News Briefs

Upcoming Local Event:

**College Fair of Charles County**

Monday, September 17, 2018

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

North Point High School

Waldorf, Maryland

- Over 140 Colleges will be attending
- Financial Aid Workshops: 6:15 pm & 7:15 pm
- Juniors and Seniors should see Mrs. Walls for a permission slip to attend the day session from 9:45 am. – 11:00 am.

---

**Henry E. Lackey High School’s Annual College Information Night** will be held on Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 5:30 pm in the auditorium. This event is sponsored by the College & Career Center, the Counseling Department, and the PTSO, and is open to all Juniors and Seniors and their parents. Topics to be covered include:

- The college admissions process
- SAT/ACT testing information
- Scholarship information for students
- Applying for scholarships from a parent’s perspective

For more information, please contact Mrs. Conchita Walls, College & Career Advisor, by email at cwalls@ccboe.com or by phone at 301-743-5431.

**NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE FAFSA:** Now you can file your FAFSA even sooner – Oct. 1! Students can now file a 2019-20 FAFSA as early as October 1 (instead of January 1) and use slightly older tax information. Try to attend **Lackey’s Financial Aid Night (Oct. 9 @ 6:00 pm)**, or see Mrs. Walls in the College & Career Center for more information.
Keys to College Fair Success

College fairs are in full force this time of year. Many students have never been to a college fair and are uncertain of what to ask college representatives. Students are wondering if their parents should go to the college fair with them. The individual situations will vary, but one thing all students have in common is that they want to know what to ask at the college fair.

Some general tips to consider: Dress professionally. Do your research ahead of time and look at the school websites of those that you are interested in. Write down your questions before the fair so that you remember what you want to ask. It gets a little intimidating if you go to a college fair unprepared.

Questions for a College Fair
A good way to start is by introducing yourself, your field of interest and your high school/grade level. That is a great opener that makes a good impression. Also, consider the following questions:

1. What type of student organizations and clubs are there for students?
2. When are the enrollment deadlines and do you require a certain SAT score?
3. Can I get a list of majors to take with me?
4. Will you be reviewing admission applications, if so what do you look for?
5. Can the enrollment fees be waived?
6. What does your school consider for admissions? (i.e., activities, grades, SAT scores, experience, interests, etc.)
7. Can you tell me about the safety history of the college and possibly the community it is in?
8. What percentage of your students go on to graduate school?
9. What is the placement rate for those seeking employment?
10. What accommodations do you offer for students with physical disabilities or learning differences?
11. What are the retention rates of incoming students at your school?
12. Is tutoring available for all students, if so, is it free?
13. What is the biggest student complaint you hear currently?
14. What does your typical class size look like?
15. Can I have a business card with your direct phone number? (in case you have further questions)
16. What is the parking situation like?
17. Do you offer student housing, and if so, for how long?
18. What kind of financial aid does your school offer?
19. What is the cost of going to school there annually? (i.e., tuition, room and board, etc.)
20. Does your school allow double majors or a change of major?
21. Is the campus wireless?
22. Can I work on campus?
23. Does your school offer scholarships or grants for incoming students? How can I be considered?
24. What percentage of students return for their second year?
Visit a College like an Expert

It’s hard to figure out if a college is a good fit without spending time on the campus and talking to students who have been there a year or more. Even if the college is local or a community college, visit the campus. If your family can’t travel to a college, consider that many colleges now offer virtual tours. To help you prepare for a visit to a college campus, there are some key things to keep in mind.

Plan Ahead:
A campus visit goes quickly, so you and your parents should have a plan for the visit. Here are some things to consider:

- **Visit websites for information about tours and open houses**, as well as campus maps, and parking information.
- **Ask about visiting a class or two.** Ask which ones are open to visitors, when they are open, and how to go about getting into the class for a visit.
- **Look at the college website and catalog.** Think about what you want to learn on campus and try to figure out where you can find that information while on campus.
- **Fit in additional activities that will give you a better sense of campus life**, such as eating in the cafeteria and reading a copy of the student newspaper. Watch how students interact with one another and think about if this is an environment you would feel comfortable.
- **Schedule enough time** to see and do all you want to do on campus and in the area. It may be easier to visit a college during the summer or winter break, but try to go when school is in session. It will give you a better feel for campus life.

What to Bring:
- Comfortable shoes – campuses can be spread out, and you may be walking for a long time.
- Layered clothing – some buildings may be well air-conditioned and some may not.
- Pen, paper, and a list of questions to ask.
- Anything the college may have asked you to bring.
- Money for lunch, parking, and other incidental expenses.

