

August Senior Bulletin

August 24, 2026

Senior Information Sheet

Every senior is required to complete a Senior Information Sheet. The information collected is used to identify students for various opportunities and to assist counselors with the completion of evaluations and recommendations for college applications. This sheet must be completed before you submit any transcript requests through Naviance. The Senior Information Sheet can be found in the Guidance Module under the BDHS Seniors course in Canvas. It is due by Tuesday, September 8.

Testing

The SAT and ACT are administered at various local high schools. The cost for the SAT is \$68; the ACT costs \$75 (with optional Science Reasoning). 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 guidance counselor for a waiver.*

School Code: 151082

Test Date

Deadline

Registration

September 12
October 3
November 7
December 5

SAT

August 28
September 18
October 23
November 20

ACT

October 17
December 12

September 11

November 6

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. **Purdue University, Indiana University, IUPUI and IU Fort Wayne (you only have to have your scores sent to one IU campus)** require that test scores be sent directly from the testing agency (College Board and ACT). When registering for a test, be sure to have your scores sent directly to colleges. Purdue's school code for the SAT is 1631, and their school code for ACT is 1230. IU's code for the SAT is 1324, and their code for the ACT is 1210. Other common schools requiring this format include the University of Michigan, University of Cincinnati, and Ohio State University. Be sure to check **each** school's policy regarding testing.
3. If you plan to participate in college athletics at the **NAIA** level and your GPA is below 2.3, you must register with the NAIA and have your test scores sent directly to them. The NAIA code for the SAT and ACT is 9876.
4. **IF YOU ARE RETAKING THE SAT/ACT AFTER HAVING YOUR TRANSCRIPT SENT TO ANY COLLEGES, BE SURE TO SEND THE NEW SCORES TO ALL SCHOOLS TO WHICH YOU HAVE APPLIED. THIS WILL INCLUDE THE AUGUST TEST DATES AND BEYOND.**

Testing Policies

Many colleges are now considered Test-Optional, meaning you as an applicant decide if you want your test scores to be considered in the application review process. Please carefully read each college's testing policy and determine if you would like your test scores to be considered. Even if you have your test scores sent to the college, they will not be included in the application process unless you indicate that they should be. If you need help making this decision, please see your school counselor. Please note that some colleges may require test

scores for merit scholarship consideration. **Purdue University is not a Test Optional institution.**

Test Prep

Any time spent preparing for standardized tests is time well spent. Below are a few free options for test prep.

- BDHS SAT/ACT Prep Class: Class will start Tuesday, Sept 15th and will run for 4 weeks on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 5:30-7:00 pm. The first 3 weeks will focus on the SAT (leading up to the October 3rd test date) and the last week will cover the ACT test (which leads into the October 17th test date). Cost will be \$175, which includes an SAT practice book. Please pay attention to announcements for more information or see Mrs. Brady or Mrs. McTague.
- Free ACT test prep is available at www.actstudent.org. ACT has partnered with a variety of test prep agencies to provide free, comprehensive test prep.
- Free test preparation for the SAT is now available through the Khan Academy at <https://www.khanacademy.org/digital-sat>.
- The following websites also offer free online practice:
www.number2.com www.freevocabulary.com

Scholarships

Scholarship Name: Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship

Criteria: Allen County resident with at least a 3.0 GPA and plan to attend a 4-year college or university in Indiana. Best applicants will demonstrate financial need and will submit a compelling essay regarding obstacles or barriers you have had to overcome or will have to overcome to reach your educational goals. A second essay regarding your future plans is also required. If you live outside of Allen County, contact the community foundation of your county for their Lilly scholarship information.

Amount: Full tuition, fees, and a book stipend for four years

Deadline: Completed applications must be submitted online by Noon on Wednesday, August 26, 2026.

The application is available at <https://www.grantinterface.com/sl/xeG3Xe>. As part of the application, you must complete the FAFSA Estimator form. You will receive an SAI report, which must be uploaded to the Lilly application. The FAFSA Estimator is available at <https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/>. You and a parent must each complete a part of the estimator. The application and details were sent to you via Canvas on August 13. Look for a message from Miss McGuire.

