

Senior Bulletin #1
September 30, 2021

COLLEGE DAY FOR SENIORS

Wednesday, October 13 is PSAT at Bishop Dwenger, and seniors do not have school on this day. Please use the time to work on college applications, take a college visit, or to finish your service hours. Service hours are due on October 28. The priority application deadline for many colleges is November 1. This is day off is a good time to make sure you are meeting these upcoming deadlines.

TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS

This is a reminder that when you are applying to a school using the Common Application, you must be sure to MATCH your Common App account with your Naviance account AND complete the FERPA section. If you do not take these steps, **WE CANNOT SEND YOUR TRANSCRIPT TO ANY OF THOSE SCHOOLS.** If you need any assistance with the use of Naviance or the Common App, please see your counselor. Be sure to bring your laptop with you.

SENIOR INFORMATION SHEET

If you have not yet completed your Senior Information Sheet, please do so as soon as possible. The Senior Information Sheet can be found in Canvas modules in BDHS Seniors. Your school counselor needs this information to complete sections of the Common App. Transcript requests to Common App schools will not be submitted until you complete this sheet.

TESTING

The SAT and ACT are administered at various local high schools. The cost for the SAT is \$55; the ACT costs \$60. You do not need to take the optional essay for the ACT. Registration is available online at: SAT: www.collegeboard.org and ACT: www.actstudent.org. *Test fee waivers are available in the guidance office for students who are enrolled in the free- or reduced-lunches and for students who are 21st Century Scholars. See your school counselor for a waiver.*

School Code: 151082

Test Date

Registration Deadline

SAT

November 6
December 4

October 8
November 4

ACT

October 23
December 11

October 1 (late registration, extra fees apply)
November 5

Notes Regarding Testing

1. If you are pursuing the **Academic Honors Diploma** and you are **not** taking two AP/college classes, you must earn at least 1250 SAT (minimum score of 590 on Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing and 560 on Math) or a 26 ACT composite
2. Be sure to have your test scores sent all schools you are applying to. Even if you have your scores sent to a school, you can still apply test-optional. If you indicate you are applying test-optional on the application, the college will not consider your scores in the admission process.
3. If you are registered or will register with the NCAA Eligibility Center to participate in Division I or II college athletics, they are not requiring test scores this year to determine eligibility.
4. If you plan to participate in college athletics at the NAIA level, you must register with the NAIA and have your test scores sent directly to them. The NAIA school code for the SAT and ACT is 9876.

TEST-OPTIONAL ADMISSIONS

Many colleges have implemented a Test-Optional policy for admission. Test-Optional means you decide if your test scores will be used in the admission process for that particular school. For test-optional schools, we recommend that you read each school's explanation of the policy on their admissions webpage. Pay special attention to the statistics posted regarding the average SAT and ACT scores of admitted freshman students. This will help you know how your test scores compare to those of admitted students. You have to decide if your test scores strength or weaken your application. If you indicate that you do not want your test scores used in the review process, the academic focus of your application will be on the level of rigor of the courses you have taken, how you have performed in courses related

to your intended major, grade trends (consistency, improvement) and your overall GPA. If you need help deciding whether to use your test scores or not, please talk to your school counselor.

COLLEGE APPLICATION TIMEFRAMES

As you have probably encountered, colleges and universities use a variety of processes to admit students. Below are a few of the terms used regarding application types and timeframes. If you have questions regarding the best time to apply to a specific school, please consult your counselor.

Rolling Decision (ROLL): Applications are processed as they are received. Notification of a decision will be within a couple of weeks to months, depending on the time of year. Schools that use this application process typically have a pre-determined set of academic standards students must meet.

Early Decision (ED): This is a legally binding application period and is the earliest possible application period. Students may apply to only **one** school ED and should apply only if they are absolutely committed to attending that school if admitted. Some selective schools may further restrict students from applying to any other school during their Early Application period. Be sure to read and understand each school's policy. An ED form must be signed by the student, a parent, and the counselor and submitted at the time of application.

Early Action (EA): This is the earliest non-binding application period. The deadline for EA is usually in November, and notification of a decision is usually in December. Schools that use this application employ a holistic approach and determine the standards for admission based on the quality of the applicant pool as a whole.

