 and 30. SAT Reasoning, SAT Subject and ACT scores may be taken and sent after the November 30 application deadline, but no later than the December test dates.
- Request a copy of your high school transcript to be sent to every college to which you are applying.
- You must also have official score reports for the SAT Reasoning, SAT Subject and/or ACT sent to each of the colleges/universities to which you are applying. Indicating which colleges on the respective test registration forms and paying the required fees does this. If you need to have additional score reports sent at a later time please phone in or complete the request online.
- Research scholarship sources on at least a weekly basis and apply for all eligible scholarships.

December

- If you haven’t already, make an appointment with your school counselor to help complete the FAFSA.
- Continue to be aware of college application deadlines. Work ahead.
- Submit applications to selective colleges. Be aware of deadlines.
- Request a copy of your high school transcript to be sent to every college to which you are applying.
- Continue to communicate with college representatives.
- Expect Early Action/Early Decision news by Winter Break.
- Notify your counselor of any decisions you receive.
- Write thank you letters to teachers and/or counselors who provided recommendations.
- Research scholarship sources on at least a weekly basis and apply for all eligible scholarships.

January

- Check with prospective colleges for special scholarships, and continue to watch and listen for announcements regarding local/national scholarships.
- Application deadlines for selective colleges fall around this month. It is your responsibility to turn in your applications by the deadline date.
- Continue to communicate with college representatives.
- Research potential scholarship sources on at least a weekly basis and apply for all eligible scholarships.
February - March

- Be sure you have submitted your financial aid application well before the priority financial aid deadline.
- Notify colleges you have applied to of any changes in your second semester schedule.
- School counselors will notify parents/guardians if your child is at risk of failing a required course for graduation.
- Continue to work on current studies. Colleges require a final transcript and may rescind favorable decisions.
- If needed, request your school counselor to send mid-year reports if requested by prospective colleges.
- Keep your high school counselor advised of all your applications, intentions and ANY changes in plans.
- Expect some college decisions from those schools following a "rolling admissions plan."
- For a backup, contact community college for registration materials and deadlines.
- Research potential scholarship sources on at least a weekly basis and apply for all eligible scholarships.
- Finish paying for your AP exams.

April

- Colleges’ acceptance/rejection letters mailed out by April 15th.
- If possible visit colleges that have accepted you if you are still undecided.
- Notify your first-choice college of your acceptance before May 1st.
- Notify other colleges of your intentions; it is unacceptable to reserve a place at more than one college
- If you are wait-listed at a college you wish to attend, see your counselor immediately so you can be advised of your options.
- Notify your counselor of your final college choice.
- Take the ASVAB. Sign up in the school counseling office. The ASVAB provides valuable career information.

May

- May 1st is National Decision Day. On this date most colleges will ask you for your decision (which generally means a deposit, including a housing deposit). You only reply to accept admission to one institution. If necessary, colleges will grant an extension on this date. Please see the college admissions counselor to determine if an extension is warranted (usually due to financial aid inconsistencies.).
- Take Advanced Placement (AP) examinations.
- School counselors will notify parents/guardians if your child is at risk of failing a required course for graduation.
- Research potential scholarship sources on at least a weekly basis and apply for all eligible scholarships.
- Complete the Senior Survey. This is a required form. Counselors will distribute and collect forms to seniors during the school day.

June - Summer

- Graduate and accept well-earned congratulations.
- Request your final transcript to be sent to your final college choice.
- Write thank you notes to those who wrote letters of recommendations, provided a scholarship, or who taught you if you have not already done so.
STANDARDIZED TESTING & COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

Many colleges use standardized testing along with other factors to help make admission decisions. A standardized test score allows colleges to compare students from across the nation and from various schools. Frequently, apprenticeship programs, certificate programs, and non-college degree programs also request information. The 4 main standardized tests used by most colleges are: The ACT, The SAT, SAT Subject Tests, and the TOEFL.

ACT
The ACT measures knowledge and skills in four academic areas – English, Math, Reading, and Science Reasoning. Check with your school counselor to determine when the ACT is offered at your school. Students are encouraged to take the ACT at least twice by the end of their Junior year. Some students take the ACT at the end of their Sophomore year as a practice test.

Students will earn one ACT score (1-36) on each test as well as a composite score, which is an average of the 4 test scores. Usually when colleges are asking about a student’s ACT score, they are referring to the composite score, which will fall between 1-36.

Score reports are normally released within 3-8 weeks after each test date. If a student took the writing test, their score reports will be released within 5-8 weeks after the testing date. www.act.org

Fee Waiver Information:
www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/FeeWaiver.pdf

International Fee Waiver Information: This waiver is for students attending a Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) school, and can be used to cover the cost of the computer-based test at the time of registration for the International test date. It does not cover the test fee or any other fees.

SAT
Created by the College Board, the SAT is another widely used college entrance exam. Check with your school counselor to determine when the SAT is offered at your school. The SAT measures skills in the areas of: Math, Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, and an optional Writing essay. Students are encouraged to take the SAT at least twice by the end of their Junior year. Some students take the SAT at the end of their Sophomore year as a practice test.

Each section is scored on a 200-800 point scale, making the “perfect” score a 1600 if taking only the Critical Reading and Math sections, or a “perfect score” of a 2400 if taking the Critical Reading, Math, and Writing Sections.

Score reports are normally released within 3-8 weeks after each test date. If a student took the writing test, their score reports will be released within 5-8 weeks after the testing date. www.collegeboard.org

Fee Waiver Information:

International Fee Information: There is no International Fee for the SAT.
SAT Subject Tests
SAT Subject Tests are college admission exams on specific subjects. These are the only national admissions tests where you choose the tests that best showcase your strengths and interests. There are 20 SAT Subject Tests in five general subject areas: English, History, Languages, Mathematics, and Science. Each subject test is an hour long and multiple-choice exam. They are also scored on a scale of 200-800. SAT Subject Tests are generally given 6 times in any given school year, on the same days and in the same testing centers as the SAT – but not all 20 tests are offered on every SAT test date. Students are allowed to take up to 3 Subject Tests on any test date, but are not allowed to take the SAT and an SAT Subject Test on the same day.

Colleges might require specific SAT Subject Area Tests so check with your college. Fall of your Senior year is the absolute latest time for taking Subject Area Tests. If possible, taking Subject Area Tests at the end of the Junior year is best. Remember – It is always best to check with each college to determine what is required.
https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat-subject-tests

TOEFL (Test Of English And Foreign Language)
The TOEFL test measures the ability of non-native English speakers to use and understand the English language as it is heard, spoken, read and written in the university classroom. The TOEFL test is given in English and administered via the Internet. There are four sections (listening, reading, speaking, and writing) which takes approximately 4 ½ hours to complete. During the test, students will be asked to perform tasks that combine more than one skill such as:

- Read, listen, and then speak in response to a question.
- Listen and then speak in response to a question.
- Read, listen, and then write in response to a question.