Questions To Ask During a Campus Visit
A college guide will tell you some, but not all, of the things you need to know. Always go prepared to ask the admissions office staff and students on campus questions. Here are a few questions to get you started:

**Ask College Students:**
- Are you happy here? What do you like best? What would you change if you could?
- What kind of extracurricular activities are available to students?
- Did you have trouble getting the classes you wanted?
- Is this dorm room we’re seeing typical for a first-year dorm room? Do you know how big a typical first-year dorm room is?

**Ask the Admissions Office:**
- What percentage of first-year students return for their second year of college?
- What is the graduation rate for students here? How much does that rate vary if students are... low-income? ...African American? ...Latino?
- What is the average amount of time it takes students to graduate?
- What is the average size of general education courses here?
- For how many years are students guaranteed campus housing?
Open Houses/Information Sessions

Can’t take a road trip to visit colleges? Use online virtual college tours! Many college websites have devised their own virtual tours. Online use, www.campustours.com or www.campuscorner.com to take a look see of your prospective colleges!

Fall Open Houses and Information Sessions on college campuses are ongoing this fall. Check your prospective colleges’ websites for dates and times. North Carolina State University holds an open house. To find other locations that Duke will be providing information sessions visit www.exploringcollegeoptions.org.

Highly selective colleges will have information sessions in our metro area. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) will be in the area on September 6 as well as the University of Virginia. Check the colleges’ website to see some additional advertisements for events and scholarships.

virtual college fairs can be found at www.collegeweeklive.com When you log in and visit college reps, you are entered in scholarship drawings. Speak to the reps and know how to go! www.collegefairsonline.com provides the service as well! Go for it!

The U.S. Department of Education maintains the COLLEGE NAVIGATOR website for every college in the country. Use this resource to research colleges and compare college costs. www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator

And to research college majors, check out videos on how to become a doctor, lawyer, etc., use www.collegemajors101.com. Many other features are provided by this web source. Enjoy the search …check it out!

COLLEGE FAIRS

Greater Washington, DC Area
Walter E. Washington Convention Center
Saturday, November 3, 2018
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Register FREE at www.nacacfairs.org/greater-washington www.GoToMyNCF.com

The Performing and Visual Arts College Fair will be held Sunday, November 4 from 1pm to 3:30pm at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center.
Go to www.nacacfairs.org/pva-washington-dc.org for details.

Arrow Collegiate Tour www.arrowcollegiatetour.com
November 14-18 – Historically Black Colleges and University Tour
Four-Year “At-a-Glance” Planner

Freshman Year or Earlier
- Think about careers and college majors. What interests you?
- Set goals for yourself. Will you be trying for a top tier (most selective) college?
- Participate in activities (sports, clubs, hobbies) that interest you with an eye toward leadership.
- Keep up your grades and take the most challenging schedule you can (and get A’s and B’s).
- Plan a challenging sophomore curriculum. Can you take one or more AP classes?
- Don’t waste your summer. Do something that will enhance your future college applications.

Sophomore Year
- Take challenging classes and keep your grades up. This is one of the most important years.
- Try the PSAT test early for practice and to see how you do. Use it to project your SAT scores.
- Take a career assessment test if one is offered. Are you getting some career ideas?
- Keep up the activities. Add some community service and volunteer work, and/or a paid job.
- Start to develop a preliminary list of target schools that you might consider.
- Plan a challenging junior curriculum. Can you take one or more AP classes?
- Should you take any SAT Subject Tests this year? (Are you completing/peaking in any subject?)
- Begin to develop a resume so you can identify where there might be some weaknesses.
- Plan a productive summer that will shore up some aspect of your future applications.

Junior Year
- Take challenging classes and keep your grades up. This is the other most important year.
- Take the PSAT test and see how you do. Use it to project your SAT scores.
- Develop a plan for your standardized testing and how you will prepare.
- Keep up the activities. Add some community service and volunteer work, or a paid job.
- Think about what type of college feels right to you. What are your requirements?
- Have you thought about what you might major in? This can help you select colleges.
- Plan some college visits, at least to nearby ones. Do additional research on the internet.
- Refine your list of target schools and be sure they span the range of “sure” to “reach”.
- Discuss with your parents whether there will be financial considerations and aid required.
- Organize a folder of any awards, honors, articles, experiences, etc. that you’ve had or received.
- Refine your resume and think about bolstering weak areas. Keep your activities on-going.
- What SATs, ACTs, SAT Subject Tests and AP tests are appropriate for this year and when?
- Plan a productive summer that will shore up some aspect of your future applications.