Restrictive Early Action (REA): Students applying Restrictive Early Action to a school *may not* apply to any other college or university during their *binding Early Decision* process. Some selective schools may further restrict students from applying to any other school during their Early Application period. Be sure to read and understand each school's policy. Notre Dame utilizes Restrictive Early Action.

Regular Decision (RD): This is the later, non-binding application period. The deadline for RD is usually December 31 or later, and notification is in March or April. Schools that use this application employ a holistic approach and determine the standards for admission based on the quality of the applicant pool as a whole.

DUAL-CREDIT COLLEGE CLASSES FOR SENIORS

If you are taking a dual credit class through PFW next semester, including ENG 131 Reading, Writing, and Inquiry, PHIL 110 Intro to Philosophy, and/or CS 112 Survey of Computer Science or a class on-campus, you need to complete the application process for PFW's Collegiate Connection program. Most students did this last spring. **A representative from PFW will be here on Wednesday, October 20 during all three lunches. You must stop by the guidance office to meet the rep to determine if you are properly enrolled.** Cost for the ENG131 and CS 112 classes is \$75, and cost for the PHIL 110 is \$315.30. Fees will be due to PFW by the second week of class in January.

Students may also take dual-credit courses through **Ivy Tech**. Ivy Tech courses cost approximately \$450, plus the cost of books and tech fees. Visit <https://www.ivytech.edu/fortwayne/> for more information and to apply. **A representative from Ivy Tech will be here on Thursday, October 14 during all three lunches to register students for classes.**

Indiana Tech offers an Early Start program for high school students to take courses for \$225 per course, plus the cost of books. A variety of general education courses are available online and in traditional classroom settings. You can complete your application now at www.IndianaTech.edu/EarlyStart. Be sure to use an email address that you check frequently. A representative from Indiana Tech will be at BD sometime in November to help students select classes. Please try to have your application submitted by early-November.

COLLEGE BOUND STUDENT/ATHLETES

Students planning to play NCAA Division I or II athletics need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center after the completion of the junior year. **Register online at <http://eligibilitycenter.org>.** The cost to register is \$90. Fee waivers are available for students who used a fee waiver to take the SAT or ACT, and you may request one when registering. Please let Miss McGuire know when you have submitted a request for a fee waiver. Carefully read the rules and regulations the NCAA has established regarding prospective college athletes and the eligibility standards. **Due to the pandemic and numerous testing issues, the NCAA is not requiring SAT and ACT scores for eligibility consideration this year.**

Students who plan to participate in athletics at the NAIA level must register with the NAIA at www.playnaia.org. The fee to register is \$80. Once you have registered, submit the NAIA transcript request form to the guidance office. Students who qualify for free/reduced lunches may receive a fee waiver to register. See Miss McGuire for a waiver. You must also have your standardized test scores sent to the NAIA using code 9876 when registering for the SAT or ACT. **To be eligible to play NAIA athletics, you must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 AND an SAT score of 970 (EBRW+ Math) OR an ACT score of 18.**

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The **University of Cincinnati** has established an Indiana/Ohio Reciprocity Agreement, which will allow students living in Allen, Adams, DeKalb, Steuben, Noble, or Wells counties to attend at Ohio-resident tuition rates. This is an annual savings of approximately \$14,500. (The offer excludes students enrolling in the nursing program or college of pharmacy's doctor of pharmacy program.) After being accepted to U of C, students must submit the required documentation to receive in-state tuition. SAT/ACT test scores must be sent directly from the testing agencies to U of C. For more information, visit <https://admissions.uc.edu/tuition-aid/kyin.html>.

The **Midwest Student Exchange Program** is a tuition reduction program that makes attending our-of-state colleges and universities more affordable for non-resident students. States with participating schools include Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Visit <http://msep.mhec.org> for a list of participating institutions.

Scholarship Name: Coca-Cola Scholarship

Criteria: 3.0 GPA and extensive community and extracurricular activity involvement

Amount: \$4,000 - \$20,000 over four year

Deadline: apply online at <https://webportalapp.com/sp/login/ccsf> by **October 31**

Scholarship Name: Indiana University Merit Scholarships – these scholarships are awarded to high-achieving students who apply for admission to Indiana University by the priority deadline of **November 1, 2021**. All required documents and forms must be submitted by this deadline. Students may submit additional SAT and ACT scores for further scholarship consideration through **January 15, 2022**. You can self-report your test scores at the time of application, but you will need to have your official scores sent directly to IU from the testing agencies. Students who meet initial eligibility criteria will be invited to complete the online Selective Scholarship Application (SSA). Notification of a student's eligibility to apply for Selective Scholarships will be offered via email and in the admission packet.