Your scores are based on your performance on the questions in the test. You must answer at least one question each in the Reading and Listening sections, write at least one essay, and complete at least one Speaking task to receive an official score. For the TOEFL test, administered via the Internet, you will receive four scaled section scores, each ranging from 0-30, and a total score ranging from 0-120. www.ets.org
# SAT 2019-2020

Ask your counselor when the SAT is offered at your school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Late Registration Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 24, 2019</td>
<td>July 26, 2019</td>
<td>August 6, 2019 Mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>August 13, 2019 Online/Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 5, 2019</td>
<td>September 6, 2019</td>
<td>September 17, 2019 Mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question Answer Service</td>
<td></td>
<td>September 24, 2019 Online/Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2, 2019</td>
<td>October 3, 2019</td>
<td>October 15, 2019 Mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>October 22, 2019 Online/Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 7, 2019</td>
<td>November 8, 2019</td>
<td>November 19, 2019 Mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>November 26, 2019 Online/Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14, 2020</td>
<td>February 14, 2020</td>
<td>February 25, 2020 Mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question Answer Service</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 3, 2020 Online/Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2, 2020</td>
<td>April 3, 2020</td>
<td>April 14, 2020 Mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question Answer Service</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 21, 2020 Online/Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 6, 2020</td>
<td>May 8, 2020</td>
<td>May 19, 2020 Mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 23, 2020 Online/Phone</td>
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**Question Answer Service:** For an additional fee this service includes a booklet copy of the SAT questions and a report showing your answers from the specific test administration, the correct answers and additional scoring instructions, and the information about the type and difficulty of test questions. You can order the Question Answer Service during test registration or until five months after your test date.

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## What Can I Do To Improve My SAT Score?

- **PSAT Score Report**
  - psat.org/myscore
  - Use Access Code to link to Khan Academy with personalized practice.

- **Download the Free Official Daily Practice App**
  - Scan and Score Up to 3 Free Practice SAT Tests.

- **SAT Test with Question Answer Service**
  - $18 for this extra College Board service. Only for October, March, and May dates.
ACT 2019-2020

Ask your counselor when the ACT is offered at your school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Late Registration Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 14, 2019</td>
<td>August 16, 2019</td>
<td>August 17-30, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12, 2019</td>
<td>September 20, 2019</td>
<td>September 21-October 4, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 14, 2019</td>
<td>November 8, 2019</td>
<td>November 9-22, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 8, 2020</td>
<td>January 10, 2020</td>
<td>January 11-17, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4, 2020</td>
<td>February 28, 2020</td>
<td>February 29-March 13, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13, 2020</td>
<td>May 8, 2020</td>
<td>May 9-22, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18, 2020</td>
<td>June 19, 2020</td>
<td>June 20-26, 2020</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

What Can I Do To Improve My ACT Score?

Enter ACT scores at actacademy.act.org to receive instructional resources aligned and targeted to your exact learning gaps.

Unlock personalized learning tools including tutorials, videos, and interactive activities to address knowledge gaps.

Watch a tutorial video on how to create your ACT Academy account and enter your ACT scores for personalized instruction at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=avRJ7ADgcmg
There’s a growing interest among students to earn a full bachelor’s degree outside the United States.

The National Association of College Admission Counseling (NACAC) has provided the Guide to International University Admission to answer students’ and parents’ questions about studying internationally.

The guide was developed with the guidance of more than 20 NACAC members and foreign government representatives with experience counseling students seeking international study. It’s fully updated, with in-depth information on admission requirements and more for colleges and universities in 13 countries.


### Country Profiles

- Australia
- Canada
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- South Korea
- Spain
- United Kingdom

### Topics Covered:

- Diverse and Underrepresented Students Abroad
- American Universities Abroad
- US Branch Campuses
- International Progression Pathways
- International Dual and Joint Degree Programs
- International Gap Year Options
- Short-Term Study Abroad

Please inform your school counselor if you are interested in attending an international university.
A campus visit is your opportunity to get a firsthand view of a college. A college catalog, brochure or website can only show you so much. To really get a feel for the college, you need to walk around the quad, sit in on a class and visit the dorms. A visit also gives you the chance to talk to students, faculty, and financial aid and admission officers.

**Take these important first steps:**

- Contact the college admission office through the college's website or by email or phone to get details and make a reservation.
- Talk to your counselor about joining an organized tour of campuses you might not get to visit otherwise.
- Schedule time to be on your own. Walk around the public areas of the college and don't be shy about asking students questions.
- Campus visits can range from a quick hour to an overnight stay, from a casual guided tour to a formal presentation. Be sure to ask how long the whole visit will take so you can be prepared.

**Most campus visits will include the following:**

- An information session: An admission representative talks to you or your group about the college before the campus tour.
- A campus tour: These are usually led by current students. You'll see the main parts of the campus and have a chance to ask questions.

**QUESTIONS TO ASK ON A COLLEGE VISIT**

**Academics**

- What academic elements are considered in the admission process? For example, high school GPA, test scores, recommendations, interviews, etc?
- Is the college/university accredited?
- How many students return after Freshman year?
- What percentage of students graduate in four years or less?
- What academic programs on campus are the most popular?
- Will my AP/previous college credits transfer?
- About how many students are in each class?
- Are there any special support services if I have special needs? For example: ADHD, LD, etc.
- Is there an Honors Program? How would I qualify?
- What kind of career planning services are available?
- What percentage of graduates find jobs in the field they have a degree in?

**Student Life**

- What percentage of the students are male/female?
- How diverse is the campus?
- What portion of the student body lives on campus?
- What activities do students participate in during their free time both on campus and in the community?
- What are the most popular extra-curricular activities?
- What student organizations are active on campus?
- What intramural sports are on campus?
- Can Freshman have cars on campus?

**Auxiliary Services**

- Where do students go if they have a medical emergency?
- What tutoring, counseling, and support services are available on campus and how are they accessed?
- What are the safety issues on campus? How are they addressed? Ask for a crime report. Federal law requires schools to provide safety information to students.

**Housing/Food Services**

- How much does housing cost?
- What housing options exist? For example, single-sex, co-de, Greek?
- What meal plans are available? Are Freshman required to purchase a specific type of meal plan?

**Financing**

- What is the yearly cost of attendance, including books, tuition, fees, housing, and meal plans?
- Does your ability to pay the full cost of attendance have any impact on the college's decision to admit you?
- What financial aid forms are required? (The most common two are the FAFSA and the CSS profile, but some schools have institutional or school-specific forms and some states have special forms).
- What percentage of incoming Freshman receive aid? What is the average Freshman aid package? Will outside scholarships effect the amount of aid the school will offer you?
- How easy is it to find a job on campus?? Are there work study programs available?
A D M I S S I O N S  P L A N S  &  D E A D L I N E S

When the time arrives to apply to a college or university, the student will find that institutions offer a number of plans for the submission applications. Depending where you are in your personal exploration and decision-making, one of these plans may suit your particular application requirements.

Review and consider all admission plan options. Consult with your school counselor or the admission counselor at the specific college if you have any concerns or questions.

Rolling Admissions
The colleges and universities that review student applications as they are received and make immediate admission decisions use what is called a “rolling admission” plan. Institutions that receive a larger number of applications use this approach simply to manage the volume of application activity. Student notification of the admission decision can usually be expected in three to four weeks following application.

Students that apply to a college under a rolling admissions plan can apply to other colleges and consider all offers of admission and financial aid before being required to declare their institution to enroll or file the required admission and housing deposits.

Early Decision
This plan was created to help the informed and committed student apply to the institution that he/she had identified as a first choice. For the student who engaged in quality exploration and arrived at a sound decision, this is an excellent plan. It has the benefit of bringing closure to one’s personal application activity early in the Senior year while others are still completing forms.

This plan, however, places certain restrictions on the student. Under the Early Decision plan, the student agrees to abide by the rules of the plan, have only one Early Decision application active at a given time and commits him/herself to enrolling at the college or university if admitted and the financial aid aware (if required) is adequate. Under Early Decision, a student may be admitted or may be told that the decision is deferred until more information (ie – mid-year grades, senior test scores, etc) is received.

Typically, the deadline for Early Decision applications ranges between November 1 – November 15, but students are encouraged to research their specific college choice to know and understanding their requirements.

