College Admissions, Planning and Paying for College
Syllabus
Saint Martin’s University, Lacey WA
Summer 2010

Workshop Description: The workshop will help students answer three fundamental questions about college:

Where should I go?
How do I get there?
How will I pay for it?

Workshop Goals and Outcomes: Students will be more knowledgeable about choosing colleges of interest, application requirements, and paying for college. They will know application and financial aid deadlines specific to students in the CSF Scholars program.

Workshop Expectations and Behaviors: Students will be active participants in small group discussions and will complete a portion of the college planning worksheet.

Workshop Assignment(s): Complete the first page of the college planning worksheet and have identified at least one of the goals.

Passport Assignment: Complete the college planning worksheet and other College Admissions and Paying for College pages in your passport.

Materials: Writing materials, pen/pencil, paper

Text: CSF Scholars Binder 2010, College Success Foundation
Asking for a Recommendation

Some colleges require a recommendation as part of a complete application. Some scholarships do, too. Here are good practices to follow:

- **Get organized.** Know which colleges or scholarships require a recommendation and what kind of recommendation each needs. Do two or more of your colleges or scholarships need the same kind of recommendation? Have that information before approaching a person to write one for you.

- **Ask wisely.** Choose someone who knows you, thinks well of you, and can speak to your strengths with specifics. Ask in person.

- **Start early.** Ask for the letter at least three weeks before you need it. Some people are asked to write letters for many students. Be considerate so the person has time to write yours without rushing. Do inquire about 10 days before your due date to see if he or she has encountered any problems with your request.

- **Be prepared.** Provide a copy of your résumé along with any forms the college or scholarship requires for the recommendation. If the person is to mail it directly, supply a stamped and addressed envelope.

- **Express your thanks.** Write a note to the person within a day or two of receiving the recommendation.
Tips for Asking
Letters of Recommendation:

**Do**
- Give the writer your essay and student activities list
- Ask if the person would like more information
- Let them know if you want something about you highlighted
- Give it to them at least 4 weeks in advance, but not less then 2!
- Get one academic and one character recommendation

**Don’t**
- Ask at the last minute!
- Assume that the writer knows all the important activities you’ve been involved in
- Ask a family member or your peers for a recommendation
- Forget to say “thank you”!
Senior Biographical Profile

Name: ________________________________

Phone: (____) _______ Email: _____________________ @ __________

Mailing Address: ________________________________

City/State/Zip: ________________________________

Cumulative G.P.A.: _______________ ACT: _______________ SAT: _______________

CAREER GOALS AND METHOD OF ACHIEVING THEM: ____________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

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CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clubs/Organizations/Team</th>
<th># of Yrs</th>
<th>Position/Office</th>
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VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES: (Community/Church)

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<th>Name of Activity</th>
<th># of Yrs</th>
<th>Position/Achievements</th>
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### HONORS/AWARDS RECEIVED:

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### WORK EXPERIENCE:

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<th>Employer</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Dates of Employment</th>
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### HOBBIES AND/OR SPECIAL INTERESTS:

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- 
- 

### FAVORITE HIGH SCHOOL SUBJECTS:

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### ANYTHING ELSE THAT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO KNOW:

(Has your academic success been adversely affected by any personal or family obstacles? Do you have any unusual circumstances for financial aid?)

- 
- 
- 

### WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU STAND OUT AS A COLLEGE APPLICANT?

- 
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Checklist for writing an Activities List that STANDS OUT

DO...

❖ Follow the directions for how the college wants you to share your activities.
❖ Include jobs you’ve had. Be sure to write about any increasing level of responsibility (from the fry maker to cashier to closer of the store).
❖ Include what you plan to do your senior year, especially any leadership. (Example: You know you’re the lead in the school play, though the production hasn’t started yet.)
❖ Remember to say you’re an Achievers Scholar!
❖ Include scholarships awarded but not $ amounts.
❖ Proofread and ask others to proofread!

DON’T...

❖ Include elementary and middle school activities and awards.
❖ Use abbreviations that will stump the admissions committee.
❖ Forget to proofread!
THE ACTIVITIES RESUME:
How To “Strut Your Stuff” Without Bragging

Developing an activities resume is not only a way to provide colleges with information about who you are, it is also a means for learning something about yourself. It is a useful tool for identifying your interests and passions (sometimes going way back in time), themes for essays, as well as interview points. An activities resume is one of admission’s POSSIBLE secret weapons, because so few students take the trouble to put them together, let alone very well.

General Information
• An activities resume is a 1-4 page visual picture of a student’s academic, extracurricular, sports, hobbies, talents and other involvements.
• Creating a very clear, organized activities resume is a way of outshining your competition.
• An activities resume is a critical tool in identifying what you want colleges to “get” about you.
• You can give an activities resume to:
  + your high school counselor
  + teachers who are writing recommendations
  + other recommenders

You can also
  + include your resume as an appendix to your application
  + offer it as a give-away at admissions interviews
  + send it as a part of a thank-you note to a college representative with whom you have visited

• Some colleges (including the University of California system and Stanford University) ask you NOT to submit a resume. Others, such as University of Southern California, have specific instructions for how they want resumes formatted. Consult college websites for specific directions.
• In addition to college applications, an activities resumes has multiple other uses--attaching it to a scholarship application, using it to apply to special programs such as Girls’ or Boys’ State or as part of a job application.
• Activities resumes should not only identify activities, sports and awards, but also something about what they are and how you participated.

What an Activities Resume Can Show
• Colleges are impressed with students who choose an activity, stay with and develop it over a period of years. If you began soccer as a five year old, mention that on your resume.
• Colleges appreciate students who, instead of engaging in school activities, work to help their families or take care of younger, disabled or elderly relatives. Identify and describe those activities on your resume.
• The content of your activities doesn’t matter, so long as you demonstrate that you enjoy, even love, what you do. Use your resume to show how you have taken one activity, e.g. writing, and pursued it in a variety of ways (writing for a school paper, using your skills to put out press releases for a nonprofit, enter writing contests, etc.)
• Unusual or different activities tend to catch admissions officers’ eyes (e.g., becoming a trapeze artist, learning to make goat cheese, climbing Mt. Everest, learning to speak an African language, playing an unusual instrument).
• Very competitive colleges want students who demonstrate through their activities extraordinary commitment, incredible accomplishment, significant leadership, and/or major talents and abilities. An activities resume is often the best way of describing these things.

Information from http://www.admissionpossible.com/activities.html
SCHOOLS ATTENDED

- Dates
- Name of School
  - Address of School
  - Phone number of School
  - College Board School Code
  - Cumulative High School GPA

COLLEGE BOARD SCORES

- SAT/ACT Scores (Composite, Critical Reading, Math, Writing)
- Subject Test Scores (Composite, English, Reading, Math, Science, Writing)

HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES (and scores)

HONORS AND AWARDS (in and out of school)

- Senior Year
- Junior Year
- Sophomore Year
- Freshman Year

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES (for each year, also identify summer activities)

- Senior Year
- Junior Year
- Sophomore Year
- Freshman Year

SPORTS ACTIVITIES (both in and out of school, for each year, also identify summer activities)

- Senior Year
- Junior Year
- Sophomore Year
- Freshman Year

ACTIVITIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND OTHER INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF HIGH SCHOOL
(for each year, also identify summer activities)

- Senior Year
- Junior Year
- Sophomore Year
- Freshman Year

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (during school year and summers, also identify summer activities)

