

SENIORS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW NOW

September 2015

TESTING: If you are applying for a 4-year school, you will need to take an entrance test, either an SAT, ACT or both. If you are applying to a 2-year school that doesn't require one, you may want to take one anyway to strengthen your scholarship applications or in case you change your mind to a 4-year school later.

Most schools let you decide which tests to take, but some don't. If you have a school in mind, check w/ them before registering. You can take each or both of these tests repeatedly, and schools only count your best performance.

It is **MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** that you take your test as early as possible.

SAT: Tests Reading, Math & Writing

<u>Test</u>	<u>Register By</u>
Oct. 3	Sept. 3
Nov. 7	Oct. 9
Dec. 5	Nov. 5
Jan. 23	Dec. 28
Mar. 5	Feb. 5
May 7	Apr. 8
June 3	May 5

ACT: Tests English, Reading, Math, Science (Writing optional; some colleges require these)

<u>Test</u>	<u>Register By</u>
Oct. 24	Sept. 18
Dec. 12	Nov. 6
Feb. 6	Jan. 8
Apr. 9	March 4
June 11	May 6

REGISTER: SAT – sat.org/register; don't accidentally sign up for Subject Test
- fee: \$54.50
- fee waivers available in counseling office

ACT – actstudent.org/start
- fee: \$39.50 w/o writing test; \$56.50 with writing test
- fee waivers available in counseling office

NOTE: Many colleges let you defer paying the application fee to later, but in order to qualify you must have used a fee waiver for your test

OREGON STATE SCHOOLS COLLEGE FAIR – April 2016!

Most CHS students who go to a 4-year school go to one of the state-supported universities. These seven schools comprise the Oregon State Schools. A college fair where you can learn about each of these schools will be held on the above date. Listen to the announcements for details about signing up.

GETTING STARTED ON FINANCIAL AID:

1. Check out **FastWeb.com** – **over 1.5 million scholarships worth over \$3.4 B**; search by answering questionnaire & letting site search its database for matches; biggest single scholarship resource available
2. Talk to your **parents** & anyone else who might contribute; this might be an awkward conversation, but you really do need to know what resources you can count on & how much you can count on them
3. Google, Yahoo or use any other **search engine** – enter terms that distinguish you from others (e.g. scholarships for Native Americans, students with disabilities, Hispanics, etc.)
4. Check out **CollegeBoard.com** – this site has scholarship info & other kinds of info (e.g. college selection & admission, practice SAT tests)
5. Go to the **websites for the schools** in which you are interested – find out what scholarships they provide & when the application deadlines are
6. **Central's counseling website is:**

chscounselorcorner.blogspot.com

**YOU CAN APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AT SAME TIME APPLY TO SCHOOL;
DO NOT HAVE TO WAIT FOR ACCEPTANCE.**

**\$CHOLARSHIP DEADLINES ARE OFTEN EARLIER THAN SCHOOL APP
DEADLINES.**

APPLYING FOR COLLEGE:

1. Narrow your choices down to 3-5 schools. One can be your **dream** school (where you'd like to go if there were no limits on admissions or \$), one can be your **safety school** (where you know you can get in) and one can be somewhere **in between**.
2. **Apply early** – at some schools, those who are accepted early may have first crack at financial aid
3. Always keep **copies** of your applications – why write more than one essay?

YOU CAN APPLY W/O TEST SCORES

NEED HELP?

email Mr. Cyphers at scyphers@central.k12.or.us