Early Action
Under this plan, students can file multiple applications according to an expedited timetable and learn of an institution's admission decision early in the Senior year.

The concern with Early Action/Notification may be that the student can be denied admission unless the information submitted (mostly Junior year grades and test scores) is highly competitive and clearly meets admission standards. In other words, the options under Early Action/Notification are admit, defer, or deny.

Regular Admissions
The Regular Admission cycle has application deadlines typically set for anywhere from early January through late February. Admission officers work diligently to review applications and get offers of admission out to students by mid-March or the beginning of April at the latest. The decision to accept or reject an offer of admission is then up to the students.

The plans described above may work for you or they may not. Don't succumb to any pressure (real or imagined) to prepare and file a college application before you have engaged in good exploration and identified the college or colleges that are best for you. This may not happen until you are well into your Senior year.
“Will I be accepted?” That’s the question that you have probably asked yourself a hundred times as you look at colleges and consider applying for admission. According to an annual study conducted by Higher Education Research Institution and UCLA, more than 90% of college Freshman surveyed said they were attending their first or second choice college. This is the result of good exploration and decision-making. As you refine your options and move in the direction of making application, you need to evaluate your prospects of acceptance at the colleges that you have determined are right for you.

When it comes to the consideration of your application, colleges fall into one of several competitive categories. Understanding these categories will help you to file applications that improve your chances of being admitted.

**Selective Colleges**

The great majority of colleges and universities are selective, meaning that they require students to meet specific selection criteria in order to be considered for admission. The rigor will vary, but students that match or exceed the criteria stand the best chance of admission.

**Competitive Colleges**

When more students apply than the college can accommodate, the result is heightened competition for limited space. There are many stories about the Ivy League colleges that reject the applications of dozens of valedictorians every year. You probably know some very capable students who weren’t admitted to highly competitive colleges. If you are a valid candidate for admission to such colleges, you should consider filing three to four applications to increase your chances of admission to one of them.

**Open Admissions Colleges**

“Open” admission colleges, like community colleges and technical institutes, invite applications from interested students possessing a high school diploma or its equivalent and admit most of the students that apply. Admission to specific programs within these institutions, however, may require more stringent criteria. Students that successfully complete their high school’s college preparatory program are likely to be admissible to many colleges. Remember, even if you are denied admission to a college, you have other avenues to the same goal.

How do you determine the selectivity or competitiveness of the colleges you are exploring? Consider the following:

- Examine the characteristics of the students the college is admitting, the students that you’ll be competing with in class each day. This information is contained the annual freshman class profile.
- Review the application, acceptance, and enrollment statistics of the most recently admitted class. This information is published in many of the general guidebooks.
- Talk with students and former students of the college. They know firsthand what the academic climate is like. Ask counselors, teachers, and admission officers. They’ve worked with students that have preceded you.
- Examine the retention statistics. Many college graduates received their degrees from a college that they found after they experienced academic difficulty at their first college. The reasons for transferring can be multiple (living arrangements, finances), but you should never invite difficulty by trying to gain admission to a college where your prospects for academic success are not reasonable.
- This information coupled with a realistic assessment of your personal abilities and interests, can point you toward colleges where you are most likely to be accepted and, more importantly, be successful. Your goal is to find a college where you have the greatest chance of enjoying academic achievement in a satisfying environment.
The pieces of your college application add up to give admissions officers an idea of who you are. Not every college requires every one of these elements, but this list shows the most common requirements. Be sure to find out from your school counselor or principal which of these items you have to send and which of these items your high school sends.

**Application Forms and Application Fees**
To fill in all the sections of the actual college application form itself, you may have to dig up documents or get answers from your parents. Most students use online applications, but paper applications are usually available, too. There are also services such as The Common App (which we will discuss later in detail) that will allow you to complete one application and submit to several colleges.

College application fees vary, but generally it costs from $35 to $50 to apply to each college. Fees are nonrefundable, but many colleges do offer fee waivers to students who cannot afford to pay. To receive a college application fee waiver you will need to have used an SAT and/or ACT test fee waiver. If you think you may need a fee waiver, please contact your school counselor for further information.

**High School Transcript**
The record of the classes that you have taken is one of the most important parts of your application. Your high school should send your transcript, along with a school profile, directly to the colleges you are applying to. In addition, if you are applying to a traditional 4-year college or university, they will most likely also want you to submit your ACT or SAT test scores. Some colleges or universities require that test scores be sent to them directly from the testing center. Students are encouraged to check with their specific college of interest for their requirements on receiving test scores.

*See page 4 for information on how to submit your transcripts; Coalition, Common Application, SENDedu, University Portal, Parchment, and US Mail requests.*

**Admissions Test Scores**
Sending your SAT and or ACT scores must be requested directly from the College Board and the ACT. There is a fee. This is the only way for you to send schools your official scores.

**Letters of Recommendation**
Letters of recommendation are a very important part of the college application process. They are a great way for others to highlight all of your positive traits, characteristics, strengths, and achievements. Before requesting letters of recommendation, make sure you have asked the teacher, coach, or staff member in person if they would provide you with the courtesy of writing a letter on your behalf. Once a teacher has committed to writing a letter, you must make the request electronically by e-mail with your academic resume and or Brag Sheet attached. Without these documents the letter of recommendation may not reflect what you want most to be highlighted.
The Common Application is accepted at more than 800 colleges and universities. Make an account at www.commonapp.org. Completing a quality application takes time. The Common Application was made to save some time, by completing one application that can be sent to several schools. When you look through the Common Application, you should note:

- You will need to do some essay/personal statement writing
- You will need teacher recommendations
- You will need a counselor recommendation

The Common Application teacher recommendation and evaluation forms will require teachers to rate student qualities and attributes. Teachers can only be honest about their ratings of students. It is to your advantage to always be at your best, so teachers have little difficulty providing favorable evaluations.

The Common Application also requires your school counselor to submit a Midyear Report at the end of the first semester and a Final Report and the end of the senior year. The colleges accepting the Common Application tend to be selective and very selective colleges. These colleges expect students to continue to put effort and energy into their education.

Common Application teacher recommendations and evaluation form, counselor recommendation and student report form, and academic transcripts are all submitted online via Common Application. In order for the submission of your materials to go smoothly, you must communicate with your recommenders regularly to be sure they have submitted your recommendations online in the Common Application.

**Common Application Essay Prompts for 2019-2020**

The Common Application Essay prompts for upcoming year are usually released in the Spring of the previous school year. The essay length will continue to be capped at 650 words. Common App essay experts provide this advice for students: “What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores? Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay of no more than 650 words, using the prompt to inspire and structure your response.” The essay prompts are listed below. Please use these questions as a guideline when thinking about your essay topic:

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you’ve solved or a problem you’d like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what you steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you’ve already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Khan Academy has a great video tutorial series with step-by-step instructions on how to complete The Common Application.

ESSAY & PERSONAL STATEMENT

After completing a college application, what else is there to share with a college? Applications usually provide information about activities and your work history. The information that is provided by the application, itself, should not be included in your personal statement or essay.

A personal statement gives a better understanding of who a student is beyond the constraints of the universal questions asked on most applications.

Your essay or personal statement will be evaluated on content and writing style. This is also an additional opportunity for you to exhibit your writing skills. Your essay and personal statement should provide colleges with a more complete picture of who you are as an individual. What are your values, your attitudes, how do you see yourself? Do you have a particular passion for something?