- Senior Year
- Junior Year
- Sophomore Year
- Freshman Year

TRAVEL
Your school counselor, or guidance counselor, is one of your best resources as you plan for college. She or he has information about admissions tests, college preparation, and your education and career options. Here are some basic questions to help get your conversation started:

1. What are the required and recommended courses—for graduation and for college prep?
2. How should I plan my schedule so I’ll complete them?
3. Which elective courses do you recommend?
4. Which AP® courses are available?
5. When is the PSAT/NMSQT® going to be given here?
6. Is this school a testing center for the SAT®, or will I need to go somewhere nearby?
7. Do you have any after-school or evening sessions available for college planning, or the SAT?
8. Do you have college handbooks or other guides that I can browse or borrow? Do you have a copy of the free SAT Preparation Booklet™, which has a practice test in it?
9. What activities can I do at home and over the summer to get ready for college?
10. What kinds of grades do different colleges require?
11. Are there any college fairs at this school, or nearby?
12. Where do other kids from this school attend college?
13. What are the requirements or standards for the honor society?
14. Can you put me in touch with recent grads who are going to the colleges on my wish list?
15. Do you have any information to help me start exploring my interests and related careers?
16. If my colleges need a recommendation from you, how can I help you know me better, so it can be more personal?
17. Are there any special scholarships or awards that I should know about now, so I can work toward them?
18. Can I see my transcript as it stands now, to see if everything is as I think it should be?
19. Do you have any forms I need to apply for financial aid?
20. How does our school compare to others, in terms of test scores and reputation?

Reality Check

Your school counselor may be the most wonderful and accessible person on the planet, or she or he may be juggling a thousand students and barely know your name. So remember that the person who has the biggest stake in your academics is you. It’s up to you to stay on top of opportunities and deadlines, to take control of your future.
Why Go to College? (How about ... to get a good job!)

Can’t I get a good job now?

Yes, maybe you could, but statistics are against you. Check out the earnings and unemployment rates for people 25 years and older with different levels of education:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of education completed</th>
<th>Unemployment rate in 006</th>
<th>Median earnings in 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>$21,788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate, no college</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>$30,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>$35,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>$37,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>$50,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s degree</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>$59,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional degree</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>$76,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral degree</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>$74,932</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Sometimes it’s hard to stay in school if you think you need to be working to earn money. But if you finish high school and go on to college, you’ll have a wider variety of jobs to choose from, and you’ll earn more—especially in the long run.

But I don’t know what career to go into!

If you’re having trouble deciding what to do, talk to your school counselor or visit www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov to fill out an interest inventory. Based on your answers, the questionnaire will provide a list of careers that fit your interests. You can then use the college search tool on our site to find schools offering courses of study appropriate to your career choice.

Doesn’t college cost a lot of money?

Think of college as an investment: you spend money now so you can earn more later. Take a look at www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov for information about the federal student aid programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education. The site also has a free scholarship search. Still have questions? Call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

Download this fact sheet at www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov/pubs
College Resource Fair Syllabus
Saint Martin's University, Lacey WA
Summer 2010

Workshop Description: Representatives from 2 year, 4 year independent and public universities and colleges from throughout Washington will be on hand to answer questions about their institutions.

Workshop Goals and Outcomes: Exposure and exploration of unique college opportunities and resources.

Workshop Expectations and Behaviors: Please come prepared to engage in conversation and ask questions (college reps like questions!) to the representatives about their institutions to expand your knowledge of the local colleges. Make sure to speak with more than just your first choice colleges to understand all of your options.

Passport Assignment: Please list three college/university representatives you talked to. Which college/university interests you most so far? List three reasons this college/university may fit your academic needs.

Materials: “Questions to Ask at a College Resource Fair” from CSF Scholars Binder

Text: CSF Scholars Binder 2010, College Success Foundation
Faring Well at College Fairs

National College Fairs offer an exciting opportunity to talk to the people in the know.

Admission representatives from a variety of colleges are all gathered in one place, just waiting to answer your questions.

But it's easy to get caught up in the crowds and confusion. Soon you're criss-crossing the room (or many rooms), stopping at any booth that catches your eye or seems popular. When that happens, you end up with lots of pretty brochures, but not a lot of clear impressions about which colleges you may be interested in. Making the most of a college fair means planning your strategy before you enter those double doors.

"Treat a college fair like a buffet dinner," advises a director of undergraduate admission from Florida. "There will be more there than you can possibly take in, but then again, not everything is to your taste."

Experienced buffet diners know that it's best to scope out their choices before they start filling their plate. Savvy students can do the equivalent by looking over a list of college fair participants before the fair. Choose the colleges you most want to find out more about. If you have time, research these colleges by reading information in your guidance office or by checking out guidebooks or Web sites.

"Know what you want to find out at the fair," says a director of admission at a college in Ohio. Write up a short list of questions to ask admission representatives. To compare several schools, plan on asking the same questions at each table.

The questions you ask should be unique to your interests and not easily found in standard college materials. "The college fair is a good time to talk person-to-person with the representative of that school," says one guidance counselor. "Your job is to think of good questions."

So cross out the questions like, "How many people are in the freshman class?" Instead, ask what the two or three most popular majors are (that can give you a good idea of the main interests of the majority of the students). If you have a particular major in mind, don't ask "How good is major X?" No college representative will tell you that a program is bad. Instead, ask how many students take that major; what research faculty members are involved in (and the opportunities for undergraduates to participate in it); or what courses you would take your first year in a particular major. Students who are undecided should ask about what services and support are available to help them explore various majors.

Other things you can ask about: extracurricular activities, what kinds of students the college is looking for, what percentage of students receive financial aid, and other concerns unique to your interests and situation.

Mapping out a strategy

Before you leave for the fair, make sure you have the following supplies: a small notebook with your list of colleges and questions you want to ask; a pen or pencil; and a backpack or tote-bag to hold all of the college information you'll be collecting.

Students with access to computers may wish to print up a few sheets of self-stick address labels. Include your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, high school, year of graduation, intended major(s), and any
extracurricular activities you’re interested in. At the fair, slap the address labels on the college information cards to save you time in filling out the same information over and over at each college’s table.

At some fairs, colleges, rather than using information cards, may use scanners that collect your contact information electronically (name, address, phone number and email address) onsite, leaving you more time to speak with representatives at the fair. Ask your counselor before the fair whether scanners will be available or go online to http://www.nacacnet.org/fairs and search for the fair in which you’re interested. You must sign up beforehand to have your information electronically scanned.

Although this may be a lot to consider, the real strategizing begins when you arrive at the fair. Look for a map of where each college is located and map out your route. Note where each college is located and plan the most efficient way to visit the colleges on your list. (For example, you want to make sure to visit all the colleges of interest to you in one room before moving to the next.) Also, make sure to check out the schedule of information sessions: many fairs have sessions on the search process, applications, financial aid, and other issues run by experts in the field. These sessions are a great place to ask general questions about the college admission process.

Your notebook and pen are great tools for keeping all those conversations straight. After you leave a table, jot down your impressions of the college and the answers the admission representatives gave you. Try to do this before you visit the next table, while your impressions are still fresh.

Teaming up

Depending on the time of day of the fair, both students and parents may be encouraged to attend. If a family member attends the fair with you, talk about your plan ahead of time. You may decide to split up—perhaps a parent can attend the financial aid seminar so you can visit more colleges. Another option is staying together for part or all of time. You may find that your parents or siblings ask different questions than you do. Also, it can be helpful to get a second opinion on your impressions of particular colleges.