Senior Year
- Take challenging classes and keep your grades up. You can’t afford to get Senioritis!
- Finalize your list of colleges and be sure you are in their database.
- Demonstrate interest. Attend open houses, request information, and ask for an interview.
- Finish up any remaining standardized testing. This is your last chance to improve your scores.
- Ask teachers for letters of recommendations as needed. Not all schools take them.
- Finalize your resume. It will help you with your applications.
- Download copies of your colleges’ applications or write to request them. Practice filling them out.
- Have your transcript sent to those schools that want it. Some do not want it until you’re accepted.
- Work on your college essays and try some drafts. Have others critique them.
- Get your college applications in as early as you can. Consider early decision/action etc.
- Preferably set up on-campus interviews, but interview somehow if they are offered at all.
- Prepare for interviews by looking at common questions and doing mock interviews with others.
- Write thank you notes to anyone who has helped you (those who wrote letters, interviewers, etc.).
- Have mid-year reports sent to any colleges that require them. Make sure all materials are in.
- Fill out financial aid forms, such as FAFSA, PROFILE, etc. as needed.
- Respond to all colleges that admitted you, either accepting or declining their offers.
- Pay attention to housing, meal plan and other important information and deadlines.
- Have your transcript sent to the school you will be attending.
- If waitlisted at your first choice, accept somewhere else but write them an enthusiastic letter.
- If rejected at your first choice, appeal only if you have something compelling & new to send them.
Grade Level Monthly Reminders
for SEPTEMBER

Freshman Planning Guide - Freshman Year DOES Count!
• Begin and continue a thorough self-examination of your abilities and interests.
• Study hard and get good grades. Set your academic goals now.
• Think about careers. Use your CareerCruising.com program to research careers. Visit the College & Career Center.
• Try a sport, club or other activity. (the more unique the better – but something you enjoy)
• Begin your resume. Your history reviewed by college reps and scholarship committees starts now.
• Read! Get to know your Counselor in the guidance office and Mrs. Walls, your College and Career Advisor in the College & Career Center.

Sophomore Planning Guide
• Prepare for the PSAT. (Good practice for next year when you will be eligible for the National Merit Scholarship competition.)
• Update your career assessment test on CareerCruising.com. Check the College & Career Center for updated information.
• Be sure your course selections are preparing you to reach college admissions standards.
• Start or continue your “brag sheet” or resume.
• Maintain good grades; READ! (Sophomore and Junior grades almost always count the most)

Junior Planning Guide
• Register for the PSAT.
• Continue refining your list of target schools.
• Research schools on the internet or via books and visits. Use CareerCruising.com for research.
• Attend college fairs in your area. Charles County Public Schools’ College Fair is September 17.
• Check the College & Career Center for college reps visiting your high school.
• Research scholarship opportunities using the internet, books, and College & Career Center resources.
• Update your resume with any new information.
• Plan next two years’ extra-curricular and community service activities.
• Think about when to take the SAT or ACT tests – develop your tentative “test plan.”

Senior Planning Guide
• Get a file “bin” and set up a file for each target school.
• Attend all high school college-related meetings.
• Attend college fairs.
• Meet with counselor and ask questions.
• Identify all the application deadlines for your schools and fill out checklist.
• Get your school’s CEEB code and have it handy along with your SS#.
• Finalize your resume.
• Research scholarship opportunities from prospective colleges, some require nominations from your counselor.
• Prep for final SAT/ACT testing and register.
• Ask teachers for letters of recommendation if your colleges want them.
• Request interviews at privates whenever they are available.
• Get a good senior picture, formal or informal.
• Print practice apps for all your schools even if you will be doing them online.
• Visit the College & Career Center and begin researching local scholarship opportunities that are available.
What is the ASVAB?
The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a multi-aptitude test battery. It consists of eight short individual tests covering General Science, Arithmetic Reasoning, Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension, Mathematics Knowledge, Electronics Information, Auto and Shop Information, and Mechanical Comprehension. Not only do you receive scores on each of these individual tests, you also receive career exploration scores. These scores are the results of individual tests combined to yield three career exploration scores: Verbal Skills, Math Skills, and Science and Technical Skills.

What is the relationship between the ASVAB and the Military?
ASVAB participants are not under any obligation to the Military as a result of taking the ASVAB. But a junior or senior can use their scores from the ASVAB to enlist in the Military after graduation. The scores are good for two years. Many students take the ASVAB for career exploration and have no interest in military occupations. Visit the website at www.asvabprogram.com.