Check with your school counselor or with your English teacher on ways to approach your essay. The following are sample prompts that would most likely make for quality writing pieces:

- What is your greatest achievement? Why do you consider this an achievement?
- Describe an ethical dilemma you faced and how you resolved it.
- Discuss your most rewarding nonacademic experience. This could include travel, a hobby, membership in a club or organization, a cultural activity, employment, or community service.
- Discuss some issue of local, national, and international concern and its importance to you.
- Discuss your interest in this university and how you are a good fit here.

Remember writing a quality piece of work does take time. You should treat the essay the same way you would treat a major English assignment. If you are putting forth effort, energy, and time into your essay, teachers are usually more than willing to assist you with any help that you may need.

THE COLLEGE INTERVIEW

Highly selective institutions will sometimes encourage or require an interview with an admissions officer or with an alumnus of the university. Students should view this as an opportunity to have a more intimate conversation with a representative of the college – not an oral exam! Generally, for schools that make the interview optional, completing the interview is a sign of commitment to the school. It is to the students’ advantage to complete the interview option.

The interview provides an opportunity to find out more about the school and to present yourself as a human being rather than just a name on an application. This is a unique opportunity to promote yourself.

Interviewers might be admissions officers, alumni, or even current students. The interview could take place on or off campus. It is also important for prospective students to prepare and practice for an interview. Counselors will assist students with items such as:

- Researching the college
- Promptness
- Attitude/Demeanor
- Question-Type and How To Ask
- Non-Verbal Communications
- Manners and Eye Contact
- Attire
- Handshake
- Thank You Letters

THE PORTFOLIO

Various areas of continuing education have made use of portfolios over the years. Visual Arts, Performing Arts, and Athletic programs, in particular, often use portfolios to see a collection of the students’ abilities during the application process. Music students provide a portfolio of their ability when they audition for admittance to conservatories. Frequently, athletes present a video of their athletic performance to various coaches hoping to find a place on a college team.

Sometimes portfolios can help colleges get to know you better, because grades and test scores do not show or tell everything about you or your abilities.

You can put together a quality portfolio and take it with you when you visit and/or interview with college admissions counselors. In addition to classes, course grades, test scores, projects, experiments, term papers, and awards, a portfolio helps colleges to better understand the following:

- What are your skills and abilities?
- What have you accomplished?
- What is important to you?
- What goals do you hope to fulfill?

You are using your portfolio to convince colleges that there is little risk on their part to accept you as a student. This means that the college can be pretty confident that you will not only start college, but that you will also be successful and graduate. Your portfolio should show that you are actively involved in establishing goals and implementing ways to fulfill those goals.
YOUR COLLEGE APPLICATION RESUME

How Your Resume Can Help You at Every Stage
It's not fun to look at a blank admissions application with no idea where to start. Having your resume handy can help you easily put your best foot forward in these situations:
- College applications. Your resume will not only save you time when completing your college applications, it will also ensure you don't forget anything important. Some colleges allow or even ask for resumes.
- Letters of recommendation. Giving your resume to your recommenders will help them get to know you even better and remind them of your high school accomplishments.
- College interviews. Bringing your resume to a college interview, if allowed, can serve as a positive conversation starter.
- Scholarship applications. Similar to college applications, your resume makes it easier to showcase your accomplishments. Some scholarships even ask for a resume.
- Jobs or internships. You can easily adapt the resume for work and internship interviews.

Tips for Making the Best Impression
- Use simple formats with plain fonts.
- Spell out the names of entries. Don't use acronyms.
- Explain local or unique awards and clubs.
- Proofread (several times!) before sending. Then have someone else proofread it again.

How to Get Started with Your Resume
- Brainstorm everything you've accomplished. Take time to think about your accomplishments over your high school years. Ask your parents and your counselor to help with brainstorming.
- List everything that makes you most stand out besides grades and scores. That includes awards, leadership roles, community service, special talents or hobbies, jobs, projects you led, and so on.
- Note experiences that vividly show your determination, initiative, and passion. For example, colleges might be impressed if you stayed after school to tutor struggling students, or if you picked up a second language by engaging with coworkers at a part-time job.

Decide What Should Go Into Your Resume
- Whittle your list down to your most impressive accomplishments. (If you are not sure it's impressive, it probably isn't.) You don't need to include your GPA and scores, since colleges will see them in your application.
- Include your highest achievements and honors.
- Include unusual but impressive activities, experiences, and special skills that don't fit neatly into the activity sections of college applications.
- If you have spent significant time working outside of school, include your work experience.
- Mention special circumstances, such as a part-time job, that kept you from participating in outside activities as much as you wanted to.

Organizing Your Resume
- Organize the information into an easy-to-read document that is no longer than two pages. Below are handy categories to use.
  - Activities and work. Briefly describe the activity, your role in it, your contribution to it, the school year(s) you participated, any leadership positions you held, and how many weeks and hours per week you contributed.
  - Honors and awards. Provide the name of the award or leadership position, a brief description, why you won it, and the date you received it.
  - Other experiences and skills. Choose those that show your initiative and commitment. Describe the experience or skill, the challenges you faced, the period of time you devoted to it, and the result of your commitment.

Make Your Resume Easy to Review
- Put your full name, address, phone number, e-mail, and your high school(s) at the top. Here are some commonly used approaches to listing your entries.
  - Reverse chronological order, with the most recent entry listed first
  - By importance, with the entry most important to you listed first
  - By time commitment, with the largest time commitment listed first
  - By leadership, with the strongest leadership role listed first
  - By type, e.g., school-based activities, community service, work experience, honors/awards, hobbies and special interests
COLLEGE CREDIT IN HIGH SCHOOL

AP Transfer Credit (taken from College Board website)
One great benefit of taking AP Exams is the opportunity to earn college credit and placement. Nearly all colleges and universities in the United States grant credit and placement for qualifying AP scores. You can save money and get a head start on your degree when you enter college with credit you’ve already earned through AP.

College AP Credit Policies
Each college and university makes its own decisions about awarding credit and placement. Most have a written policy spelling out things like the minimum required score to earn credit for a given AP Exam, the amount of credit awarded and how credits are applied.

AP Credit Policy Search: https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement/search-credit-policies

Dual Enrollment Transfer Credit

What is Dual Enrollment?
Dual enrollment is a program that allows qualified high school students to earn college and high school credit while meeting DoDEA graduation requirements.

Dual Enrollment Objectives:
• Creates access for high school students participating in post-secondary education opportunities.
• Increases college credits awarded to high school students.
• Offers a way for families to reduce college costs.
• Reduces the length of time it takes for students to obtain their academic and/or career goals.

Who Can Participate?
Per DoDEA policy, all 11th and 12th grade students who are enrolled at least half-time are eligible to apply for Dual Enrollment courses.

What College Can I Take A Course From?
The post-secondary institution must be accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education. You may request to take undergraduate level courses at the Education Center on-base, or you may request to take an undergraduate course from a community college from your home state.

How Many Courses Can I Take?
Per DoDEA policy, two college courses may be taken in both 11th and 12th grades. No more than four Dual Enrollment courses may be taken.

Ask your school counselor for a copy of the, “Dual Enrollment—A Guide for Students and Parents to learn more about Dual Enrollment opportunity.”
CLEP Transfer Credit *(taken from College Board website)*

CLEP (the College-Level Examination Program®) offers 33 exams that cover intro-level college course material. With a passing score on one CLEP exam, you could earn three or more college credits at more than 2,900 U.S. colleges and universities.

CLEP was created to help individuals with prior knowledge in a college course subject earn their degree efficiently and inexpensively. That prior learning could have taken place through advanced high school courses, independent reading and study, online courseware or textbooks, noncredit courses, or on-the-job training.