Browsing

Planning ahead ensures that you get to visit the colleges that most interest you. But also make sure to leave time for browsing.

"Be adventurous! Don't just focus on 'name' schools,” says an admission director. "You may find that a school you've never heard of offers the exact major, extracurricular program, etc., that you're seeking."

Following up

By the time the fair is over, you'll have a bag filled with information about colleges—and a possible case of information overload. Don't succumb to the temptation of just piling all those brochures in some obscure corner of your bedroom. If you're feeling overwhelmed, take a day or two away from the college search. Then get out all of those brochures, along with the notes you took while at the fair, and read through them. You may find that some colleges aren't as interesting as you first thought. Others only look better the more you research them. For those colleges, follow up by filling out the information cards in the brochures or by starting to schedule college visits.

Written by Jennifer Gross.

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National College Fairs- Fall 2010

Since 1972, the National College Fairs (NCF) program has aided students in fulfilling their educational aspirations. A free program to the public, the fairs allow students to interact with admission representatives from a wide range of postsecondary institutions to discuss course offerings, admission and financial aid requirements, college life in general, and other information pertinent to the college selection process.

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<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>Sunday, November 14</td>
<td>Washington State Convention &amp; Trade Center Seattle, WA</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Monday, November 15</td>
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<td>Portland</td>
<td>Friday, November 12</td>
<td>Oregon Convention Center Portland, OR</td>
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<td>Saturday, November 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spokane</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 10</td>
<td>Spokane Convention Center Spokane, WA</td>
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For more information about the National College Fairs go to:
http://www.nacacnet.org/EventsTraining/CollegeFairs/ncf/Fall/Pages/default.aspx
Questions to Ask at a College Resource Fair

General Information

☐ Where is your college/university?

☐ What environment (urban, suburban, rural, etc.) is your college/university located in?

☐ What is your college/university known for?

☐ How many students (graduates, undergraduates) attend your college/university?

☐ What is the average class size for freshman? For upper classman?

☐ Does your college/university offer a program in _________ (business, psychology, art, your interest)? Are there any specifics about the program that I should know about?

☐ What are the most popular majors at your college/university?

☐ Why do students choose to attend your college/university?

☐ How would you describe the campus culture?

Admission Requirements/ Deadlines

☐ What are the minimum requirements to be considered for admission?

☐ What should I do to be competitive for admission?

☐ What is the range for SAT/ACT scores and GPA for incoming freshmen?

☐ What information can I include in my personal statement and recommendations that will help the college learn about who I am?

☐ When should I apply for admission? Can I apply online? Do you prefer the SAT or ACT?

☐ How many times can I take each test, and which scores will you choose if the test is taken more than once?

☐ What are the recommended and latest dates that the SAT and ACT should be taken?

☐ Are there special requirements that I need to meet in order to be competitive for certain majors? What are they?

☐ How does your school view applicants that are ‘undecided’ or ‘undeclared’ in the application process?

☐ Do you require an interview for applicants?

☐ What important dates and deadlines should I be aware of?
Questions to Ask at a College Resource Fair

- Do I need an art portfolio or do I need to audition if I am interested in visual or performing arts? When is the portfolio due? Are there auditions near to where I live, or are they held only at your campus?

- Do you have an Early Decision or Early Action program? How can I qualify and what are the deadlines for applying in this way? Is ED a binding commitment?

Transfer Admissions

- Are transfer admission requirements different from regular admissions?

- Do you accept transfer students only after two years, or may I transfer as a sophomore?

- What community college connections does your school have? Is there a transfer agreement that I can participate in?

- What is the admission priority for transfer students? Are community college students given preference over students transferring from four-year colleges?

- How do I know which credits will transfer from community college?

Paying for College/Financial Aid/Scholarships

- What is the total cost of attendance (tuition, fees, room, board, books, parking, and extras)?

- What is the tuition (or fee) rate only? Can I take out smaller loans for just this amount rather than the total cost of attendance?

- Do you have specified scholarships for majors, career interest? How do I apply?

- Are there scholarships for minority students? How do I apply?

- Tell me about your financial aid assistance. Is it need-based, merit-based, or both?

- What financial aid forms or applications are required?

- When is the financial aid deadline?

- Do I apply for campus scholarships separately or with the financial aid application?

- How do you determine if I qualify for assistance? Do you ask for tax records in addition to the FAFSA?

- Is financial aid guaranteed to cover my entire need?

- When will I get my financial aid award letter?
Questions to Ask at a College Resource Fair

- What is the average financial aid award on your campus?
- What is the percentage of loans versus grants or scholarships in your awards?
- Do you have a work study program? Will your office or the career center help me obtain a part time job on campus even if I do not qualify for work study?
- When are fees due? Do you have a monthly or quarterly installment plan?
- Do I have to send in a deposit with my intent to register? If so, what is the amount? Is it nonrefundable?

Housing

- What are the housing options/requirements?
- Are freshman required to live on campus?
- Is on-campus housing guaranteed?
- Can I choose my roommate?
- Are the dorms coed? By floor or how?
- What percentage of your undergraduate student body lives on campus?
- How and when do I apply for housing? When will I know if I have housing?
- When is the contract and housing deposit due?
- If I cannot obtain housing on campus, will you assist me in finding off-campus housing?
- Is it easy to find a place to live near campus? In what price range?
- Are meal plans available - are they required? If so, are there different meal plans to choose from?

Activities

- What sports are available? Intercollegiate, club, and intramural?
- What kinds of services are available for students (multicultural, athletics, disabilities, tutoring, counseling, campus ministries, etc.)?
- What kind of assistance is available in helping students find a job after graduation?
- Is there academic support such as tutoring centers for your academic interest or subjects you believe you will need help with?
Questions to Ask at a College Resource Fair

- Does your college/university have additional opportunities for your academic interest such as internships, conferences, student activities, etc.?

- What study abroad opportunities are available?

- What are the research resources available to students such as libraries, databases, seminars, job search, etc.?

- What do the students do on campus for fun? How do students get around campus; get around town?

- Are there internship opportunities available?

Visitation

- Do you have a representative assigned to my geographic area that I may contact with questions?

- Will your college/university be visiting my high school?

- When is the best time to visit the campus?

- Who should I call to arrange a campus tour and classroom visit?

Notes
Deciding which college to attend is hard work! You’ll study college catalogs, take entrance exams, visit campuses, write essays, collect transcripts and letters of recommendation, and fill out admissions applications and financial aid forms. After you receive replies to your applications, you will have to choose among the colleges that accepted you and try to work out a financial aid plan. You’ll face some tough decisions.

The following tips and Financial Aid Award Letter Worksheet will help you decide which college is right for you from educational, personal, and financial standpoints. The worksheet will help you compare the financial aid packages offered by colleges that interest you so you can determine your out-of-pocket costs—the amount not covered by financial aid.

**Getting Started**

Talk with people who have been through the college application process or know about it, and take some time by yourself to decide which college or university is right for you. Consider whether a school offers what you want. Check the following factors:

- **Type of institution:** Is it a college or university? Is it public or private? Is it two-year or four-year? Is it a religious or technical school?
- **Size:** What is the student population?
- **Mix of students:** Is it coed, single-sex, multiracial?
- **Location:** Is it in a large or small city? Is it in a suburban or rural area?
- **Curriculum:** Does it have the majors that interest you?
- **Special programs:** Does it have learning support? Does it have remedial or other programs you need?
- **Extracurricular activities:** Does it have the sports or art programs you want?
- **Social life:** How do students who have attended rate the school?
- **Proximity to family and friends:** Do you want to stay close to your family and friends or try out another part of the country?
- **Faculty:** What are members’ credentials and reputation?
- **Costs:** What are the costs of tuition, books, meals, and other extras?
- **Financial Aid:** What kinds of financial aid does it offer?