Did you know?
• 75% of young adults aged 17 – 24 cannot qualify for military service
• 13.3% of participating students express interest in a military career
• Only 2.5% of participating students use a high school ASVAB score to join the military

Your decision to enter college, technical or vocational school, military service or the civilian world of work after high school is an important one. The ASVAB Career Exploration Program can help you take steps now toward finding a career that’s right for you. Take advantage of all the ASVAB CEP can offer by signing up today.

Practice tests:
- www.asvabprogram.com
- www.number2.com
- www.collegebound.net
- www.march2success.com

The ASVAB test will be administered here at Lackey on Thursday, October 18, 2018 at 7:30 am in the Library. All interested Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors must sign up in the College & Career Center before September 20, 2016. ROTC students may sign up with Col. Juday.

SCHOLARSHIPS

September Deadline:
United States Senate Youth Program 2018-2019
Eligible: Juniors or Seniors serving in any of the following elected positions: student body president, vice president, secretary or treasurer; class president, vice president, secretary or treasurer; student council representative & student representative to district, regional or state-level civic or educational organization
Criteria: For outstanding high school student leaders interested in political science.
Award: $10,000 & all-expenses-paid one-week program in Washington, D.C.in March 2019
Deadline: Nomination required, must return resume to Mrs. Walls, College & Career Advisor by 9/18
**October Deadline:**

**AES Engineering Scholarship**

*Eligible:* You are NOT required to be taking Engineering course to be eligible.

*Criteria:* Must submit an essay of 500 to 1000 words: “When you look back on your life in 30 years, what would it take for you to consider your life successful? What relationships or accomplishments will be important on this journey?”

Submit the essay to: scholarships@aesengineers.com

*Award:* $500

*Deadline:* 10/06 - [http://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.htm](http://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.htm)

**Coca-Cola Scholars Program**

*Eligible:* Seniors, must be U. S. Citizen planning to attend an accredited post-secondary institution

*Criteria:* Demonstrated leadership, commitment to community, academic achievement, employment

*Award:* $10,000 - $20,000

*Deadline:* 10/31 - Apply online: [www.coca-colascholars.org](http://www.coca-colascholars.org)

**Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards 2018**

*Eligible:* High School Seniors

*Criteria:* Be of Hispanic Heritage (includes Spain, Brazil, Philippines), U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or qualify under DACA, 3.0 unweighted GPA, travel to awards ceremony

*Award:* varies, plus medals

*Deadline:* 10/15  www.hispanicheritage.org

**Horatio Alger Scholarship**

*Eligible:* Seniors

*Criteria:* GPA 2.0+, must demonstrate integrity, hard work, academic achievement, participation in the community, and plan to pursue bachelor’s degree, demonstrate financial need.

*Award:* Up to $25,000

*Deadline:* 10/25 - Apply online: [https://scholars.horatioalger.org/scholarships/](https://scholars.horatioalger.org/scholarships/)

**Junior Achievement Essay Competition**

*Eligible:* Grades 9 - 12

*Criteria:* Write a 1,000 to 1500 word essay.

*Award:* $10,000-$20,000

*Deadline:* 10/29 - [www.myJA.org/students/essay](http://www.myJA.org/students/essay)

**Omega Psi Fraternity High School Essay Contest**

*Eligible:* Seniors

*Criteria:* Submit an essay between 700 and 750 words in length. Titled “What Actions Can You Take to Promote Social Justice and Embrace Diversity of All People”

*Award:* Up to $5,000

*Deadline:* October 20

**UMBC Meyerhoff Scholarship Program**

*Eligible:* Seniors

*Criteria:* Minimum 600 Math SAT, GPA 3.0+ and aspire to obtain Ph.D. or MD/Ph.D. in Math, Science, Computer Science, or Engineering. Displayed commitment to community service,

*Award:* Tuition, mandatory fees, room & board for up to four years.

Wendy’s High School Heisman Award
Eligible: Seniors
Criteria: B average, participate in a school sport and dedicated to being school role model
Award: Heisman Patch, Bronze Medal, up to $10,000 for student’s high school
Deadline: 10/03 - apply online: www.wendyhighschoolheisman.com

November Deadline:
First Freedom Student Competition
Eligible: Grades 9 - 12
Criteria: Submit an essay or video; see website for topic and application: www.firstfreedom.org
Award: $2,500
Deadline: 11/15

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards
Eligible: Grades 5 – 12
Criteria: Have participated in a volunteer activity at least in part after September 1. Complete and submit an online application by November 6, 2018 to a school principal or the head of one of the program’s designated organizations, such as, Girl Scouts, YMCA, County 4-H Organization, American Red Cross and Hands On Network Affiliates. See Mrs. Walls in the College & Career Center today!