**CLEP Website:** [clep.collegeboard.org/](http://clep.collegeboard.org/)

**CLEP Transfer Credit Policies:** [clep.collegeboard.org/school-policy-search](http://clep.collegeboard.org/school-policy-search)

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**Taken from www.ModernStates.org**

Modern States Education Alliance is a non-profit dedicated to making a high quality college education free of cost and accessible to any person who seeks one. Its founding principle is that access to affordable education is fundamental to any philosophy that respects all individuals, and fundamental to the American dream.

Modern States offers free online courses designed to prepare you to take the any of the 32 CLEP tests offered by College Board. Sign up at [www.ModernStates.org](http://www.ModernStates.org)

**Freshman Year For Free Voucher:**
Ask the Ed Center if they accept Modern State vouchers [www.modernstates.org/freshman-year-free/](http://www.modernstates.org/freshman-year-free/)

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- Financial Accounting
- Information Systems
- Introductory Business Law
- Principles of Management
- Principles of Marketing

- American Literature
- Analyzing and Interpreting Literature
- College Composition
- English Literature
- Humanities

- American Government
- History of the United States 1
- History of the United States 2
- Introduction to Educational Psych
- Human Growth & Development
- Introductory Psychology

- Introductory Sociology
- Principles of Macroeconomics
- Principles of Microeconomics
- Social Sciences and History
- Western Civilization I
- Western Civilization II

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Natural Science
- College Algebra
- College Mathematics
- PreCalculus
- Calculus

- French Language
- German Language
- Spanish Language

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- Research CLEP Transfer Policies for Prospective Colleges
- Complete CLEP Course 6 Hours a Week for 4 Weeks
- Take Practice CLEP Test Before the Official CLEP Test
- Complete and Print the Modern States CLEP Test Voucher
- Make Appointment to Take CLEP Test at Education Center

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The purpose of financial aid is to remove financial barriers for families who cannot afford the cost of education beyond high school, and for those who can afford to pay for only part of it.

Scholarships
This term is used rather loosely to include athletic and talent-based (music, drama, leadership, etc.) monetary awards, but primarily scholarships are generated on the basis of academic merit. Students with GPA and ACT/SAT scores in the top 20% are more likely to be awarded scholarship money. Generally, the higher the scores and grade, the more likely a scholarship will be awarded.

Need-based scholarships are those that are awarded because a family may need financial assistance (though academic merit is always a factor). The need is usually determined from the information provided by students and parents on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) or on the CSS Profile form that some colleges require.

Many scholarships awarded by colleges and universities are “automatic” in the sense that if you are accepted to the school and if you have a particular GPA and ACT score, you will receive a scholarship without further application or action. For example, a state university might grant a $1,000/year scholarship for a 25 ACT score and 3.2 GPA or a $2,000/year for a 28 ACT score and 3.5 GPA. Most college’s award their larger scholarships on a competitive basis and those usually require and additional application, essays, and/or letters of recommendation.

Scholarships are also awarded by literally thousands of private foundations, religious organizations, and corporations. The best way to locate these scholarships is to use the books in the school counseling office or a free web-based program such as www.fastweb.com or www.scholarships.com.

Grants
Funds are given to a student from the federal or state government or an institution that does not have to be repaid. This money is typically sent directly to the college or university. The most well-known grant program is the federal Pell Grant, which awards up to $5,775.00 for freshmen who demonstrate financial need as determined by the FAFSA. College institutions also award grants to students who demonstrate financial need.

Loans
Loans are defined as money the student and/or parent is eligible to borrow for educational expenses. The money must be repaid with interest. Most financial aid packages and financial aid award letters from colleges/universities will offer families substantial loans. There are three types of loans:

Subsidized Loans: The federal government will pay the interest on this student signed (no-cosign required) loan while the student is enrolled in school. Repayment usually begins within 6 months of graduation or leaving school and is usually available at the lowest interest rate of any loan.

Unsubsidized Loans: The student is responsible for all accrued interest. You are responsible for paying the interest on a Direct Unsubsidized Loan during all periods.

PLUS Loans: Allows parents to borrow in their names for the education of their dependents. Unlike loans made in the student’s names, repayment begins immediately upon the receipt of the loans.

Work Study
Student is employed part-time on campus with the earnings to be used for educational expenses. Students have to select that they want to be considered for Work Study upon FAFSA completion. Normally, work is limited to 10-12 hours/week.

Financial aid award letters from colleges are usually a combination of grant, loans, scholarships and/or work study. Remember, financial aid is to be used in addition to what the family and student are able to provide. Rarely does financial aid cover the entire cost of undergraduate education.
The FAFSA

Students are required to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine their eligibility for all federal student aid.

Checklist: FAFSA

PREPARING FOR THE FAFSA

Check as you prepare to file the FAFSA:
☐ If filing the FAFSA online, you, and at least one parent if you are a dependent student, must sign the application. Both of you will need an FSA ID. You may each apply for an FSA ID at https://fsaid.ed.gov.
☐ If using the PDF FAFSA, go to www.fafsa.gov. If using the paper FAFSA, request one by calling 1.800.4.FED.AID (1.800.433.3243).
☐ Find the federal school codes for your colleges at www.fafsa.gov.

FILING THE FAFSA

Check as you complete the FAFSA:
☐ You and the appropriate family members have signed the forms.
☐ You have listed all the schools to which you are applying for admission.
☐ You have printed a copy or made a copy of your completed FAFSA for your records.
☐ If you do not have enough room for all your schools, list your first 10 choices on the FAFSA. Once you have received your valid SAR, you can then edit the schools list so that your FAFSA data is transmitted to the remaining schools.

Note: Do not send information about special circumstances to the schools listed on the FAFSA until you contact the financial aid offices about your application information. The financial aid offices will tell you what is needed.

Tips for completing the FAFSA

Meet all financial aid deadlines.
Check each college's deadline and/or “priority filing date” and file your FAFSA in time to meet those deadlines.
Contact the financial aid office regarding other applications or forms you may be required to submit.

Sign the FAFSA appropriately.
You and your appropriate family member will need to acquire an FSA ID from https://fsaid.ed.gov to electronically sign your online FAFSA. Failure to do so may cause you to lose out on financial assistance you may be otherwise qualified to receive.

List all the colleges to which you are applying for admission.
Your FAFSA information will only be sent to the colleges you specify (you may list up to 10)
Each college has a six-digit federal school code
Visit www.fafsa.gov to search for federal school codes

Contact your college to report special circumstances.
Since the FAFSA does not include space for you to explain special financial circumstances unique to you and your family, an explanation of the situation should be communicated directly to the college(s) you're applying to.
Special circumstances might include unusual medical bills, an impending divorce, expected unemployment, or other situations.
Do not mail this correspondence with your FAFSA because this could slow down the processing of your financial aid application.

Do not delay completing the FAFSA because you are waiting to hear if you have been accepted to a college.
You should file your FAFSA as soon as possible on or after October 1 regardless of whether or not you have been accepted to college.
Waiting until you have been accepted could result in missing important financial aid deadlines, making you ineligible for financial aid you might otherwise have been able to receive.

The cost to attend college, which is often referred to as the total student budget or “Cost of Attendance,” includes direct and indirect expenses. The direct expenses are those fixed costs that are billed by the college, such as:

**Tuition, Fees, Room and board (if you live off campus, room and board costs will become indirect costs)**

### Tuition and Fees

The cost of tuition and fees charged by a college depends on many factors, but the most significant factor is what kind of college it is.