Costs are an important factor but should not be the most important one—especially if you receive any financial aid to offset the costs. Make sure the schools you consider meet your academic and social needs. Even if you have to stretch a little financially, you want to attend a school that will challenge you and prepare you for the future you want.
How the Financial Aid Process Works

In mid-spring you'll begin to receive financial aid award letters from colleges to which you have applied for financial aid. The award letters will describe the financial aid package a school is offering you.

Because award letters are mailed early in the year, some colleges may not give you the exact amount of state and federal aid they will offer you. In these cases, you will receive a preliminary letter with estimated awards and another letter in the summer that gives you exact figures.

- If you are considering more than one college, wait until you have received a letter from each one before you make a decision. Each award letter will include the deadline for accepting your financial aid package. Pay close attention to the deadline for each award package because it can be different for each school.

- If you miss a deadline, your financial aid package could be offered to another student. On the other hand, don’t let yourself be pressured into making an immediate decision. If necessary, ask the financial aid administrator to extend the deadline for your financial aid offer—in most cases, colleges are happy to do so.

- If you have questions about your financial aid award or the financial aid package does not meet your needs, call the college and ask to speak with a financial aid administrator. Review any special circumstances you feel may have been overlooked. It is possible that the financial aid administrator can adjust your award based on new information. Most colleges do not negotiate or match offers from other schools. Each institution has different priorities and policies that govern how its financial aid is distributed.

- For awards that involve federal aid programs, financial aid administrators must adhere closely to guidelines established by the government for determining eligibility and financial need. Very few schools have enough federal or private funds available to meet every applicant’s full need. Although you may have a legitimate and demonstrated need for aid, there may be other students who have even greater needs, and they may receive aid first.
Checklist for a Campus Visit
(Take notes!)

Name: ______________________  College: ____________________________
Date: ______________________  Interests for Major: ___________________

Steps to Take
• Check out the dorms, library, dining hall, and student union building
• Make arrangements to visit a class by calling student visitations in admissions
• Meet with a faculty member in the field(s)/department(s) you are interested in
• Talk with students about their experiences
• Meet with an admissions officer
• Take an official campus tour. Can you see yourself on this campus?

College Admissions
What are the minimum Admission Requirements? (number of years/types of courses)
• English: ___________
• Math: ___________
• Social Studies: ___________
• Language: ___________
• Science: ___________
• Arts: ___________
• Other: ___________

What is the range for SAT/ACT scores and GPA for incoming freshmen?

What information can I include in my personal statement and recommendations that will help the college learn about who I am?

When should I apply for admission? Can I apply online? Do you prefer the SAT or ACT?

How would you describe your campus culture?

Why do students choose to attend your college/university?

What kind of assistance is available in helping students find a job after graduation?
**College Financing**
What are the actual costs for:
- Tuition: _____________
- Room & Board: _____________
- Books: _____________
- Other: _____________

What financial resources are available such as scholarships, grants, work-study, etc.?

**College Academic Resources and Opportunities**
Does your college offer my major interest? Are there specifics about the program I should know about?

Is there academic support such as tutoring centers for your academic interest or subjects you believe you will need help with?

Does the College have additional opportunities for your academic interest such as internships, conferences, student activities, etc.?

What are their Study Abroad opportunities?

What are the research resources available to students such as libraries, databases, seminars, job search, etc.?

**College Life**
What is the expectation for incoming freshmen living in the residence hall (dorms)?

What do you think of the residence halls?

How do students get around campus; get around town?

What student clubs would you be interested in joining?

How much time is spent studying?

What do the students do on campus for fun?
College Residential Housing Options

Four-year colleges with on-campus housing: in most cases, students must make a special request to the housing representative at their college in order to stay in on-campus housing during school breaks and summer, and some colleges do not offer this option.

Year-round campus housing available at:
- Art Institute – Seattle
- Central Washington University
- Eastern Washington University
- Gonzaga University
- Northwest University
- Pacific Lutheran University
- Saint Martin’s University
- Seattle University
- The Evergreen State College
- Walla Walla University
- Washington State University
- Western Washington University
- University of Washington – Bothell
- University of Washington – Tacoma (Limited housing available)

Campuses where housing is closed during college breaks:
- Puget Sound Christian College
- Seattle Pacific University (closed winter and spring breaks)
- University of Puget Sound (closed summer, open during other breaks)
- University of Washington (open summer, closed winter break)
- Whitman College (closed summer, Thanksgiving, winter breaks)
- Whitworth College (closed during all breaks)

Four-year colleges without on-campus housing:
- Antioch University
- Cornish College of the Arts
- Heritage University
- Northwest Indian College
- Washington State University – Vancouver
- Washington State University – Tri Cities

Two-year colleges with on-campus housing: most two-year colleges do not have on-campus housing; the following two-year colleges do provide on-campus housing.
- Big Bend Community College (closed during breaks)
- Edmonds Community College (year-round)
- Green River Community College (year-round)
- Skagit Valley College (year-round)
- Walla Walla Community College (closed winter and summer breaks)
- Yakima Valley Community College (year-round)

Summer on-campus housing for freshman: most colleges with on-campus housing that is open year-round or during the summer will allow freshman to move in during their first summer if the student is enrolled in classes or working on campus.
College Resources for Students

During your time in college, you may need to visit some of the resources listed below for assistance... or just to get involved.  *Note:* Not all colleges/universities offer these services.

**Enrollment Services**

**Admissions**
Admissions Offices processes applications of high school, running start, transfer, international, and returning students. They are a great resource to find out everything you need to know about your school choice. They have information on diversity, financial aid, and how to apply.

**Financial Aid**
The Financial Aid office helps students get the necessary financial resources needed to pay for college. They are in charge of processing your SAR. This office is in control of allocating loans, scholarships, grants etc. needed to pay for college.

**New Student Orientation/ Services**
New Students Services sponsor events such as Freshmen Orientation, and Transfer Student Orientation that help new students make a comfortable transition to college.

**Academic Advising**
Academic Advising assists students with academic requirements and course scheduling. It has been said that the most important service a college or university can offer is Academic Advising.

**Registrars Office**
If you have questions about important dates such as billing dates, graduation dates, last day to withdraw from a class, or want to request a transcript – the Registrars Office is where you can get all the answers to these questions.

**Student Support Services**

**Associated Students/ Clubs/ Student Government**
The Associated Students is composed of the entire student population at the college or university. Student Government provides an opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills. Student clubs are also available for many different interest groups on campus. Examples of student clubs may include MECHA, BSU, GLBTA, Young Republicans/ Democrats, etc.
Multicultural Student Services/ Ethnic Student Center/ EOP
Multicultural Student Services specialize in helping first-generation students, students from under-represented, non-traditional, and multicultural backgrounds. They assist students reach all their academic goals.

Career Services Center
The Career Services Center is a resource for students, alumni and employers. The common mission of a career center is to help students match their personal attributes, experience, and education to help realize their career potential. Common services included identify your interests, values, and skills and relate them to academic programs; explore career fields and job market trends; and learn how to conduct an effective job search.

Student Health Center
The Student Health Center is a medical clinic. Two-year colleges tend not to have Health Centers. Although, there is usually a fee, the fee is charge to your financial aid. Have trouble with alcohol, tobacco, drugs? Make sure your college or university offers prevention and wellness services.

