
JUNIOR YEAR:

Making Plans for Life after WGHS

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This time next year...

- College applications for the 2018-2019 school year (that's you!) will open in the Summer of 2017. (Don't worry... no one expects you to complete your applications next summer but they are often open and available.)
- We encourage seniors to aim to complete all of their college applications (3-7 on average for students applying to 4-year colleges and universities) by Halloween of their senior year.
 - Meet or beat almost every deadline out there (November 1st is the first big deadline nationwide)
 - Sometimes those who apply early get first pick of dorms, summer welcome sessions, etc.
 - Complete the stressful application process so you can focus on your important senior year.

If you are going to start applying one year from now, you've got some work to do this year!

What do you need to do this year?

- Prepare for and take your college admission test(s).
- Conduct your college search and develop a list of where you would like to apply.
- Start planning ahead for your applications.



COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTING

THE ACT AND SAT



COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS

The ACT

- The ACT is a national college admissions examination that consists of subject area tests in English, Math, Science, and Reading
- Scores range from 1-36
- The ACT Plus Writing includes the four subject area tests plus a 40-minute Writing Test. (required by some colleges)
- ACT results are accepted by all 4-year colleges and universities in the U.S.
- Fees:\$42.50 (ACT No Writing) or \$58.50 (ACT Plus Writing)

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS

The SAT

- The SAT is a college admissions test that consists of two sections: Math and Evidence Based Reading and Writing
- Each section of the SAT is scored on a scale of 200-800
- SAT with Essay includes the two SAT sections and optional essay (required by some colleges).
- SAT results are accepted by all 4-year colleges and universities in the U.S.
- Test Fees: \$45.00 SAT (no essay) or \$57.00 (with essay)

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS

SAT Subject Tests

- Hour-long tests in specific subjects
- Required by some (but not most) colleges
- Check with prospective colleges to determine if you need to take
- Students may register to take three subject tests in one day
- Fees: \$26 for the first, \$20 for each after that

WHEN, WHERE, AND HOW?

- Many juniors will begin testing in December. Ideally, testing will be completed this year or by October of senior year.
- Register online:
 - www.actstudent.org
 - www.collegeboard.org
- Allow 45 minutes to register.
- WGHS is an ACT testing center
- Consider sending scores to colleges. (4 free now or pay \$12 per test date per report later)
- Upload a photo.

ACT Test Dates and Deadlines

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
September 10, 2016	August 7, 2016	August 8-19, 2016
October 22, 2016	September 16, 2016	September 17-30, 2016
December 10, 2016	November 4, 2016	November 5-18, 2016
February 11, 2017	January 13, 2017	January 14-20, 2017
April 8, 2017	March 3, 2017	March 4-17, 2017
June 10, 2017	May 5, 2017	May 6-19, 2017

SAT Test Dates and Deadlines

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
October 1, 2016	September 1, 2016	September 20, 2016
November 5, 2016	October 7, 2016	October 25, 2016
December 3, 2016	November 3, 2016	November 22, 2016
January 21, 2017	December 21, 2016	January 10, 2017
March 11, 2017	February 10, 2017	February 28, 2017
May 6, 2017	April 7, 2017	April 25, 2017
June 3, 2017	May 9, 2017	May 24, 2017

Statewide ACT

All juniors (in every Missouri public high school) will take the ACT with writing on Wednesday, April 19, 2017.

This test is paid for by the state and there is no registration (on your part) necessary.

TEST PREPARATION

- Books, online resources
- Courses at WGHS (daytime and evening)
- Courses outside of WGHS
- Individual Tutoring



THE COLLEGE SEARCH: CHOOSING A SCHOOL THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU



THREE STEPS:

- Identify the criteria that is important to you
- Identify and research schools that fit your criteria
- Develop your list/Decide where you want to apply

STEP 1: IDENTIFY THE CRITERIA THAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU

- There are more than 4,000 colleges and universities in the United States alone.
- Think about things that are important to you to help you narrow your list