**Public colleges:** Tuition and fees are generally the lowest because they receive funds from state taxes. Most four-year and two-year public colleges charge higher tuition for nonresidents than for legal residents of the state in which the college is located. This out-of-state tuition can often make the cost of attending a public college as high as the cost of attending many private colleges.

**Private colleges:** Tuition is usually higher than at public colleges. Private colleges do not receive public funding for their operations and need to charge more of the real costs to students. However, private colleges often have more financial aid resources that can help you make up the difference between costs and financial aid. The greater your overall cost of attendance, the greater the possibility you will demonstrate need for financial aid.

No matter what type of school you attend, fees may be charged for other services. Examples include the library, student activities, the health center, and others.

### Room and Board

Room and board means basic living expenses for housing and food. Regardless of the kind of college you choose, you will have to consider these expenses.

Colleges with their own housing typically charge you on a nine-month basis for your room and most meals, excluding holiday and vacation periods. The room and board charge is built into your student budget. Colleges also expect that students living in privately owned, off-campus housing have a similar level of expense.

If you plan to live at home, you are likely to have lower expenses than on-campus students because you do not have to pay for housing. However, you or your parents will still need to factor in the cost of your food and other normal living expenses. These are usually built into commuter student budgets for financial aid purposes. Take these costs into consideration in your planning.

### Books and Supplies

As a college student you will spend money on textbooks, notebooks, paper, computer supplies, and the like. The amount you spend for books and supplies will vary only slightly by the type of college, but is related to the curriculum or courses you select. In some academic fields, such as nursing and other medical fields, you will spend more on books than in other fields, such as business or communications. Some fields will require specific uniforms and equipment that must be purchased, such as art supplies, a stethoscope, or lab supplies.

### Personal Expenses

Regardless of the type of college you choose to attend, you will have some personal expenses such as clothing, laundry, toiletries, recreation, medical insurance, and medical costs.

### Transportation

All students spend some money for travel. If you live in a different city than where your college is located, you have to travel to get there at the start of the academic year and travel to return home at the end of the year. Most students also go home at least once during the year. For financial aid purposes, colleges often budget students for two round-trips home per year by the least expensive means of travel possible.

Commuter students will also have travel expenses, whether you use public transportation or a car to get to and from college several days a week. These costs are built into student expense budgets by colleges for financial aid purposes.
Once you have been accepted for enrollment at any college and have applied for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and any other financial aid forms required by the college, you and your family will receive a financial aid award letter. This letter will detail the amount of financial support the college is able to provide for the upcoming year. You might receive the award letter along with your notice of acceptance. Some colleges make the award letters available online. Check with your colleges to see how they distribute the award letters.

Read the Fine Print

Read your award letter carefully to ensure you understand all terms and conditions so you can decide if you want to accept any, or all, of the aid offered. Look for instructions for your next steps. You might need to complete additional paperwork (e.g., loan applications).

Determine if grants or scholarships are available for more than one year. If so, what are the applicable conditions?

When comparing financial aid awards, consider your final out-of-pocket cost. An award containing loans may have a higher ultimate out-of-pocket cost than an equivalent award that contains mostly grants.

Make Your College Aware of Special Circumstances

Has your family situation changed since you filed the FAFSA? Has a parent become unemployed or ill? Have you been awarded additional private scholarships? You must report any changes to the college. Even name and address changes must be reported. Any of these changes can affect your award.

What if it’s Not Enough?

If after reading the award letter you believe that the award and your family savings are not enough to cover all of your expenses, don’t panic! There are other options for getting the money you need to attend the college of your choice.

Research other sources for private scholarships. It might not be too late to apply.

Consider any potential benefits from your parents’ places of employment. Look beyond just tuition and scholarships, such as programs to lower the cost of computers, insurance, or travel.

See if your college offers a payment plan that allows tuition expenses to be spread out over the year.

Make sure your financial aid office is aware of any unique situations that affect your ability to pay for school.

Meet Deadlines

The clock is ticking! Once you’ve chosen your college, you might need to inform the college, in writing, about how much of the award you plan to accept. If you don’t respond by the date indicated, your award could be in jeopardy.

What You Might See on an Award Letter

The award letter provides a summary of the estimated cost of attendance along with financial aid the college is offering you.
# Sample Award Letter

## Costs in the 2018-2019 Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated cost of attendance</td>
<td>$25,000/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and fees</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing and meals (On-campus resident)</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and supplies</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other educational costs</td>
<td>$1,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Grants and Scholarships to Pay for College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Grants and Scholarships (&quot;Gift&quot; aid; no repayment needed)</td>
<td>$13,780/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants from your school</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Pell Grant</td>
<td>$5,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants from your state</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other scholarships you can use</td>
<td>$1,050</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## What You Will Pay for the 2018-2019 Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net costs (Cost of attendance minus total grants and scholarships)</td>
<td>$11,220/year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Options to Pay Net Costs

### Work Options
- Work-study (Federal, state, or Institutional): $1,000/year

### Loan Options*
- Federal Direct Subsidized Loan: $3,500/year
- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan: $2,000/year

*Recommended amounts shown here. You may be eligible for a different amount. Contact your financial aid office.

## Other Options
- Family contribution (As calculated by the institution using information reported on the FAFSA or to your institution): $2,333/year

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## Graduation Rate

Percentage of full-time students who graduate within six years:

- **Low**: 71%
- **Medium**: 5%
- **High**: 12%

## Loan Default Rate

Percentage of borrowers entering repayment and defaulting on their loan:
- **This institution**: 5%
- **National institutions**: 12%

## Median Borrowing

Students at Sample University typically borrow $20,000 in Federal loans over four years. The Federal loan payment over 10 years for this amount is approximately $156.84 per month. Your borrowing amount may be different.

## Repaying Your Loans

To learn about loan repayment choices and work out your Federal Loan monthly payment, go to: [http://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/understand/plans](http://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/understand/plans)

## For More Information and Next Steps

Sample University (SU)
Financial Aid Office
123 Main Street
Artytown, ST 12345
Telephone: 123-456-7890
Email: financialaid@sampleuniv.edu

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The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) establishes the rules for progressing from being a high school athlete to a collegiate athlete in one of the Association’s three Divisions. Division I and II institutions may offer athletic scholarships while Division III schools do not offer athletic scholarships, although they have sports programs. The General Information Section of the NCAA website includes all eligibility rules (www.ncaa.org). The NCAA Clearinghouse evaluates a student’s academic record to determine eligibility to participate at a Division I or II college as a fresh student-athlete. The Clearinghouse certifies a student’s eligibility to compete as a student-athlete, but the college must accept the student. Eligibility is based on core college prep coursework completed, grade point average and test scores (ACT or SAT). NCAA’s SAT and ACT code is 9999. The method to register with the clearinghouse is online at https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/. Select register, create an account and pay the associated fee. Students who received a fee waiver for the SAT and/or ACT can have the fee waived. Please see your school counselor to inquire about waiving the NCAA fee. In addition to registering with the NCAA, students must send their SAT and/or ACT scores directly from the College Board and/or ACT as well as transcripts from your high school. A student must request a transcript from all high schools he or she earned credit from. Students should keep track of their login information, which allows students to check the status of their registration application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCAA Steps By Grade Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>9th</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student asks counselor for a list of high school’s NCAA approved core courses to ensure he or she is taking the right classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10th</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student registers with the NCAA Eligibility Center at: eligibilitycenter.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students should seek out counselor to determine best way to help catch up if they fall behind on courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remember, remedial courses do not satisfy NCAA requirements. Courses from BYU do not satisfy NCAA requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>11th</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student checks with the counselor to make sure he or she will graduate on time with all required NCAA core courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student takes the ACT and/or SAT, submitting his or her scores to the NCAA using code 9999.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At the end of the year, student asks counselor for his or her transcript to be sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center either by mail or through the NCAA Counselor Portal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12th</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student finishes last NCAA courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student takes the ACT and/or SAT again, submitting the his or her scores to the NCAA using code 9999.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After April 1, student requests final amateurism certification decision from the NCAA Eligibility Center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After graduation, student asks counselor for his or her final transcript to be sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center either by mail or through the NCAA Counselor Portal.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NAIA
Much like the NCAA in determining eligibility for student-athletes at large schools, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) determines student eligibility for mid-size schools. Just like the NCAA, to play sports on the collegiate level, NAIA must certify eligibility based on academic record, grade point average, and ACT scores. Students will have to create a profile and register with the NAIA online at www.playnaia.org. In addition to registering with the NAIA, students must send their SAT and/or ACT scores directly from the College Board and/or ACT as well as transcripts from your high school. Students should keep track of their login information, which allows students to check the status of their registration application. Students who received a fee waiver for the SAT and/or ACT can have the NCAA fee waived.

