

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO HAVING A SENIOR



NODAWAY-HOLT R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Senior Decision Day

Friday, April 14

Senior Trip

Wednesday, May 10 & Thursday, May 11

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Friday, May 12

Graduation Practice - REQUIRED

Friday, May 12

Senior Last Day

Friday, May 12

Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, May 13 - 7:00 pm



COLLEGE & CAREER READY

HAVING A SENIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL



College is **NOT** for everybody;
Postsecondary education **IS** for
EVERYONE.



COLLEGE & CAREER READY

What does it mean?

- Your high school graduate has the knowledge and skills needed to qualify for and succeed in the postsecondary job training and/or education necessary for their chosen career, whatever that may be!



HOW TO FIND INFORMATION

Counselor's Corner link under the *Jr-Sr High School* section on the school website

- Scholarships
- Referral Forms
- Transcript Request Form
- Class Registration Forms
- FAFSA Information
- A+
- Wellness Apps
- Missouri Connections
- Student Opportunities

AND SO MUCH MORE!



COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS DAY

Thursday, March 28th, 2024:

- 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
 - Senior Options:
 - ACT
 - Job Shadow
- 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
 - Career Fair
 - Choose your own path or follow a career cluster
 - Career Clusters Include:
 - Health Services, Industrial & Engineering Technology, Human Services, Natural Resources - Agriculture, Business Management & Technology, Arts & Communication, Military, and Colleges, Universities, and Tech School employment fields



COLLEGE & CAREER READY

Senior Year Timeline

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| August - December | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Admissions Applications & College Visits |
| By October 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Create FSA IDs |
| Beginning October 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Complete the FAFSA & Post-Secondary Applications |
| November - March | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Apply for your institution's competitive scholarships and external scholarships.● Receive and review award letters. |
| May 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Submit deposits and accept financial aid |
| May - August | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Register for classes, finalize payment arrangements, & move in! |



ACT

HAVING A SENIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL



REGISTER FOR THE ACT

What you'll need:

- About 45 minutes
- A credit card or fee waiver
- Your high school course list and grades
- Your interests - The interest survey will match you to academic programs and jobs you might enjoy!
- Up to four colleges/universities to send your score reports for free
- Your photo to upload
- If your student qualifies for accommodations/modifications under and Individualized Education Plan (IEP) of 504, contact Mrs. Calfee

<http://www.act.org/>



ACT DATES & DEADLINES

- October 28, 2023
 - Registration Deadline: Sept. 22
 - Late Deadline + \$36: Oct. 6
- December 9, 2023
 - Registration Deadline: Nov. 3
 - Late Deadline + \$36: Nov. 17
- February 10, 2024
 - Registration Deadline: Jan. 5
 - Late Deadline + \$36: Jan. 19
- April 13, 2024
 - Registration Deadline: Mar. 8
 - Late Deadline + \$36: Mar. 22
- June 8, 2024
 - Registration Deadline: May 3
 - Late Deadline + \$36: May 17
- July 13, 2024
 - Registration Deadline: June 7
 - Late Deadline + \$36: June 21

On Site ACT District Testing:

- March 28, 2024
 - Registration Deadline: March 8th, 2024

Fees:

- **ACT - \$68.00**
- **ACT with Writing - \$93.00**



ACT PREP

Free ACT Test Prep

Includes:

- A Free Study Guide
- A free online practice test in all four subject areas
- A score report detailing what you missed and didn't
- Unlimited practice test retakes
- Free ACT Prep Sample Classes (additional classes available for a fee)

KAPLAN Free ACT Prep Classes

Hosted in partnership with ACT, these workshops and classes are available to you at no cost! Check them out to see if there are upcoming dates!

KAPLAN Free Practice test, Pop Quizzes & Question of the Day



FAFSA

HAVING A SENIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

What is it?

- FREE application used to apply for federal student aid programs offered by the U.S. Department of Education
- Some states and colleges use your FAFSA information to determine your eligibility for state aid and school aid
- Private financial aid providers may use your FAFSA information to determine whether you qualify for their aid



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

What does it do?