College Search

The search for the right college is a very personal quest. There are over 4,000 colleges, universities, junior colleges, and trade/vocational schools in the United States. No school is perfect for every student. You should select a college based on your own personal criteria. ***Your college search should start with Naviance. To go there, select the Colleges link and select an option from the Find Your Fit menu.*** SuperMatch is a great tool to use. Aspects of a college to look for include, but are not limited to, the following:

Cost: including tuition, fees, room and board, and books

Programs Offered: students should select a school that offers the major field of study that will lead them to their career of choice

Size: total student enrollment and size of campus

Location: proximity to home and setting (city, rural, etc.)

Private vs. Public: religious affiliation

College Campus Visits

The most important task in the search for a college is a campus visit. The final selection of a school should not be made until you have had the opportunity to make an official campus visit. Parents are always encouraged to accompany students on these visits.

College Campus Visit Check List:

1. Talk with a representative from the Office of Admissions regarding standards for admission
2. Talk with a representative from Financial Aid regarding scholarship and financial aid opportunities
3. Take a walking tour of the campus
4. Talk with current students about what they like/dislike about the school

5. See a dorm room and eat in the cafeteria
6. Talk with a professor or advisor from the department of your intended major
7. Sit in on a class
8. Do not leave with any unanswered questions

To schedule a campus visit, register online through the school's Office of Admission website. Once you have scheduled the visit, have a parent contact the attendance office to notify them of your upcoming absence. The college should provide a form documenting the visit for you to submit to the attendance office upon your return.

Purdue Fort Wayne and Indiana University Fort Wayne

As you are aware, IPFW split into two universities several years ago: Purdue Fort Wayne (PFW) and Indiana University Fort Wayne (IUFW.) These two separate schools share facilities and classes. However, their application processes are separate, so make sure you apply to the correct school.

Indiana University Fort Wayne (IUFW)

Programs Offered: Nursing, Medical Imaging (sonography and radiologic), Dental (hygiene, assisting, and technology), Health Sciences, Health Administration, and Social Work.

Application: IUFW utilizes the Apply IU online application, which allows you to apply to any of IU's nine campuses for one fee of \$65. All IU campuses require that you send your SAT/ACT test scores directly from the testing agencies. You may send your scores to any one of the IU campuses, and the other IU campuses will be able to access them. Apply to any IU campus at <https://apply.iu.edu/>.

Purdue Fort Wayne (PFW)

Programs Offered: With the exception of the programs listed above for IUFW, all other programs offered on campus are provided by Purdue Fort Wayne.

Application: Purdue Fort Wayne utilizes their own in-house application available at www.pfw.edu and the Common App, which is available at www.commonapp.org.

IUPUI Split

IUPUI has split into IU Indianapolis and Purdue University Indianapolis. IU Indianapolis will be the dominant school, taking on most of the current programs. Purdue University Indianapolis will maintain Engineering, Polytechnic, Science, and the Mitch Daniels School of Business. You may apply to both schools using the Common App. You may also apply to IU Indianapolis using the Apply IU application at <https://apply.iu.edu/>.

College Rep Visits to BD

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 request form from Mrs. Stefanek in the guidance office. **All forms 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.** Mrs. Stefanek will send a pass to you through Smart Pass. Updates to the list below will be on the morning announcements and sent through Canvas.

COLLEGE NAME	DATE	TIME/PERIOD
BUTLER UNIVERSITY	Monday 9/21	TBD
INDIANA UNIVERSITY	Tuesday 9/22	8:00 am / 1st
HOLY CROSS COLLEGE	Tuesday 10/6	9:53/ 3rd
OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY	Tuesday 9/29	1:13/ 6th
PFW	Tuesday 10/13	8:50/ 2nd
PURDUE UNIVERSITY	Wednesday 10/7	12:40/ 5th (Mass day)
NOTRE DAME	Monday 9/28	9:53/ 3rd
MARIAN UNIVERSITY	Thursday 10/22	8:50/ 2nd

Fort Wayne College Fair

Indiana Tech is hosting an area college fair on Thursday, September 3 from 5:30-7:00. For a list of participating schools and more information, visit <https://www.indianatech.edu/news/fort-wayne-area-college-fair/>.