Download a pdf of the “Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete” from the NCAA website.
U.S. Army
The Army’s mission is to protect the security of the United States and its vital resources. The Army is constantly ready to defend American interests and the interests of our allies through land-based operations anywhere in the world. Today's "Army of Excellence" is a military force with 69,000 officers, 11,500 warrant officers, and 450,000 enlisted soldiers. Army men and women work in a variety of jobs ranging from general administration to the operations and maintenance of the Army's many thousands of weapons, vehicles, aircraft carriers, and technical electronic systems. Find out more about the U.S. Army at GoArmy.com or 1.888.550.ARMY.

Army National Guard
The federal mission of the Army National Guard is to be prepared to be called to active duty as a reserve of the Army. The U.S. Constitution designates a second mission to each state’s National Guard. That mission ensures that the National Guard is organized to assist the Governor of each state during times of natural or other state emergencies. Upon mobilization, the state Guard comes under the control of the Army. Nationally, there are approximately 36,500 officers, 7,700 warrant officers, and about 313,500 enlisted members. Find out more about the Army National Guard at NationalGuard.mil or 1-800 GO-GUARD.

U.S. Navy
The U.S. Navy plays an important role in helping to maintain the freedom of the United States. The Navy defends the right to travel and trade freely on the world's oceans and protects our country and national interests overseas during times of international conflict. The Navy is a large and diverse organization, consisting of 371,000 officers and enlisted members. Navy personnel operate and repair more than 320 ships and 4,000 aircraft. They serve on ships at sea, on submarines under the sea, in aviation positions on land and sea, and at shore bases around the world. Find out more at Navy.com or 1.800.USA.NAVY.

U.S. Air Force
The U.S. Air Force defends the United States through control and exploitation of air and space. The Air Force flies and maintains aircraft, such as long-range bombers, supersonic fighters, Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft, and many others to protect the interests of America and its allies. Almost 400,000 highly trained officers and airmen compose today's Air Force. The Air Force recruits approximately 30,000 to 40,000 men and women each year to fill openings in hundreds of Air Force careers. Find out more at AirForce.com or 1.800.423.USAF.

U.S. Marine Corps
The U.S. Marine Corps has grown to become one of the most elite fighting forces in the world. Approximately 174,000 officers and enlisted Marines fly planes and helicopters, operate radar equipment, drive armored vehicles, and gather intelligence along with hundreds of other jobs. Each year, the Marine Corps recruit 41,000 men and women to fill job openings. Training programs offer challenging and progressive skill development with emphasis on the development of mental strength and physical prowess. Find out more at Marines.com or 1.800.MARINES.

U.S. Coast Guard
The U.S. Coast Guard's mission is to protect America's coastlines and inland waterways by enforcing customs and fishing laws, combating drug smuggling, conducting search and rescue missions, maintaining light houses, and promoting boat safety. The Coast Guard is part of the Department of Transportation and in times of war, may be commissioned to the Department of Defense under the command of the Navy. There are approximately 5,580 commissioned officers, 1,490 warrant officers, and more than 27,130 enlisted members. Each year, the Coast Guard has opening for more than 4,000 men and women in a wide range of careers. Find out more at GoCoastGuard.com or 1.877.NOW.USCG.
STEPS TO ENLIST IN THE MILITARY

Step 1: Take the ASVAB
The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multiple-choice exam that helps determine the careers for which an individual is best suited. Both traditional pen-and-paper exams and a computer-based version are available. The ASVAB takes approximately three hours to complete and has questions about standard school subjects like math, English, writing and science. Each Service uses a custom combination of ASVAB results to produce scores related to different career fields.

Note that some high schools offer and administer the ASVAB test to their students. If a recruit has already taken the test, he or she should inform his or her recruiter and see if his or her results are still valid.

Step 2: Pass the Physical Examination
A recruiter will discuss physical requirements with recruits beforehand. The physical is a regular medical exam, similar to what you would receive at a family doctor.

Examinations include:
- Height and weight measurements
- Hearing and vision examinations
- Urine and blood tests
- Drug and alcohol tests
- Muscle group and joint maneuvers
- Specialized test if required (pregnancy test for women, body fat percentage test for those who are overweight, tests relating to any unusual medical history)

Step 3: Meet with a Counselor and Determine a Career
At this point, a service enlistment counselor meets with each recruit to find the right job specialty. A few different factors contribute to career selection:
- Needs of the Service
- Job availability
- ASVAB score
- Physical requirements (for example, a recruit needs normal color vision for some careers)
- Recruit preference
- Explore potential career fields at www.todaysmilitary.com/working/career-fields-and-profiles

The service enlistment counselor will also go over the enlistment agreement with the recruit. It is important to understand this fully before signing. When a recruit signs this agreement, he or she is making a serious commitment to the Military!

At this time, recruits are also fingerprinted for their files, which are required for background checks and security clearances.

Step 4: Take the Oath of Enlistment
Once the recruit’s career has been determined, he or she is ready to take the Oath of Enlistment. In this statement, the recruit vows to defend the U.S. Constitution and obey the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Family members are invited to watch and take photos.

I, (name), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God.

Step 5: After Military Entry Processing Station (MEPS)
The new recruit now does one of two things, depending on the terms of his or her enlistment:

Direct Ship – The recruit reports to Basic Training shortly after completing MEPS testing requirements. (It varies based on job assignment and branch.) A recruiter will provide instructions on transportation to Basic Training at this time.

Delayed Entry Program (DEP) – The recruit commits to Basic Training at a time in the future, generally within one year. Most recruits enter DEP before shipping, including recruits who enlist before completing high school. Recruits enrolled in DEP may return to their homes until the time comes to report for duty.