- Gives you access to the largest source of financial aid to help pay for college or career education.
- Covers such expenses as tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, and other related expenses such as a computer and dependent care.



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

How do I apply?

Complete the 2024-2025 FAFSA online

or

Using the myStudent Aid App

Beginning October 1, 2023

Parent/Student should complete the FAFSA together



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

What do I need? [Helpful Video](#)

- Social Security Number
- Federal Income Tax Return for Student & Parent
- Confirm Dependency status
- FSA ID

Not sure if you're Dependent or Independent? [Click Here](#)

Unusual circumstances? Check with Mrs. Ginther or Mrs. Calfee about
Dependency Override



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

FSA ID

- A username and password used to confirm your identity when accessing your financial aid information and electronically signed your federal student aid documents. To create an FSA ID [Click Here](#)

Tips for FSA ID

- Keep your FSA ID in a safe place
- Students and Parents should each have their own FSA ID
- Parents only need one FSA ID for all students
- Students should NOT use their school email
- Verify your email and phone number



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

Who is the parent on the FAFSA?

- If parents are living together (married or unmarried) use both parents
- If parents are single or divorced use the parent the student lived with most over the last year
- If that parent is remarried, you must use step parent's information
 - Even if parent/step parent were not married when they filed taxes in 2020
- If you're unsure, contact the Financial Aid Office
- If you think this may be tricky, don't use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool



COMMON ERRORS ON THE FAFSA

Household Size

- Students and parents (even if student not living with them)
- Student's siblings and children
- Other persons who receive >50% of support from student's parents
- Do **NOT** include # of family pets

Number in College

- Applicant always included
- Do not include parents - even if they're enrolled in courses
- Others in household who are enrolled at least half-time



COMMON ERRORS ON THE FAFSA

Confusing parent information with student information

- When the FAFSA says “you,” it is referring to the student

Not reporting required information

- Payments to tax-deferred pensions (find on your W-2)
- Child support paid
- Other information not transferred from the IRS or found on 1040

Not signing the FAFSA Form

- If you don't know your FSA ID, select “Forgot Password”
- If you don't have an FSA ID, create one
- If you are not able to sign with your FSA ID, there is an option to mail a signature page (signing manually can delay processing up to 3 weeks)



COMMON ERRORS ON THE FAFSA

Assets not included on the FAFSA:

- The home in which you live, including a family farm
- Value of life insurance and retirement plans (pensions, annuities, non-education IRA funds, etc.)
- Personal vehicles
- A small business or investment farm if you own/operate at least 50% and have 100 or fewer employees



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

When is it due?

Federal Deadline:

If you plan to begin college/technical education between
July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025
submit a 2024-2025 FAFSA form
between October 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024.

Apply ASAP after October 1!

Pay attention to state/school deadlines; Your state/institution may require the FAFSA be completed much earlier than the federal deadline.

February 1 is the priority deadline in Missouri.



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

What happens after I apply?

- FAFSA will analyze your information and provide a Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Review the Student Aid Report to confirm that all is correct and complete
- Your FAFSA information is shared with the colleges and/or institutions you list on the FAFSA form. The financial aid office at each school will use your information to determine how much federal student aid you may receive at that school.



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

How will you receive your aid?

- Your school will distribute your financial aid. How you will receive your aid will depend on the type of aid.
- The school will provide you with information on how and when your aid will be distributed.
- Typically, the school first applies your aid money toward your tuition, fees, and (if you live on campus) room and board. Any money left over is paid to you for other education-related expenses.



CHANGE IN FINANCIAL SITUATION?

Experienced a significant change in your financial situation from what is reflected on your Income Tax Return?

