

Countdown to College

Go Guardians!

- ACT / SAT
- Scholarships (on wall outside counseling office)
- Books > ACT Study Guides; ASVAB, etc.
- Military Information
- Technical Schools
- Financial Aid Information

Guidance Resources

- 2018-19 Test Dates:
 - October 27th **deadline Sept 28th**
 - December 8th **deadline Nov 2th**
 - February 9th **deadline Jan 11th**
 - April 13th **deadline Mar 8th**
 - June 8th **deadline May 3th**
 - July 13th **deadline June 14th**



Test Fee = \$50.50 / \$67.00 + writing
(late fee = \$29.50 / add'l colleges = \$13.00)

- Register on-line www.actstudent.org
- High School Code = 261668

ACT testing

- ❖ Explore your options. Make campus visits, talk with military recruiters and explore work sites and businesses.
- ❖ Listen to announcements for events, deadlines and visits from college representatives and the armed forces.
- ❖ Check out the parent newsletter.



What to do?

COLLEGES / UNIVERSITIES

- Curriculum
- Quality of Education
- Size
- Location
- Admission Requirements
- Cost
- Campus Life / Security
- Facilities
- Housing and Resources
- Retention and Graduation Rate



Making the BIG Decision

- Do some prep work. Before you visit, make a list of questions. (copies in Counseling office)
- Schedule a visit with the admissions office.
- Visit while classes are in session.
- If possible talk with faculty/students.






Final thought ... is this where you want to live and study for 2 to 4 years?



Campus Visits

> An official college application for admission must be filled out on-line or mailed along with an *application fee*.
Students will also need to stop by the counseling office to request to have their high school transcript sent to the college as well.
 ACT scores will be sent as well, many colleges require the ACT to be sent from ACT. (add'l cost = \$12)

*Don't forget the application fee!!

College Applications

Admissions deadlines

Pay attention to Deadlines!!

STUDENTS should apply to colleges before Thanksgiving in order to meet many of the the *Automatic Scholarship Deadline!*

(Some Colleges maybe as early as **November 1st**, check their website)

Admission to College
How is it determined?

- Each college has a different standard
- GPA
- Generally, the higher the GPA, the lower the ACT can be and vice-versa
- Math, 3-4 courses, Algebra 1 & higher
- ACT Score
- Most colleges will work with students who score between 18-22
- Scholarships generally start at 23 or 24

4 Year University > (MU, UMKC, MO S & T, UMSL)


- * 4 English
- * 4 Math (Algebra 1 and higher)
- * 3 Social Studies
- * 3 Science
- * 2 Foreign Language
- * 1 Fine Art

2 Year College / Community

- * Open Admission
- * A+
- * ACT?

4 Year Public

- * 4 English
- * 3 Math
- * 3 Social Studies
- * 3 Science
- * 3 Electives (2 Foreign Language)
- * 1 Fine Art



Entrance Requirements

Did you know?

- o College Credit
 - > 3 credit hours = 3 hours in class per week
 - > Many Bachelor Degrees require 120+ hours of college credit.
- o Early Decision vs. Early Action
 - > Allows you to apply early (usually November)
 - > Receive admission decision well in advance of usual spring notification date; normally by Dec or Jan
 - > Sometimes you have a better chance of acceptance than via regular admissions process.
 - > **Early Decision** - You agree to attend the college if it accepts you and offers adequate financial aid package.
 - > Can apply to only 1 college for Early Decision, but can apply to others for regular admission
 - > If accepted by the 1st choice college, you MUST withdraw all other applications
 - > **Early Action** - Similar to Early Decision, but Non-Binding
 - > Can choose to commit right away or wait until spring
 - > Can apply to other colleges as Early Action

- o ACT vs. SAT

The ACT is accepted by the majority of Colleges / Universities. (Some out of state schools will want an SAT score.)

- o Colleges / Universities typically take the highest composite score (UCM now Super Scores!)
- o Some schools are 'test optional'.
- o Take often
- o Bright Flight - estimated amount - \$1750/year for top 3%

Have you taken your college admissions test?

- Challenging course work
- A strong GPA
- ACT Composite score 18 +
- Involvement in extracurricular activities (school and community)

What Colleges look for

Are you ready to apply?

- **Public School vs. Private School**
- **Fill out applications**
 - Save usernames/passwords in a safe place
 - Type EVERYTHING
 - Make photocopies/print & save information
- **Letters of Recommendations**
 - Activity Sheet/resume (in counseling office)
 - 2 weeks notice
- **Essays**
 - Some colleges will require an essay
 - Use your English teachers for review
- **Email**
 - Create a separate email to help with organization
 - Also think about an 'appropriate email' ☺

Application Process

- **Common Application** is used by almost 400 colleges – www.commonapp.org
 - Application
 - Secondary School Report
 - Mid-year and Final Reports
 - Teacher Evaluations
- **Sending High School Transcripts**
 - Stop by the counseling office to request transcripts to be sent
- **Sending ACT scores**
 - Most colleges require ACT scores to be sent directly from ACT (however, if you request to have your ACT score sent from SMA, please indicate this when you request to send transcripts)
- **AP Scores**
 - Must contact College Board
- **Dual Credit**
 - You must contact the college directly
 - Send to colleges you are planning to attend



Talk with your coach about your options, they know your skill level.
 Register with the NCAA clearinghouse
 There is a minimum ACT score!
 Keep an open mind NCAA has 320 Div I schools; 280 Div II schools and 400 Div III schools. You may need to consider NAIA, Junior Colleges and Community Colleges.
 Market yourself.
 Reach out to College Coaches

Respect the recruiting process. College coaches often talk with one another and share information on prospective athletes.
 Be persistent. Follow-up with a phone call.
 Work with your High School Coach.

Finally, beware of recruiting services! They can be expensive and many college coaches discard information they receive from these services.

So you want to play college sports.....

- Required to participate in athletics at any Division I or II college or university.
- A fee is required
- Apply on-line at www.eligibilitycenter.org

If you believe you are an NCAA candidate, register NOW.

There is also a registration process for NAIA at www.playnaia.org

NCAA Clearinghouse

Note:

- Transcripts will not be reviewed unless a NCAA college has that student on their 'institutional request list' (IRL).
- NCAA has 200,000+ registered athletes; only 84,000 are on an IRL.
- 3% of HS Athletes receive athletic scholarships
- <1% receive a 4 year D1 Scholarship
- 80% of Scholarship opportunities are not D1

Take the Sport out of it, would you still consider going to that school?

- Institutional Scholarships
- Federal Need Based Programs
 - Pell Grants Work Study
 - Subsidized Stafford Loans
- Federal Non-need Based Programs
 - PLUS Loans Unsubsidized Stafford Loans

We will have a financial aid night in October.

Resources to help you finance your education ...

- Based on GPA / Class Rank / ACT
- No separate application (with few exceptions)
- Apply by early deadline (November 1st is a good plan)
- The majority of scholarship money comes from merit scholarships

College / University Merit

- FAFSA
 - www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Register for FSA ID fsaid.ed.gov (parent & student)
 - Start Filling out October 1st

Financial Aid
Loans
Grants
Work Study

EFC = Expected Family Contribution
SAR = Student Aid Report

Federal & State Aid

• Internet Scholarship Searches

- www.fastweb.com
- www.cappex.com
- www.studentscholarships.org
- www.scholarships.com
- Google Scholarships
- Watch for Scams!

◦ Check out local organizations

- Greater KC Community Foundation
- Local Scholarships outside Counseling Office

Job Shadowing

- *Spend the day with a professional
- *Great way to see first-hand what certain jobs are like
- *Talk to family, friends, neighbors