Scholarship Name: Purdue University Merit Scholarships

All students who complete the Purdue admission application by **November 1, 2021** and who are admitted, will be considered for scholarships. These awards are limited in number and the award process is competitive. All information associated with the admission application is reviewed for scholarship consideration. The following factors are considered in the awarding of scholarships: Grades in **core academic coursework** and strength of the high school curriculum; grades in coursework that are critical to success in intended major; SAT or ACT scores; evidence of commitment to the academic program to which the student has applied; application essay; evidence of leadership, service, and other accomplishments, activities, and awards; personal background and experiences; and letters of recommendation (optional).

Scholarship Name: Elks National Most Valuable Student Scholarship

Criteria: Plan to pursue a post-secondary education

Amount: \$4,000 – 60,000 over four years

Deadline: application is available at www.elks.org/enf/scholars/mvs.cfm and is due by **November 15**.

ONLINE SCHOLARSHIP SEARCHES

Do not limit your scholarship search to those publicized in the Senior Bulletins. There are countless websites to help you search for scholarships. The scholarship search process is yearlong and ongoing. The sooner you start, the better.

1. Check each potential college's website for scholarship opportunities for incoming freshmen.
2. Naviance has a National Scholarship Search link under the Scholarships and Money heading under the Colleges tab.
3. A few recommended websites for general scholarship searches are: www.fastweb.com, www.collegeboard.org, www.college-scholarships.com, www.cappex.com, www.studentscholarships.org, and www.scholarshipexperts.com.

Please note, you should never pay for a scholarship search nor to apply for a scholarship.

FINANCIAL AID - FAFSA

Families of seniors attending college next year should plan to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to secure need-based aid. Need-based financial aid includes loans, grants, and work-based study options. The filing window for the FAFSA in Indiana is October 1, 2021 - April 15, 2022. The FAFSA is submitted online and is available at fafsa.ed.gov. FAFSA requires parent and student tax information from 2020.

To complete a FAFSA, you will need a student and a parent FSA ID, one for each. Create these at <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>. It may take a couple of days for you to then receive your FSA ID. Once you have your FSA ID's you are ready to complete FAFSA at [fsfa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov).

COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY

Families who need additional help completing the FAFSA form can attend College Goal Sunday on November 7 from 2:00-4:00 at Ivy Tech. One-on-one, in-person assistance will be provided. Parents should be sure to take all 2020 income tax return forms with them to this event. Spanish speaking FAFSA experts will also be on hand.

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE VISITS TO BDHS

The following representatives will be at BD during specific class times in the near future. If you are interested in meeting with a representative, get a pass from Mrs. Dillon in the guidance office. **All passes must be signed by the teacher of the class you will miss and returned to the guidance office at least one day prior to the visitation day.** If the meeting will be via Zoom, please see Mrs. Dillon for the Zoom link. Reminders will be on the morning announcements and sent through Canvas.

| <u>COLLEGE NAME</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>TIME/PERIOD</u> | <u>NOTES</u> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| UNIV OF DAYTON | 10/1/2021 | 10AM/3RD | **ZOOM MEETING |
| WITTENBERG UNIV-SARAH | 10/4/2021 | 9AM/2ND | |
| XAVIER UNIV | 10/5/2021 | 8AM/1ST | **ZOOM MEETING |
| HANOVER COLLEGE | 10/5/2021 | 9AM/2ND | |
| INDIANA UNIV-BLOOMINGTON | 10/7/2021 | 8AM/1ST | |
| DEPAUW UNIVERSITY | 10/7/2021 | 9:40/3RD | |
| UNIV. OF CINCINNATI | 10/14/2021 | 9AM/2ND | |
| LINCOLN TECH | 10/14/2021 | 10AM/3RD | |
| VALPARASIO UNIVERSITY | 10/19/2021 | 8AM/1ST | |
| INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND | 10/19/2021 | 9 AM/3RD | |
| MIAMI UNIVERSITY OF OHIO | 10/26/2021 | 8AM/1ST | |