1. Complete the FAFSA as instructed in the application
2. Submit FAFSA to intended schools
3. Contact the school's Financial Aid Office to discuss change in income
4. Proceed as instructed by your school(s)



TYPES OF FEDERAL STUDENT AID

- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
- Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grants
- Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants



FEDERAL PELL GRANTS

- Awarded to undergraduate students with exceptional financial need
- Amounts can change yearly
 - The maximum award for 23-24 was \$7,395
 - Award amount depends on:
 - your Expected Family Contribution,
 - the cost of attendance (determined by your school for your specific program),
 - your status as a full-time or part-time student, and
 - your plans to attend school for a full academic year or less.
- To maintain the grant
 - Maintain enrollment in an undergraduate course of study
 - Fill out the FAFSA form every year



LOANS

- **Direct Subsidized Loans:**
 - Made to eligible undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need to help cover the costs of higher education at a college or career school.
- **Direct Unsubsidized Loans:**
 - Made to eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, but in this case, the student does not have to demonstrate financial need to be eligible for the loan.
- **Direct PLUS Loans:**
 - Made to graduate or professional students and parents of dependent undergraduate students to help pay for education expenses not covered by other financial aid.



VERIFICATION

HAVING A SENIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL



VERIFICATION

30-35% of FAFSA fliers selected to participate in mandatory quality-control.

The school must collect information from the student, compare it with the FAFSA and make any necessary changes.

Verification must be complete before a school can disburse federal financial aid to the student's bill.



VERIFICATION - STUDENT DOCUMENTS NEEDED

Verification Worksheet

- Household size
- Other members attending college

If the student filed taxes in 2021

- 2021 Federal Tax Return Transcript from IRS
- 2021 W-2s

If the student did not file taxes in 2021

- Letter from the IRS that student did not file taxes in 2021
- 2021 W-2s or a signed statement about how student earned money in 2021(ex: babysitting / paid in cash)

Other Documents

- Proof of Citizenship
- Proof of High School Completion
- Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose
- Confirmation of selective service registration
 - [Register Here](#)



VERIFICATION - PARENT DOCUMENTS NEEDED

Parent filed taxes in 2021

- 2021 Federal Tax Return Transcript from IRS
- 2021 W-2s

Parent did not file taxes in 2021

- Letter from the IRS that parent did not file taxes in 2021
- 2021 W-2s
- Signed statement about how parent supported family in 2021 (ex: SNAP benefits)

Other Documents

- Documentation of a change in marital status
- Confirmation of separate addresses if separated
- Copy of marriage certificate
- Copy of divorce decree
- Documentation of support of dependents in the home



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

For more information please visit: <https://studentaid.gov>

Or call/visit your institution's Financial Aid Office



A+ AND SCHOLARSHIPS

HAVING A SENIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL



A+ AND THE PELL / STATE GRANTS

Missouri A+ pays for the unpaid tuition & fees after Pell and State Grants are applied.

Tuition & Basic Fees

- Pell Grant
- State Grants

Unpaid Tuition & Fees

This may result in no payment from A+ if Pell and State Grants cover all tuition and basic fee charges.

FAFSA Required for A+



A+ ELIGIBILITY

Students must have:

- 95% attendance
- A GPA of 2.5 or above
- Proficient or Advanced on the Algebra I EOC
- 50 hours of unpaid tutoring/mentoring
- A signed agreement with Mrs. Ginther (see the A+ Student Handbook on the school website)
- A record of good citizenship and no drug/alcohol/tobacco related offense
- Completed FAFSA
- A+ Coordinator approval

Following graduation, an official copy of the student's transcript with A+ certification will be submitted to their postsecondary institution. The institution will distribute A+.



SCHOLARSHIPS

1. See the *Counselor's Corner* on the school website
2. See Mrs. Ginther or Mrs. Calfee in person
 - a. Local scholarships typically are brought to our attention in the Winter/Spring
 - b. When scholarships become available, they are posted on the Counselor's Corner website Mrs. Ginther has set up.



COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN MISSOURI

College Simply Search

Missouri public 2 & 4-year college/university deadlines can be found by visiting the selected school's admissions web page. See Mrs. Ginther or Mrs. Calfee with questions!



QUESTIONS?

Contact Mrs. Ginther at hginther@nodholt.org or Mrs. Calfee at scalfee@nodholt.org for further information.