Virtual Campus Visits

Most colleges have produced impressive virtual tours of their campus. If you are unable to travel to a college/university for an in-person campus tour, a virtual tour is a great alternative. Visit the colleges' websites for information on accessing their virtual tours.

College-Bound Student-Athletes

Students planning to play in the **NCAA Division I or II** athletics need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center after the completion of the junior year. **Register online at www.eligibilitycenter.org.** You must be registered with the Eligibility Center before you can make an official college visit as a prospective scholarship athlete. After registering, please let Miss McGuire know that your registration is complete. The cost to register with the eligibility center is \$110. **Fee waivers are available for students enrolled in the free/reduced lunch program and for 21st Century Scholars. You will request the waiver while registering. Please contact Miss McGuire to let her know you have made that request.** Please also carefully read the rules and regulations the NCAA established regarding prospective college athletes. **You must complete 16 core academic courses for Division I and for Division II to be considered for qualification. Ten of those core courses must be completed prior to the senior year. As a point of reference, the Academic Honors Diploma requires 17 academic core courses.** The list of approved core courses for Bishop Dwenger is available at the Eligibility Center website.

If you plan to participate in athletics at the **NAIA** level, you must register with the NAIA at www.playnaia.org. The fee to register is \$110. Once you have registered, please let Miss McGuire know that your registration is complete. Students who qualify for free/reduced lunches may receive a fee waiver to register. You request the waiver at the time of registration. If your GPA is below 2.3, you must also have your standardized test scores sent to the NAIA using code 9876 when registering for the SAT or ACT.

Indiana College Application Week September 21-25

To encourage students to apply to college early, many schools waive their application fee during College Application Week. **You must submit your transcript request through Naviance by Monday, September 14 and submit the college application by Friday, September 25.** Following are the participating schools: Anderson University, Ball State University, Butler University, Depauw University, Grace College, Hanover College, Huntington University, Indiana State University, Indiana Tech, Indiana University Bloomington Use code: BLCOLLGO, Indiana University Indianapolis Use code: INCOLLGO, Indiana Wesleyan University, Marian University, Purdue University Fort Wayne Use code: COLLEGEGO26, Purdue University Indianapolis, Purdue University West Lafayette, Rose-Hulman University Use code: ALUM2027, Saint Mary's College, Taylor University, Trine University, University of Indianapolis, University of Southern Indiana, and Valparaiso University.

College Application Process

After you have determined which schools you are applying to, follow the steps below.

Applying

1. Add each college you are going to apply to the list of **Colleges I'm Thinking About** page of your Naviance account. Check the box next to only colleges you know you are going to apply to and click **Move to Application List**. For each school, select the **Application Deadline** by which you are applying, select your **Application Type**, select **Undecided for Submitting SAT/ACT Test Scores**, and click the **Add and Request Transcripts** button. Check the box for *Initial Transcript*, check the box(es) next to the schools you want your transcript sent to, and click the **Request and Finish** button. You may edit your application deadline and type later if needed on the **Colleges I'm Applying To** page.

2. Access the application through the college's website. There are essentially two types of applications: the school-specific application (directly to the institution) and the Common App. If the college uses their own in-house application, you will create an account then complete and submit the application directly through the school's website.
3. If the college uses the Common App, a red CA will appear in the little computer screen under Submission Type. The link to the Common Application will be available through the college's website or at www.commonapp.org.
4. Start with the My Common App tab and complete the Profile and Education sections. Then, add the schools you wish to apply to under the College Search tab.
5. Your FERPA agreement on the Common App must be completed before we can send colleges your transcript and letters of recommendation. The FERPA questions are located under each college listed in the My Colleges tab of the Common Application under **Recommenders and FERPA**. Based on input from college representatives, we highly recommend that you waive your right to review recommendations and supporting documents.
6. You must then **Match** your Naviance account with your Common App account. First, click the **Match Accounts** button on the **Colleges I'm Applying To** page and you will be redirected to your Common App log in. Then, you will step through their instruction screens to complete the Matching process. You may request your transcript through Naviance at any time. Do not have to wait until your application is submitted. Be sure to request it **at least two weeks prior to a deadline**. This is done by selecting **Manage Transcripts** from your **Colleges I'm Applying To** page.
7. Finally, once you have submitted your application, on the list of **Colleges I'm Applying To**, click the **Unknown** link in the **Application** Column. Click **Have You Applied?** Check the box next to **I've Submitted My Application**.