Counseling Center
The Counseling Center is available to assist anyone with psychological, mental health or academic concerns. Two-year community colleges tend not to have counseling centers. Research your prospective college and inquire about counseling services.

Disability Resources
This is the overarching term for services that address the needs of students who have disabilities of all types. This office serves as a compass for students with disabilities to have equal access to all of the opportunities available in college.

Residence Halls
Residence halls are where to apply for campus housing. They provide dates such as when to move-in to or out of your dorm. They control of all residence halls. Some residence halls also offer dining services.

Computer Labs
Most colleges provide students with computer labs for researching, writing papers, printing and internet access. Students will want to find out the hours, accessibility, and student eligibility guidelines for each lab on campus.

Bookstore
Bookstores in colleges and universities have all the necessary materials needed by students. It is where you buy and sell your class textbooks. They also sell college memorabilia, clothing, supplies, CD’s, and movies.
**Academic Support**

**Math Center/ Math Lab**
The Math Center provides a great resource for students. The math center employs students, mostly math majors and math minors. These students relate concepts and ideas from the courses to the students. This is a helpful resource for students who are either strong or weak in mathematics.

**Writing Center/ Writing Lab**
The Writing Center is a great resource to all students regardless of their major. The writing center offers assistance with academic writing in all subjects. The writing assistants work one-on-one with individuals to meet their writing needs. Services provided include, but are not limited to: brainstorming, editing, reconstruction, and revising.

**Tutorial Center**
The Tutorial Center has student tutors that are familiar with a variety of subjects and general university courses. Many colleges offer tutoring services at low or no cost for students.

**Athletics**

**Division Sports**
Are you a student athlete? Check out the Athletics’ website for your school. Do they have advisor’s for athletes? Athletics are a great way to relieve stress and meet new people. Do remember that you’re going to college to receive an education, not play ball.

**Intramural/ Club Sports**
Less competitive athletes may participate in intramural or club sports, playing games against other club teams on your campus.

**Recreation Center**
Most four-year universities have a campus Recreation Center. These facilities offer many activities for students including weight and cardio areas, gymnasium, pool, a locker room and more.
College Planning Worksheet

Please complete the following college planning sheet. Please be specific in your answers. The purpose of this survey is to inform your College Prep Advisor of your needs as a college-bound student, and to serve as a reminder for you.

Your Name: ______________________________________________________________

School: __________________________________________________________________

1. What is your GPA: __________

2. What is your ACT/ SAT score: __________

3. If you have not taken either ACT/ SAT, when do you plan on doing so?
   Date: ___________________ Registration Deadline: _____________________

4. What college/university are you interested in?
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

5. What careers are you interested in going into, and what will you need to study in college to get there?
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

6. How much do you know about these careers?
   Very Little _____ Some _____ A lot _____

7. Where do you want to work and live after college (location)?
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
8. What kind of help would be useful for you? For example—college planning, financial planning, career planning, etc?

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

9. Where do you see yourself in the future? What steps will you take to achieve your goals?

   1 Year  →  2 Years  →  5 years

1 year Goal:  ____________________________________

STEPS:
1.  _______________________________________________________________
2.  _______________________________________________________________
3.  _______________________________________________________________
4.  _______________________________________________________________
5.  _______________________________________________________________

2 year Goal:  ______________________________________

STEPS:
1.  _______________________________________________________________
2.  _______________________________________________________________
3.  _______________________________________________________________
4.  _______________________________________________________________
5.  _______________________________________________________________

5 year Goal:  ______________________________________

STEPS:
1.  _______________________________________________________________
2.  _______________________________________________________________
3.  _______________________________________________________________
Junior Year Timeline

March

- Schedule an appointment with your guidance counselor to make sure that you are on track to graduate with your class.
- Request an unofficial copy of your transcript. Ask yourself:
  o What “picture” does my transcript show?
  o Do I need to improve my grades?
  o Do I need to retake any classes?
  o Am I taking challenging classes that show my abilities?
  o What courses should I take next year to meet college entrance requirements?
- Register to take the next SAT/ACT exam.
- If you plan to participate in Division I or Division II sports, start the certification process.
- Develop a list of five or six colleges that meet your most important criteria (size, location, distance from home, majors, academic rigor, housing, etc.).

April

- Attend college fairs to learn about the colleges on your list.
- Stay focused on your studies. Work on raising your grade point average.
- Schedule visits to college campuses.
- Request information on the colleges that you are interested in attending. See “Applying to College - Correspondence”.
- Select courses for your senior year that will fulfill college entrance requirements.
- Meet with college representatives when they visit your school.

May

- When you visit college campuses, ask to sit in on a class.
- Begin narrowing your college choices.
- See your guidance counselor to apply for on-campus summer programs for high school students.
- Continue your participation in extra-curricular activities. Colleges look for consistency and depth in activities.

June

- Make a list of scholarships that you will be eligible to apply for next year.
- Explore volunteer opportunities.
Senior Year Timeline

September/October

- Schedule and take SAT and/or ACT exams.
- Attend college fairs to meet college representatives and to learn about the admissions process for individual colleges and universities.
- Plan visits to colleges and set up interviews.
- Make sure you have all necessary applications for college admission and financial aid, and double check the deadlines for the schools to which you intend to apply.
- Schedule an appointment with your guidance counselor to discuss your educational plans and goals.
- Ask the appropriate people to write recommendations on your behalf.
- Begin saving for college housing and enrollment deposits. These range from $200-$400 depending on the school.

November

- Attend a financial aid workshop with your parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Stay focused on your studies.
- Continue filling out college applications (be sure to keep copies of everything you send out).
- Have your official test scores sent to colleges on your list, if you haven’t done so already.

December

- If you haven’t done so already, apply for a personal identification number (PIN) from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) [Your parent/guardian will also need a pin]. [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- Attend a financial aid information session at your high school if you did not attend in November and/or have additional questions.
- Meet with your counselor to go over your final college choices and make sure all of your bases are covered.
- All of your applications should be completed and mailed out by December 15th.
- If you applied for early decision or early action, you should have received a response by now.

January

- Submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as possible (ideally between January 1st and February 15th). **Do not wait for your parents’/guardians’ taxes to be filed.**
- Ask your counselor to send your first semester transcript to the colleges to which you applied (if the colleges requested them).
- Continue attending class and keep your grades up.
February/ March/ April

- Keep track of all of your applications and make sure they are sent and received on time and that they are complete. You can call and ask each college if your application file is complete.
- Meet with a College Success Foundation representative to discuss your college admissions and financial aid progress.
- You should receive your Student Aid Report (SAR) within four weeks after you have submitted the FAFSA.
- Continue to apply for scholarships.
- You should begin to hear from colleges and universities about their admission decisions.
- Begin contacting the housing offices at the schools that have offered you admission.
- In late March you should begin to hear about financial aid offers from colleges and universities.
- Visit the schools that you have been admitted to and take advantage of college Spring Preview Days that are available.

May

- Make your college decision by May 1st, the National Candidates Reply Date, and send in your tuition deposit to the college you will attend.
- Find out when tuition, room and board, meal plans, etc. are due.
- Look for information in your mailbox from your college about housing, roommates, orientation, course selection and registration, etc.