Why Education Matters
Eligible: Grades 9 - 12
Criteria: Submit a 250-word essay on “What would you say to someone who thinks education doesn’t matter, or that college is a waste of time and money?”
Award: $3000

December Deadline
Towson UTeach Kahlert Foundation Scholarship
Eligible: Seniors matriculating to Towson University
Criteria: Pursuing teaching certification in secondary school science or mathematics, Maryland resident, 3.25 unweighted GPA, preference to current or former Evapco employee family members, official transcript, two letters of rec
Award: renewable $4,000
Deadline: 12/15

February Deadline
National Society DAR Scholars
Multiple scholarships, pursuit of degrees in diverse disciplines including history, law, nursing, and education.
For information and applications: http://dar.org/natsociety/edout_scholar.cfm
Award: Varies
Deadline: 2/16

March Deadline
Create-A-Holiday-Card Scholarship
Eligible: Grades 9 - 12
Criteria: Design a greeting card
Award: $10,000 scholarship
Ongoing

**Kids’ Chance of Maryland, Inc.**

**Eligible:** Student with a parent or guardian who has suffered a catastrophic or fatal accidental injury or occupational disease while working for a Maryland employer.

**Award:** Varies, depending on need and educational expenses, covers tuition and books, may also include housing and meals

**Apply online:** [www.kidschance-md.org](http://www.kidschance-md.org)

By School

*To be eligible for scholarships offered by individual schools, the student must apply and be planning to attend that particular college or university.*

**Gordon Croft Family Scholarships**

Gordon Croft is a longtime supporter of Charles County Public Schools and students and families who reside in Southern Charles County. Mr. Croft has endowed 9 scholarships for eligible Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) students. Each scholarship is administered by the college, with the admissions and financial aid staff selecting the recipient(s) from among students who meet specific eligibility criteria, **including financial need.**

**University of Maryland Scholarships (3)**

- The Croft Charles County Scholarships provide annual tuition scholarships for students at the University of Maryland who demonstrate financial need. Students must enroll in the A. James Clark School of Engineering, College Park, MD. There are three scholarships available:
  - The Russell Gordon Croft Southern Charles County Scholarship
  - The Kent Gordon Croft Southern Charles County Scholarship
  - The Carol Croft Linde Southern Charles County Scholarship

Awards range from $7,500 to $9,000 per year.

**Washington and Lee University**

The Russell Croft '96 Scholarship provides tuition scholarships to students who demonstrate financial need and who physically attend the Lexington, VA campus. The scholarship awards up to $9,000 per year.

**Randolph College**

The Jane Aurell Croft Scholarship provides tuition scholarships to students who demonstrate financial need. The scholarship awards up to $8,000 per year. The scholarship is awarded by the Director of Financial Planning and Assistance.

**Johns Hopkins University**

The Russell Gordon Croft Southern Charles County Scholarship provides a tuition scholarship to students who demonstrate financial need. The scholarship awards up to $12,000 a year.

**Dartmouth College**

- The Croft Scholarship Award provides a tuition scholarship to students at Dartmouth who demonstrate financial need. The scholarship awards up to $10,000 per year. Contact the Dartmouth Financial Aid office for details.
- Dartmouth is an Ivy League school that adheres to a need-blind admissions process - if you are granted admission your financial needs will be worked out.
- Students who have the academic qualifications could apply to the other Ivy League schools, all of which are need-blind: Brown University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Harvard University, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, and Yale University.
The College of Southern Maryland (2)

The two College of Southern Maryland Croft Scholarships were established in 2000 and provide tuition scholarships to students who demonstrate financial need. Awards are up to $2,200 per year for each of the two scholarships.

Washington University in St. Louis – Danforth Scholars Program - Nomination required. For more information call 314-935-6000, or go to https://admissions.wustl.edu/financial-aid.

SCHOLARSHIP and COLLEGE Information online

www.mhec.state.md.us
www.finaid.com
www.fastweb.com
www.blackstudents.blacknews.com
www.studentaid.ed.gov
www.collegeexpress.com
http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/scholarships-grants

Merit Scholarships
Contact the Financial Aid Office of your prospective colleges to see if separate applications for aid are due this fall. Early October dates are common. UVA, Davidson, Emory U., and NYU, to name a few, have merit deadlines this fall. Some of these scholarships require a counselor or principal nomination. Don't miss out on these financial opportunities. Ask your prospective colleges' financial aid office for merit scholarship applications. Online: www.meritaid.com.