Notes and Tips

1. We will not start sending transcripts electronically until after Labor Day week. Please note that it typically takes 5-10 school days for a transcript request/counselor form to be submitted by the guidance office. It usually takes longer at the start of the year. Be sure to keep this in mind when applying to a school with a specific deadline. Also, be sure the deadline for your application is indicated correctly in Naviance.
2. Regarding recommendations, only ask a teacher to write a recommendation if it is required for the application. Be sure to request a recommendation from a teacher in a core subject area such as English, math, science, social studies, and world languages at least three weeks in advance. Recommendations should come from teachers who know you well and will give a positive impression of you. In addition, a teacher who teaches a subject related to your intended major would be a good choice. Ask the teacher in-person before making the request in Naviance. Make sure to follow up with teachers to see that they have received the request through Naviance. Also, be sure to let them know if you add any schools after their initial submission.
3. It can be quite expensive to apply to numerous colleges. Apply only to schools in which you have sincere interest. Most students apply to 3-5 colleges.
4. Use your full legal name when completing an application or registering for a test.
5. **If you are enrolled in the free/reduced lunch program or you are a 21st Century Scholar, you are eligible for application fee waivers. If an application asks if you qualify for a fee waiver, indicate "yes". On the Common Application, this is addressed under the Profile section. Counselor verification for the Common Application is done through Naviance. Please let your counselor know when you request a fee waiver for any application.**

Common App

The Common Application is a comprehensive application that may be used to apply to multiple colleges and universities. There are currently 43 colleges in Indiana that utilize the Common App. A partial list includes:

Anderson University	Ball State University	Butler University	DePauw University
Earlham College	Franklin College	Goshen College	Grace College
Hanover College	Holy Cross College	Huntington University	Indiana State Univ.
Indiana Tech	IU Bloomington	IU Indianapolis	Indiana Wesleyan
Manchester University	Marian University	Purdue University	Purdue Fort Wayne
Rose-Hulman	St. Mary's College	Saint Mary of the Woods	Taylor University
Trine University	Univ of Evansville	Univ of Indianapolis	Univ of Notre Dame
University of St. Francis	U of Southern Indiana	Valparaiso University	Vincennes University
Wabash College			

The Common Application is available online at www.commonapp.org. Be sure to read and complete all portions of the application. Every question with a * must be answered, even if the answer is 0 or no. Teacher recommendations are required for some schools and are sent electronically through Naviance. Be sure to ***ask each teacher in-person*** before submitting the request through Naviance. **If you do not need a recommendation, please do not ask for one to be written on your behalf.**

After you create your Common App account and complete the Profile and Education parts under the ***My Common App*** tab, you will need to answer the Recommenders and FERPA questions. The FERPA questions are located under each college listed in the ***My Colleges*** tab of the Common Application under ***Recommenders and FERPA***. You need only to complete this portion once. Based on input from college representatives, we recommend that you waive your right to review recommendations and support documents. Once you have completed the FERPA part, you are ready to ***“Match”*** your Common App account to your Naviance account on the ***Colleges I'm Applying To*** page. These steps must be taken before anything can be submitted by your counselor or teachers.

Only a few schools utilize the ***Courses and Grades*** section, and Purdue University is one of those schools. If you are applying to Purdue, you will need to complete this section. Use a copy of your transcript to record course titles and letter grades exactly as reported on your transcript. Each course earns one credit per semester, for a total of two credits for year-long courses. You will record the letter grade earned for each semester. There is no grade or credit to record for the Final column. Regular/Standard, Honors, Advanced Placement, and Dual Enrollment are the only Course Levels we offer. Please take your time to complete this section accurately. See your counselor if you need help with this section.

College Application Timeframes

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 in order to be admitted.

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 Action 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)/Priority: 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.