June/ July/ August

- Happy Graduation! Be proud of your accomplishments!
- Be sure to request your final high school transcript be sent to the college of your choice.
- Attend your college’s orientation.
# Information on Washington State Colleges and Universities

## Washington State Public Baccalaureates (2009-10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Incoming Freshman Class Size</th>
<th>Median GPA*</th>
<th>Median SAT/ACT Scores*</th>
<th>Annual Tuition</th>
<th>Annual Cost for Housing &amp; Meals</th>
<th>Scholarship Priority Deadline</th>
<th>Financial Aid Priority Date</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Web Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CWU - Ellensburg</td>
<td>1667</td>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>990/20</td>
<td>$6,363</td>
<td>$8,460</td>
<td>2/1</td>
<td>3/15</td>
<td>4/1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cwu.edu">www.cwu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EWU - Cheney</td>
<td>1518</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>960/20</td>
<td>$5,997</td>
<td>$7,080</td>
<td>2/15</td>
<td>2/15</td>
<td>2/15</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ewu.edu">www.ewu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>TESC - Olympia</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>3.03</td>
<td>1100/24</td>
<td>$5,133</td>
<td>$8,052</td>
<td>2/2</td>
<td>3/15</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.everygreen.edu">www.everygreen.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>UW - Seattle</td>
<td>5338</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>1205/27</td>
<td>$7,692</td>
<td>$8,949</td>
<td>12/1</td>
<td>2/28</td>
<td>1/15</td>
<td><a href="http://www.washington.edu">www.washington.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSU - Pullman</td>
<td>3372</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>1111 (SAT)</td>
<td>$8,488</td>
<td>$9,330</td>
<td>1/31</td>
<td>2/15</td>
<td>1/31</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wsu.edu">www.wsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWU - Bellingham</td>
<td>2688</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>1139/25</td>
<td>$6,150</td>
<td>$8,100</td>
<td>1/31</td>
<td>2/15</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wwu.edu">www.wwu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UW – Bothell</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>3.28</td>
<td>1066/23</td>
<td>$7,575</td>
<td>No on-campus housing</td>
<td>1/15</td>
<td>2/28</td>
<td>1/15</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bothell.washington.edu">www.bothell.washington.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSU – Vancouver</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>1090 (SAT)</td>
<td>$7,600</td>
<td>No on-campus housing</td>
<td>1/31</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu">www.vancouver.wsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WSU – Tri Cities</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>3.35</td>
<td>1038 (SAT)</td>
<td>$7,600</td>
<td>No on-campus housing</td>
<td>1/31</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tricity.wsu.edu">www.tricity.wsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Merit Scholarships:

- **CWU Dean’s and Trustee’s Scholars (waiver):** 55 - 79 AI; $2400 up to full tuition. Apply by February 1.
- **EWU Presidential Scholarship:** 3.8 and above GPA or ACT 28/SAT 1250; $2,000 (renewed if 3.5 GPA EWU). Apply by March 1.
- **TESC Scholaristic Achievement Award:** 3.0-3.49: $600 Tuition Waiver; GPA 3.5-4.0 GPA: $900 Tuition Waiver. Deadline March 1.
- **UW Academic Scholarships** (for Academic Achievement – 750 awards) & UW Undergraduate Academic Excellence Awards (50 four-year $2700 award) Must apply prior to December 1.
- **WSU University Achievement Award:** $2,000-4,000 2-yr award. Visit [http://futurestudents.wsu.edu/scholarships/achieve/index.aspx](http://futurestudents.wsu.edu/scholarships/achieve/index.aspx) to find out if you will be eligible. Funds limited- apply ASAP prior to January 31.
- **WWU President's Scholarships:** $500-$5,000, for academic achievement (including GPA, SAT, class rigor, and achievements) Apply early.

## Washington State Independent Colleges and Universities (2009-10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Incoming Freshman Class Size</th>
<th>Median GPA*</th>
<th>Median SAT/ACT Scores*</th>
<th>Annual Tuition</th>
<th>Annual Cost for Housing &amp; Meals</th>
<th>Scholarship Priority Deadline</th>
<th>Financial Aid Priority Date</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Web Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gonzaga – Spokane</td>
<td>1239</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>1188/26</td>
<td>$29,200</td>
<td>$7,733</td>
<td>2/1</td>
<td>2/1</td>
<td>2/1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gonzaga.edu">www.gonzaga.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLU – Tacoma</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>1100/25</td>
<td>$28,100</td>
<td>$8,600</td>
<td>12/16</td>
<td>1/31</td>
<td>2/15</td>
<td><a href="http://www.plu.edu">www.plu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Martin’s - Lacey</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>1030/21</td>
<td>$24,880</td>
<td>$8,360</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>12/1 (Priority)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stmartin.edu">www.stmartin.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SPU – Seattle</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>1160/25</td>
<td>$27,450</td>
<td>$8,444</td>
<td>11/15</td>
<td>2/1</td>
<td>2/1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.spu.edu">www.spu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Seattle U - Seattle</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>1160/25</td>
<td>$29,340</td>
<td>$8,805</td>
<td>1/15</td>
<td>2/1</td>
<td>1/15</td>
<td><a href="http://www.seattleu.edu">www.seattleu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>UPS – Tacoma</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>3.56</td>
<td>1230/27</td>
<td>$35,800</td>
<td>$9,190</td>
<td>2/25</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.ups.edu">www.ups.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitman – Walla Walla</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>1340/31</td>
<td>$36,940</td>
<td>$9,260</td>
<td>1/25</td>
<td>2/1</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.whitman.edu">www.whitman.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitworth – Spokane</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>3.69</td>
<td>1200/26</td>
<td>$28,650</td>
<td>$8,120</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.whitworth.edu">www.whitworth.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Private colleges award Merit Scholarships for strong GPA. Apply early. Contact college for specifics.
- Colleges that offer Early Action (non-binding) deadlines: Gonzaga = Nov 15 | SPU = Nov 15 | Seattle U = Nov 15 | Whitworth = Nov 30
- Early Decision (binding) deadlines vary by college. Contact college for specifics.

*Please note that the GPA and SAT/ACT scores listed above are the median – students with GPAs and tests scores above and below the scores listed were accepted. Students are highly encouraged to apply even if their GPA and test scores are lower than the ones listed.*

SAT scores above are based on the old SAT scoring method which combined math and verbal scores for a maximum of 1600 total (does not include writing scores). This information is subject to change; please consult the Office of Admissions at the college/university that you are applying to for up-to-date information.

Updated 11/09 JR
Washington State Public and Private Colleges/Universities
Online Application Links:

**Public**

Central Washington University:
https://www.applyweb.com/apply/cwu/index.html

Eastern Washington University:
http://www.ewu.edu/x5203.xml

The Evergreen State College:
http://www.evergreen.edu/admissions/apply.htm#paper_app

University of Washington:
http://admit.washington.edu/admission/

Washington State University:
http://futurestudents.wsu.edu/admission/apply.aspx

Western Washington University:
http://admissions.wwu.edu/freshman/

**Private**

Art Institute of Seattle:
http://www.artinstitutes.edu/seattle/Admissions/

Cornish College of the Arts:
http://www.cornish.edu/admission/

Gonzaga University:
http://www.gonzaga.edu/Admissions/Undergraduate+Admissions/default.asp

Heritage University:
http://www.heritage.edu/FutureStudents/Admissions/tabid/77/Default.aspx

Northwest University:
http://www.northwestu.edu/admissions/

Pacific Lutheran University:
http://www.plu.edu/admission/first-year/home.php

Saint Martin's University:
http://www.stmartin.edu/apply/

Seattle Pacific University:
http://www.spu.edu/depts/ugadm/applyingtospu/applynow.asp

Seattle University:
http://www.seattleu.edu/home/admission/undergraduate/apply_firstyear.asp