“My College Dollars” Launched by MTV, Get Schooled and the College Board, a Facebook application that utilizes information from a user’s Facebook profile – including age, gender and state – to connect students with targeted financial aid opportunities. VISIT THE MY COLLEGE DOLLARS FACEBOOK APP: http://mycollegedollars.hyfnrsx1.com/

Career One Stop Search more than 7,000 scholarships, fellowships, loans, and other financial aid opportunities: www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx.

Student Scholarships Maryland scholarship database, quality & depth information, huge time saver, free newsletter option, privacy policy – www.studentscholarships.org.

GI Transferability Bill Post 9/11 GI Bill family transfer option allows service members to shift their benefits to their families. For more information, see www.defenselink.mil. Also try www.military.com for more options.

Continue to check the Career Center for more scholarships that arrive daily!!
Opportunities

Common Application - Over 500 schools accept this application: Go to [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) to learn more!

EDU, Inc. - Common Black College Application - Apply to 50 member institutions with one $35 application fee: [www.eduinconline.com](http://www.eduinconline.com)

Maryland General Assembly Page Program
Seniors — would you like to become a page for the Maryland General Assembly? You could be one of a select group of high school Seniors who will go to the State Capitol in Annapolis to work as a page during the 2018 Legislative Session. [http://dls.state.md.us/Content.aspx?page=65](http://dls.state.md.us/Content.aspx?page=65).


Financial Aid Information

There are four main types of Financial Assistance:

Scholarships – Usually merit based. For example student may receive a scholarship based on academic performance, athletic ability, or artistic talent. Some scholarships are also based on financial need. Scholarships may come from the State or Federal Government, private parties, corporations, clubs and organizations.

Grants – Are usually awarded based on financial need, but may also have other criteria. Grants may come from the State or Federal Government, private parties, corporations, clubs and organizations.

Loans – Must be repaid.
  *Subsidized student loans* — do not require the borrowers to pay interest while in school (the Federal government pays the interest while the student is in school.)
  *Unsubsidized student loans* — requires the borrowers to pay interest while in school or have it capitalized. Students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in order to apply for student loans.

Work-Study – A federal program that provides funds to students through jobs arranged by the college. Students work and earn money, however, these earnings do not affect the FAFSA results. Work-study is applied for on the FAFSA.

Who should apply and when?
Seniors should be looking for scholarships now through the end of their time in college. It is recommended that Seniors stop in and see their College and Career Advisor at least once a week. Also check the Scholarship section of this newsletter monthly.

Parents of Juniors and Seniors may want to check out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Forecaster at [www.fafsa.ed.gov/](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/). FAFSA4caster will help you understand your options for paying for college. Remember, you cannot actually apply to FAFSA until January 1st of the student’s Senior year. Also remember that you must complete the FAFSA if you are interested in student loans and many schools will not qualify your student for even merit aid if you have not submitted your FAFSA.
Freshman, Sophomores and Juniors should be looking for scholarships as well. There are scholarships out there for younger students. A great place to look is www.fastweb.com. You should stop in to the College & Career Center from time to time to see if there are any scholarships for which you are eligible. A great reason to start looking now is searching for scholarships can be time consuming. So get a jumpstart on the search now. Also, if you know that you want to apply for a scholarship your Senior year you can see what types of things scholarship committees are looking for, such as GPA and community service. You can’t go back in time to get a better GPA or work more volunteer hours. Find out what will make you a better candidate and start working toward your goal today!

**How do I apply for federal student aid?**

You must create an FSA ID and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®).

1. Create your FSA ID at www.StudentAid.gov/fsaid. Students and parents are required to use an FSA ID, made up of a username and password, to access and submit personal data at U.S. Department of Education websites. Your FSA ID is used to confirm your identity and electronically sign your federal student aid documents.

2. Complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov. The form is available October 1, 2018.

Completing and submitting the FAFSA is free and quick, and it gives you access to the largest sources of financial aid to pay for college or career school—federal, state, and school sources. If you need a paper FAFSA, contact our ED Pubs Distribution Center at www.edpubs.gov or toll-free at 1-877-433-7827.

www.studentaid.gov/fsaid

** FAFSA Completion Event for Lackey will be held on Tuesday, October 9th at 5:30 pm **

**College Entrance Testing**

As you prepare for college, you’ll encounter at least one of the following college entrance exams:

- **PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Assessment Test)**
- **SAT Reasoning Test**
- **SAT Subject Tests (formerly the SAT II)**
- **ACT**
- **Placement Exams**

Admissions requirements vary from school to school. BEFORE REGISTERING, meet with your Senior Counselor about which test(s) to take. Learn more about each of the tests below.