Location	Distance from Home
Size	Selectivity/Admissions Requirements
Majors	Cost
Public vs Private	Athletics/Activities/Campus Life
Diversity	Campus Resources
Study Abroad options	Religious Affiliation

STEP 2: IDENTIFY AND RESEARCH SCHOOLS THAT MEET YOUR CRITERIA

- Online college searches
 - Naviance Family Connection
 - <https://connection.naviance.com/wghs>
 - Big Future by College Board
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>
 - College Navigator (US Dept of Education)
 - <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator>

STEP 2: IDENTIFY AND RESEARCH SCHOOLS THAT MEET YOUR CRITERIA CONT'D

- Meet with College Admissions Representatives at WGHS
 - View on [Counseling Dept webpage calendar](#) and in Naviance
- Attend College Events in the St. Louis Area (on Counseling Dept. calendar as well)
- Attend College Fairs
 - Monday, September 19th 6:00-7:30pm at Meramec
 - Visual and Performing Arts Fair Sunday, September 25th 1:00-3:00pm at Webster University
 - Sunday, October 16th 1:00-4:00pm at St. Louis University

STEP 2: IDENTIFY AND RESEARCH SCHOOLS THAT MEET YOUR CRITERIA CONT'D

- Spend time on individual college websites
 - View admissions requirements (if posted)
 - Majors
 - Scholarships
- Visit Campus
 - Schedule ahead of time (online)
 - Take official tour
 - Try to visit when classes are in session

STEP 3: DEVELOP YOUR LIST/DECIDE WHERE YOU WILL APPLY

- How many?
 - It's up to you.
 - On average, students apply to 3-7 schools
 - Too many applications=more stress (money to apply, more things to keep up with/things are easier to miss)

STEP 4: APPLY!

Senior Year

- Applications will begin opening next summer.
- Deadlines vary from October-February
- Students are encouraged to complete applications for admission by Halloween.

HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

- My job is to assist you through this process
 - Post Secondary Planning Conferences beginning in October
 - Schedule online at <https://www.timetrade.com/book/SFGR6>
 - Please call or email with any questions.
- I will communicate with you via:
 - Emails (students: check your wgcloud emails)
 - Google Classroom
 - Counseling Department webpage
 - Remind App (Text the message @wghs2018 to the number 81010)

A FEW ODDS AND ENDS

- Student Athletes and Eligibility
 - NCAA Clearinghouse
 - For students who aspire to play NCAA Division I or Division II athletics.
 - Register online at <http://eligibilitycenter.org>
 - NAIA Eligibility Center
 - For students who aspire to play at NAIA schools
 - Register online at <http://www.playnaia.org/>

THE A+ PROGRAM

- Not too late to apply
- 2.50 gpa
- 95% attendance
- 50 hours of mentoring/tutoring
- Score “Proficient” or “Advanced” on Algebra EOC
- Benefits
 - Tuition at any community college or Linn Technical College
 - Partial scholarships at some 4 year colleges
 - Good insurance policy

BUILDING A RESUME

- Resumes are used for admission and scholarship purposes
- Stay/get involved in activities
 - Art, Music, Athletics, Leadership, Travel, Community Service...
 - At WGHS or in the community
 - Start putting it together this year so you'll have one less thing to worry about next year!
 - See samples in back of College Planning Guide

PSAT REMINDER

- The PSAT serves two purposes:
 - Practice SAT score
 - Qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship Competition
- Wednesday, October 19th from 8-11am
- \$15
- Register online (see counseling department webpage) and send cash or check to counseling office by 9/16.

EARNING COLLEGE CREDIT WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL

Advanced Placement (AP)	Dual Credit (ACC)
Students take a national exam in May. Exams are scored 1-5 Every college has their own AP policy (identifies the score you need and the credit they will give you)	Students complete regular coursework at WGHS. No additional testing is necessary. Note: the grade earned in the high school course will become part of your college transcript as well.
\$92 per test (2016)	\$60-\$70 per credit hour (depending on college)
More widely accepted than dual credit.	Widely accepted (public and private) nationwide.
Register in late January	Register now (UMSL 9/14, SLU 9/16)