Trinity Lutheran College:
http://www.tlc.edu/admissions
University of Puget Sound:
http://www.ups.edu/applying.xml

Walla Walla University:
http://www.wallawalla.edu/attend-wwu/

Whitman College:
http://www.whitman.edu/content/admission/apply-to-whitman

Whitworth University:
http://www.whitworth.edu/Administration/Admissions/Undergraduate/Freshman/Index.htm
### COMMUNITY COLLEGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>School Code</th>
<th>Priority Funding</th>
<th>FAFSA Deadline</th>
<th>Additional Application Forms Required</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
<th>Website Address</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<td>Bellevue Community College</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(425) 564-2227</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:financialaid@bcc.ctc.edu">financialaid@bcc.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Bend Community College</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(509) 793-2034</td>
<td>bigbend.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:faidinfo@bigbend.edu">faidinfo@bigbend.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cascadia Community College</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(425) 352-8861</td>
<td>cascadia.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:financialaid@cascadia.ctc.edu">financialaid@cascadia.ctc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centralia College</td>
<td>003772</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(360) 735-6391 x234</td>
<td>centralia.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:financialaid@centralia.ctc.edu">financialaid@centralia.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clark College</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(360) 952-2153</td>
<td>clark.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:finaid@clark.edu">finaid@clark.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Basin College</td>
<td>003774</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>(509) 547-0511 x2304</td>
<td>columbia basin.edu</td>
<td>financialaid@columbia basin.edu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonds Community College</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(425) 640-1457</td>
<td>wdcctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:finaid@edccctc.edu">finaid@edccctc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everett Community College</td>
<td>003776</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(425) 358-9280</td>
<td>evcc.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fm.aid@evcc.ctc.edu">fm.aid@evcc.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grays Harbor College</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(360) 538-4081</td>
<td>ghcc.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cjasper@ghcc.ctc.edu">cjasper@ghcc.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<td>Green River Community College</td>
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<td>(253) 833-9111 x2440</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highline Community College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(206) 878-3710 x3358</td>
<td>highline.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:financialaid@highline.ctc.edu">financialaid@highline.ctc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Columbia College</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(360) 442-2390</td>
<td>lccc.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:financialaidoffice@lccc.ctc.edu">financialaidoffice@lccc.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>North Seattle Community College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(206) 527-3688</td>
<td>northseattle.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nsccfinancialaid@sccd.ctc.edu">nsccfinancialaid@sccd.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Olympic College</td>
<td>003784</td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(360) 475-7160</td>
<td>otc.ctc.edu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peninsula College</td>
<td>003786</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(360) 417-6390</td>
<td>pcc.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:finaid@pacertino.ctc.edu">finaid@pacertino.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pierce College – Lakewood</td>
<td>005000</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(206) 964-6544</td>
<td>pierce.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:financialaid@pierce.ctc.edu">financialaid@pierce.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pierce College – Puyallup</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(253) 840-8398</td>
<td>pierce.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:puyfinancial@pierce.ctc.edu">puyfinancial@pierce.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Seattle Central Community College</td>
<td>003797</td>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(206) 587-3844</td>
<td>seattlecentral.org</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sccdfinancialaid@sccd.ctc.edu">sccdfinancialaid@sccd.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Shoreline Community College</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(206) 546-4762</td>
<td>shoreline.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:finaid@shoreline.ctc.edu">finaid@shoreline.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Skagit Valley Community College</td>
<td>003792</td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(360) 418-7656</td>
<td>svcctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:finaid@skagit.ctc.edu">finaid@skagit.ctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>South Puget Sound Community College</td>
<td>005372</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(360) 596-5232</td>
<td>spscc.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:financial@spscctc.edu">financial@spscctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>South Seattle Community College</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(206) 754-6317</td>
<td>southseattle.ctc.edu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spokane Community College</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(509) 533-7017</td>
<td>spcc.spokane.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tobell@spcc.spokane.edu">tobell@spcc.spokane.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spokane Falls Community College</td>
<td>009544</td>
<td>July 5</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(509) 533-3550</td>
<td>spokanefalls.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SF-FnAid@spokanefalls.edu">SF-FnAid@spokanefalls.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tacoma Community College</td>
<td>003796</td>
<td>Late March</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(253) 566-5080</td>
<td>tacomacc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kmatison@tacomacc.edu">kmatison@tacomacc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Walla Walla Community College</td>
<td>005006</td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(509) 574-4301</td>
<td>wwcctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:terrijohnson@wwcctc.edu">terrijohnson@wwcctc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wenatchee Valley College</td>
<td>003801</td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>(509) 682-6810</td>
<td>wvcctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:financialaid@wvcctc.edu">financialaid@wvcctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Whatcom Community College</td>
<td>010364</td>
<td>April 1</td>
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<td>(360) 867-3260</td>
<td>whatcom.ctc.edu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yakima Valley Community College</td>
<td>003805</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(509) 574-6855</td>
<td>yvcc.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:yvccfoaid@yvcc.ctc.edu">yvccfoaid@yvcc.ctc.edu</a></td>
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### Technical Colleges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>School Code</th>
<th>Priority Funding</th>
<th>FAFSA Deadline</th>
<th>Additional Application Forms Required</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
<th>Website Address</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bates Technical College</td>
<td>012259</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(253) 609-7020</td>
<td>bates.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jhuesy@bates.ctc.edu">jhuesy@bates.ctc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellingham Technical College</td>
<td>018227</td>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(360) 752-8351</td>
<td>bctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:beltefa@bctc.edu">beltefa@bctc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clover Park Technical College</td>
<td>015864</td>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(253) 569-5660</td>
<td>eptc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:karen.speich@eptc.edu">karen.speich@eptc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Washington Technical College</td>
<td>005373</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(425) 739-8106</td>
<td>lwtc.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:financialaid@lwtc.ctc.edu">financialaid@lwtc.ctc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renton Technical College</td>
<td>014001</td>
<td>June 1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(425) 236-6841</td>
<td>rtc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mizutau@rtc.edu">mizutau@rtc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Seattle Vocational Institute</td>
<td>030521</td>
<td>Open Entry</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>(206) 587-4978</td>
<td>sviweb.sccd.ctc.edu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ystarkas@sccd.ctc.edu">ystarkas@sccd.ctc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

These schools have no set deadline for receiving FAFSAs. Some schools start new classes each month. Contact individual schools for more information.
College Admission Considerations

Most colleges consider a blend of academic and personal qualifications. Some consider academic qualifications only.

- Almost all colleges require a high school transcript and diploma. Requirements may be waived for some students (over age 25, senior citizens, etc.)
- The more selective the college, the more stringent the admissions requirements.
- Requirements at a college may differ for different programs or different students.
- Some colleges suggest criteria for admissions, such as SAT I and ACT scores in a certain range, specific academic courses, and GPAs above a certain level.
- Colleges that require standardized tests usually like a balance between verbal and math scores. Very unbalanced scores should be explainable and appropriate for the college (e.g. high math scores for engineering).

### ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS ARE INDICATED BY:

- High school courses – substance, diversity, and level of difficulty
- High school grades, **including senior year**
- Trends in grades (steady improvement, strong 11th grade record desirable)
- Relationship of grades to standardized test scores (high scores and poor grades undesirable)
- Rank in class
- Standardized test scores
- Academic honors and awards
- Recommendations from guidance counselor and teachers

### PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS ARE INDICATED BY:

- Extracurricular activities, interests, and hobbies (most important for the very selective colleges)
- Long-term commitment and talent in a few activities (e.g. sports, arts, student government, community service, religious activities)
- Recommendations from your guidance counselor, one or two teachers, possibly an employer or a close friend – people who know you well and appreciate your strengths and potential
- Application essays
- Personal Interviews
New college admission requirements affect high school freshmen

In 2008, high school 9th graders who plan to seek admission to public baccalaureate institutions (four-year colleges and universities) in Washington began taking courses to meet the state’s new minimum college admission standards.