**PSAT/NMSQT**

**Description:** Two 25-minute critical reading sections; two 25-minute math sections; one 30-minute writing skills section. Not used to determine college admissions; intended to help students prepare for the SAT. Same format as the SAT, but shorter – a test of verbal and mathematical reasoning. Score range is between 20 and 80, with 80 being a perfect score.

**Usually Taken:** During your Junior year.

**Tips and Strategies:** If you do well on the PSAT (and meet additional academic requirements), you may qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program (a nationally distributed merit-based scholarship). Only scores from the junior year are used to determine qualification for National Merit Program. For more information visit: www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.htm
**SAT Reasoning Test**

**Description:** Comprised of a 70-minute critical reading section, a 70-minute math section and a 60-minute writing section. Scoring on each section ranges from 200-800 points. Scores on the essay range from 1-6 points. Students in the East and West generally take the SAT.

**Usually Taken:** Spring of your junior year or fall of your senior year (or both, if you want a practice run).

**Tips and Strategies:** The SAT carries a “wrong answer penalty.” If you guess right, you gain a point; if you guess wrong, you are penalized. Eliminate the answers you know are wrong before guessing. You can retake the test to improve your score. For more information visit: [http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about/SATI.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about/SATI.html)

---

**SAT Subject Tests**

**Description:** One-hour test that assesses mastery of a particular field of study. Up to three tests can be required for admissions. Some schools use the SAT II for course placement; others don’t require it at all. Tests are offered in five subject areas: English, Math, History, Science and Foreign Language. Scores are based on an 800-point scale.

**Usually Taken:** Soon after you have finished the relevant course work

**Tips and Strategies:** Entrance requirements vary from college to college. Consult your School Counselor or college admissions representative to determine which tests you should take. For more information visit: [www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about/SATII.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about/SATII.html)

---

**ACT**

**Description:** Three-hour exam; 215 questions; measures achievement in English, math, reading and science. The ACT Plus includes a 30-minute writing test. Scores on each section are averaged to create a composite score. A perfect score is 36.

**Usually Taken:** Spring of your Junior year or fall of your Senior year (or both, if you want a practice run).

**Tips and Strategies:** Your score is based on the number of correct answers ONLY. If you aren’t sure, take a guess — it can’t hurt you and it could help. Harder questions are worth the same amount as easy ones. Answer the easy questions first and leave the more time-consuming questions till the end.

For more information visit: [http://www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

---

**SAT/ACT Test Dates**

**SAT Dates:** October 6, November 3, December 1, 2018 and, March 9, May 4, and June 1, 2019. **Given at Westlake High School and the College of Southern Maryland.** Register early at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

**ACT Dates:** September 8, October 27, December 8, 2018 and February 9, April 13, and June 8, 2019. **Given at the College of Southern Maryland in La Plata, McDonough High School in Pomfret, and Westlake High School in Waldorf.** Register early at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).

The **PSAT** will be administered to all Sophomores at Lackey on Wednesday, October 10, 2018. By taking the PSAT/NMSQT, you can practice for the SAT, enter scholarship competitions, ask colleges to send information and find out if you have the academic skills to succeed in college. Check College Board Online: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) or [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org).
NCAA Eligibility Center Information

What is the NCAA?
The NCAA, or National Collegiate Athletic Association, was established in 1906 and serves as the athletics governing body for more than 1,200 colleges, universities, conferences and organizations. The national office is in Indianapolis, Indiana, but the member colleges and universities develop the rules and guidelines for athletics eligibility and athletics competition for each of the three NCAA divisions. The NCAA is committed to the student athlete and to governing competition in a fair, safe, inclusive and sportsmanlike manner.

The NCAA membership includes: 340 active Division I members; 290 active Division II members; and 436 active Division III members.

One of the differences among the three divisions is that colleges and universities in Divisions I and II may offer athletics scholarships, while Division III colleges and universities do not. For more information about the NCAA or its members, please visit NCAA.org.

What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?
The NCAA Eligibility Center certifies the academic and amateur credentials of all college-bound student-athletes who wish to compete in NCAA Division I or II athletics. To assist with this process, the NCAA Eligibility Center staff is eager to foster a cooperative environment of education and partnership with high schools, high school coaches and college-bound student-athletes. Ultimately, the individual student-athlete is responsible for achieving and protecting his or her eligibility status.

How to find answers to your questions!
The answers to most questions can be found in the student-athlete guide or by:

- Accessing the NCAA Eligibility Center's resource page on its website at www.eligibilitycenter.org, clicking on “Resources” and then selecting the type of student you are (U.S., International or home school). You can then navigate through the resources to find helpful information.
- Contacting the NCAA Eligibility Center at the phone number below.

In addition, if you are sending transcripts or additional information to the NCAA Eligibility Center or have questions, please use the following contact information.