Remember, a recruiter can answer any additional questions a recruit has about the enlistment process.
Air Force Academy: Colorado Springs, Colorado 80840
Website: www.usafa.af.mil
Summer Seminar: Stand out among other applicants - apply to attend a summer leadership program your junior summer! We offer several ways to connect with the United States Air Force Academy. Our outreach programs can help you determine whether the Academy is right for you, as well as help you make your application as complete and competitive as possible. Register now for Future Falcons at www.event.com/events/new-future-falcon/registration-c93e8b84f6ef4435995663d7f90b7174.aspx?fqp=true

Coast Guard Academy: New London, Connecticut 06320
Website: www.cga.edu
Summer Program: Stand out among other applicants - apply to attend a summer leadership program your junior summer! The Academy Introduction Mission (AIM) is a one-week summer program where you'll immerse yourself in Academy life. Exclusively for students entering their senior year of high school, AIM is regarded as the most realistic of the service academy summer orientation programs.
www.uscga.edu/aim/

Merchant Marine Academy: Kings Point, New York 11024
Website: www.usmma.edu
Summer Program: Stand out among other applicants - apply to attend a summer leadership program your junior summer!
www.usna.edu/Admissions/Programs/NASS.php#fndtn-panel1-steps-for

Military Academy: West Point, New York 10996
Website: www.usma.edu
Summer Program: Stand out among other applicants - apply to attend a summer leadership program your junior summer! SLE is highly competitive since there are normally 6,000 applicants and capacity for just 1,000 attendees. SLE gives high school juniors a week to experience life as a cadet to inform their college selection decision. SLE is a fast-paced program of academic classes, military training, physical fitness training, and intramural athletics conducted during the first half of June each year. You must have standardized test scores to be considered for SLE.
www.usma.edu/admissions/sitepages/summer.aspx

Naval Academy: Annapolis, Maryland 21402
Website: www.usna.edu
Summer Program: Stand out among other applicants - apply to attend a summer leadership program your junior summer! If you are in high school but are not old enough to apply, you can register with USNA to receive information about our Summer Programs at:
www.usna.edu/Admissions/Programs/index.php

MILITARY TESTING INFORMATION

ASVAB
The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multi-aptitude test battery with a career exploration component. The ASVAB comprises eight individual tests. Not only do you receive scores on each of these individual tests, you also receive composite scores. The ASVAB Career Exploration Program provides you with information to help you think about different career possibilities. With the student's permission, ASVAB results are shared with the military as well as with the student's school counselor. However, the ASVAB is not only for those thinking of pursuing a career in the military. Each ASVAB test area is timed, and the whole test takes about three hours.
ASVAB: www.asvabprogram.com
High School Career Clusters and Career Pathways

Career Clusters represent the broad groupings of similar occupations and industries within the U.S. job market (e.g., business, information technology, health). Each Career Cluster provides students with the overview in terms of career options and an opportunity to explore the industry. Each Career Pathway focuses on the specific courses and experiences that prepare students for two-year and four-year colleges, and the workplace.

Within each of the Career Clusters are various Career Pathways, representing a variety of occupational fields associated with the Career Cluster. We encourage DoDEA students to choose their pathway based on their interests and then we guide them into the appropriate coursework. Working with our students to explore the world of work, they begin to understand the importance of academic subjects like math, science and English in the context of their career interest.

Career Pathway Endorsement

To receive a Career Pathway Endorsement a student must complete the Career Pathway Curriculum; a sequence of prescribed courses. When they complete their curriculum pathway, the endorsement appears as a notation on their transcript.

High School Graduation Requirements

All DoDEA graduates must complete 2 credits in Career Technical Education, .5 must be a Computer Technology Course, to receive a DoDEA diploma.

Ask your counselor which CTE Pathways are offered at your school and through DVHS

Ask your school counselor for a copy of the latest Career Explorer magazine or download a pdf copy at: www.dodea.edu/Curriculum/CareerTechEd/upload/CareerExplorer2018_WEB-VERSION.PDF
The summer is a great time to discover yourself, pursue your passions, and set goals. Be authentic, and remember don’t do things just to impress admissions representatives.

**Explore Your Passions**

Love camp? If you went as a camper, now return as a camp counselor. Passionate about art or music or theater? Challenge yourself to do practice an instrument an hour a day. Learn or continue to develop a world language you love. Maybe you’ll learn you’re a great chef!

**Pre-College Programs**

Attending a summer pre-college program will give you the opportunity to leave home, have a roommate, make friends, and learn about balancing study and fun. A summer pre-college program will allow you to spend a few weeks with college professors and give you a glimpse at potential college majors. Contact prospective colleges to see if they have a summer pre-college program you can attend.

**Summer College Visits**

Make an appointment in advance to a visit college during the summer. Research the college and develop a list of questions. After you have visited, decide if you want to apply to this college.

**Take a Summer College Course**

Talk to your family and school counselor to see if taking a course at a local college is a good choice for you. Summer is a fantastic time to get a head start on college. By taking summer college courses online, you can affordably get your general education courses out of the way before you start college – and get on the fast track to your college degree.

**Get a Job**

Having a job can help you save up money for college and help builds skills you can use in the future.

**Volunteer**

Volunteer with an organization you care about to make a difference in your community.

**College Test Prep**

Set aside time each week to prepare for the SAT and ACT. Use free services like Khan Academy and ACT Academy to practice.

**College Research and Gather Applications**

Set aside time each week to research colleges. Update your potential college application list. Identify deadlines, application types, and other requirements. Use the Common Application when you can.

**Build Your Resume**

Develop your activity list (awards, volunteerism, extra-curricular, sports, work, leadership). Don’t just list activities; rather write a strong sentence about each activity about what you contributed and what you learned.

**Recommendations**

Complete counselor and teacher recommendation form. Your responses help describe you as a person and student. Your responses should be thoughtful and well written. What makes you stand out? What makes you unique?

**Have Fun**

Please don’t forget to have fun! Enjoy the last few years of high school and take the time to make memories with family and friends. You’re only young once!

Take the time to relax and enjoy summer, but make time to prepare for the next steps after high school.
ONLINE RESOURCES

College Exploration
ACT  www.act.org
College Board  www.collegeboard.org
Big Future  www.bigfuture.org
Choices360  www.choices360.com/dodea
College Express  www.collegeexpress.com
College Plan  www.collegeplan.org
College View  www.collegeview.com
International Colleges  www.ies-ed.com
NACAC  www.nacacnet.org
Peterson’s  www.petersons.com
Princeton Review  www.princetonreview.com
US Department of Education  www.ed.gov
Virtual Campus Tours  www.campustours.com

Military
Careers in the Military  www.careersinthemilitary.com
Today’s Military  www.todaysmilitary.com/

Career Exploration
Choices360  www.choices360.com/dodea
Occupational Outlook Handbook  www.bls.gov/ooh
Big Future  www.bigfuture.com

Financial Aid
CSS Profile  css.collegeboard.org
Financial Aid  www.finaid.org
FAFSA  www.fafsa.ed.gov
FAFSA ID  www.fsaid.ed.gov
Financial Aid Calculator  www.FAFSA4caster.com
Net Price Calculator  collegecost.ed.gov/netpricecenter.aspx

Scholarships
Cappex  www.cappex.com
Fastweb  www.fastweb.com
GoCollege  www.gocollege.com
Good Call  www.goodcall.com
Raise.me  www.raise.me
Scholarships  www.scholarships.com
Unigo  www.unigo.com

College Bound Student Athletes
NCAA  www.ncaa.org
NAIA  www.naia.org

Test Registration and Prep
ACT  www.actstudent.org
College Board  www.collegeboard.com
US Army  www.march2success.com
Kaplan  www.kaplan.com
Princeton Review  www.princetonreview.com
ASVAB  www.asvabprogram.com
Choices360 is our new online College and Career Readiness platform that will assist students with developing knowledge and building skills and abilities to prepare them to land successfully in a post-secondary career or college.

Choices360 will engage students’ academic, career and personal/social development to ensure our military connected students will excel in our global society. Choices360 offers the ability to search careers, complete a work values sorter, search for college majors & programs, find scholarships, plan you high school courses, practice jobs interviewing skills, compare postsecondary schools, along with learning style inventories.

Start by going to: https://www.choices360/dodea

Students are automatically enrolled in Choices360 using their Google accounts. Your school counselor will give you your Password that you will change after you have logged in the first time. Please select a new password that you can remember for future use.