The new standards, approved by the Higher Education Coordinating Board in 2007, include College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR) that specify the course work required in six different subject areas. The subject areas are math, English, science, social science, world languages, and the arts. Feedback from high schools and institutions resulted in revisions to the standards in 2009 that clarify total CADR and laboratory science requirements.

Shown on the following page, in the right column, are the revised CADR that high school 9th graders, beginning with academic year 2008-09, must meet in order to be considered for regular admission to a public baccalaureate institution in 2012.

Shown in the left column are current CADR that remain in effect through the 2011-12 academic year for all other high school students, (except 9th graders in 2008-09, as previously noted).

The 2009 revised minimum college admission standards encourage high school 9th graders, beginning with the 2008-09 academic year, to begin earning three credits of CADR courses each year of high school, including their senior year. Students must take a minimum of three CADR courses in grades 10-12.

Each school district determines which of its courses meet CADR guidelines.

Revised science requirements

Beginning in the summer of 2010, to be considered for regular admission to a public baccalaureate institution, entering college freshman will need to complete two credits of laboratory science. One credit must be in an algebra-based laboratory science course (as determined by the school district). The other credit must be in biology, chemistry, or physics (this course may also meet the algebra-based requirement).

Standards fully implemented in 2012

Beginning in summer 2012, Washington’s public four-year colleges and universities (baccalaureate institutions) will fully implement the new minimum college admission standards approved by the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Notes on CADR and admission standards

CADR refer to college admissions criteria established by the Higher Education Coordinating Board. The term differs from high school graduation requirements that are determined by the State Board of Education and local school districts.

Students who plan to attend a four-year college or university should be aware of both sets of requirements.

Meeting the minimum college admission standards does not guarantee admission to a public baccalaureate institution.

Therefore, students are encouraged to go beyond meeting minimum college admission standards to improve their chances for gaining entry to a public baccalaureate institution. Students should obtain admission information from the institution they wish to attend.

All K-12 and college personnel who advise students on admission to public four-year colleges and universities should obtain a copy of CADR guidelines and other related minimum college admission information.

The information is available at: www.hecb.wa.gov/research/issues/admissions.asp

Students should consult with their local high school to obtain complete information about minimum college admission standards, and to be aware of which courses at their high school meet CADR guidelines, as determined by the local school district.
## College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR)

### Through 2011*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>Credits Required</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English – 4 credits</td>
<td>(including 3 credits of literature and composition)</td>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> The term “credit” is used to designate that a student has satisfactorily completed a CADR course during the high school academic year. School districts may use alternative or block scheduling that permit students to earn a credit in less than a full year. *All CADR below are effective through 2011, except science, (see below).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics – 3 credits</td>
<td>(including algebra, geometry, and advanced math)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics – Senior-year</td>
<td>None currently required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science – 2 credits, including 1 credit of laboratory science. This CADR remains in effect through 2009.</td>
<td><strong>NOTE:</strong> Beginning in 2010, 2 credits of laboratory science. One credit must be in an algebra-based science course as determined by the school district. One credit must be in biology, chemistry, or physics (this course may also meet the algebra-based requirement).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Languages – 2 credits of the same world language, Native American language, or American Sign Language.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Science – 3 credits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts – 1 credit of fine, visual, or performing arts, or electives from any of the other required subjects.</td>
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### Beginning 2012**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>Credits Required</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English – 4 credits</td>
<td>(must include 3 credits of college preparatory composition or literature). Passage of 10th-grade WASL-reading is equivalent to earning the first 2 CADR credits of high school English.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics – 3 credits</td>
<td>(Algebra I, geometry, and Algebra II, or Integrated Math I, II, and III) Passage of 10th-grade WASL-math is equivalent to earning the first 2 CADR credits of high school math (Algebra &amp; Geometry or Integrated Math I and II). <strong>Note:</strong> Successful completion of math through pre-calculus meets the requirement for 3 credits of math and the senior-year math requirement (below).</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics – Senior year, during the senior year of high school, students must earn a credit in a math-based quantitative course, e.g., statistics, applied math, or appropriate career and technical courses. An algebra-based science course taken during the senior year also would satisfy this requirement and part of the science requirement below. <strong>Note:</strong> The senior-year math requirement does not mean a 4th credit of math is required, nor does it require a higher level of math. The intent of this requirement is for seniors to take meaningful math.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Science – 2 credits of laboratory science are required for admission to public baccalaureate institutions beginning summer of 2010. One credit must be in an algebra-based science course as determined by the school district. One credit must be in biology, chemistry, or physics (this course may also meet the algebra-based requirement). Principles of technology courses taught in Washington High Schools may satisfy the laboratory science requirement. <strong>Note:</strong> Western Washington University specifies that the algebra-based science course be chemistry or physics.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Languages – 2 credits of the same World Language, Native American language, or American Sign Language.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science – 3 credits</td>
<td>(history or other social sciences)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts – 1 credit of fine, visual, or performing arts—or 1 additional credit in other CADR subject areas. <strong>Note:</strong> The University of Washington and Western Washington University specify one-half credit in fine, visual or performing arts; the other half may be in the arts or in an academic elective.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

*Students should consult with their local high school to obtain complete information about minimum college admission standards, and to be aware of which courses at their high school meet CADR guidelines, as determined by the local school district.*
Understanding the *Advantages* of Honors, Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Coursework

- Performance in rigorous high school classes is the most important factor in admission decision.
- Rigorous coursework prepares students for the workload they’ll face in college.

Understand the differences in these types of classes:

- **Honors classes**
  - Developed by the local school district
  - Designed to be more challenging and in-depth
  - Do not qualify for college credit

- **Advanced Placement (AP) classes**
  - Developed nationally by the College Board
  - Courses cover a wide variety of subject areas
  - Students can opt to take a final test that if passed will earn college credit
  - Each test costs approximately $85, but fee waivers are available for low income students
  - If a student chooses not to test, the coursework will do much to prepare students for college classes.

- **International Baccalaureate (IB) classes and/or diploma**
  - Internationally recognized program offered at some schools
  - Coursework is completed during Junior and Senior years in high school
  - Students can opt to take final tests that if passed result in an IB diploma and earn college credits.
  - Final IB tests are expensive but fee waivers are often available for students on free or reduced price lunch.
  - If a student chooses not to test, the coursework will do much to prepare students for college classes.
# Worksheet: College Bound Student

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<tr>
<td>2. Algebra</td>
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<td>2. Algebra</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. World Studies</td>
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<td>3. World Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Earth/Physical</td>
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<td>4. Earth/Physical Science</td>
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<td>5. ___________________</td>
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<td>6. ___________________</td>
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**In Addition**

In addition to the courses listed above, all students must achieve credit in the following subject areas: **Occupational Education (1.0), and Physical Education (2.0)**. All students must take the required one-semester health course as part of the physical education requirement sometime grades 9-12.

*Please consult your high school counselor, College Prep Advisor, or your HERO Staff member for specific information regarding your high school graduation requirements.*

*Not generally a high school graduation requirement, but required for admission to most 4 year schools.*