NCAA Eligibility Center:
Certification Processing
P.O. Box 7136
Indianapolis, IN 46207-7136
www.eligibilitycenter.org

Phone: U.S. callers (toll free): 877/262-1492
Fax: 317/968-5100

NCAA Sports Programs
Look for more important information concerning your path to the student-athlete experience at www.eligibilitycenter.org and click on the 2016-17 Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.

Fall Sports
Cross Country (W)
Cross Country (M)
Field Hockey (W)
Football (M)
Soccer (W)
Soccer (M)

Volleyball (W)
Water Polo (M)
Spring Sports
Baseball (M)
Golf (W)
Golf (M)

Lacrosse (M)
Rowing (W)
Softball (W)
Tennis (W)
Tennis (M)
Outdoor Track and Field (W)

Outdoor Track and Field (M)
Steps to Achieving Your NCAA Eligibility:

**Freshmen and Sophomores:**
- Start planning now!
- Work hard to get the best grades possible.
- Take classes that match your high school’s List of NCAA Courses. The NCAA Eligibility Center will use only approved core courses to certify your initial eligibility.
- You can access and print your high school’s List of NCAA Courses at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). Click the NCAA College-Bound Student-Athlete link to enter and then navigate to the “Resources” tab and select “U.S. Students” where you will find the link for the List of NCAA Courses.
- At the beginning of your sophomore year, complete your online registration at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).
- If you fall behind, do not take shortcuts. Classes you take must be four-year college preparatory and must meet NCAA requirements.

**Juniors:**
- Register to take the ACT, SAT or both and use the NCAA Eligibility Center code “9999” as a score recipient. Doing this sends your official score directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- Continue to take college preparatory courses. Double check to make sure the courses you have taken match your school’s List of NCAA Courses.
- Ask your high school counselor to send an official transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center after completing your junior year. If you have attended more than one high school, the NCAA Eligibility Center will need official transcripts from all high schools attended. *(The NCAA Eligibility Center does NOT accept faxed or emailed transcripts/test scores.)* The NCAA Eligibility Center does accept transcripts electronically through Docufide/Parchment, e-Scrip Safe, ConnectEdu, National Transcript Center and Xap.
- Before registering for classes for your senior year, check with your high school counselor to determine the number of core courses that you need to complete your Senior year.

**Seniors:**
- Take the ACT and/or SAT again, if necessary. The NCAA Eligibility Center will use the best scores from each section of the ACT or SAT to determine your best cumulative score
- Continue to take college-preparatory courses.
- Check the courses you have taken to match your school’s List of NCAA Courses.
- Review your amateurism responses and request final amateurism certification on or after April 1 (for fall enrollees) or October 1 (for spring enrollees).
- Continue to work hard to get the best grades possible.
- Graduate on time (in eight academic semesters).
- After graduation, ask your high school counselor to send your final transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center with proof of graduation. The NCAA Eligibility Center accepts transcripts electronically through Docufide/Parchment, e-Scrip Safe, ConnectEdu, National Transcript Center and Xap.
Again, as we discuss during College & Career Center orientation, colleges offer a variety of programs for prospective students. Some programs are free, some have nominal fees, and others regular costs. However, if you want to take advantage of these events, you must apply before deadline dates and meet eligibility requirements. These requirements may be academic, gender, or ethnic diversity related. Don’t miss out on exciting programs designed to help you pursue the college education of your dreams. To list a few colleges, Miami University of Ohio is offering an overnight program for high-achieving, diverse seniors, and Trinity College of Connecticut is sponsoring a Preview Weekend with a focus on experiences of students of color. Check in the College & Career Center, and review your monthly College & Career newsletter. Of course, check the website of prospective colleges and inquire about the opportunities!

### College & Career Center Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 3</td>
<td>Labor Day – Schools/Offices closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>12th Grade Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>11th Grade Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 10</td>
<td>Underclassmen Portraits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 11</td>
<td>Patriot Day – 9th Grade Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>10th Grade Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 14</td>
<td>Teacher in-service day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 17</td>
<td>CC Annual College Fair at North Point HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 18</td>
<td>Deadline for schedule changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19</td>
<td>8:00 am University of new Haven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 am – Capitol Technology University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 – Seton Hill University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19</td>
<td>9th Grade Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20</td>
<td>9:00 am – Mount St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20</td>
<td>10th Grade Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>First day of Autumn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 25</td>
<td>8:30 am – St. Mary’s College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 am – Univ. of MD – College Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 25</td>
<td>11th Grade Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>Two-hour early dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27</td>
<td>12th Grade Orientation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>