



GUIDANCE NEWSLETTER

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Welcome once again to a new school year. Students have adjusted to their schedules and the counselors are getting ready to begin the career planning process with juniors and seniors. The Guidance Newsletter will be sent 3-4 times throughout the year to keep you updated. We ask that you read this information carefully so that important deadlines are not missed. Seniors should take their ACT no later than October if they have not already taken it. Students eligible for “Free and Reduced Lunch” are eligible for a fee waiver for these tests.

SCHEDULE FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTS

<u>ACT TEST DATES</u>			<u>SAT TEST DATES</u>		
<u>TEST DATE</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>LATE DEADLINE</u>	<u>TEST DATE</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>LATE DEADLINE</u>
10/22/11	09/16/11	09/30/11	11/05/11	10/07/11	10/21/11
12/10/11	11/04/11	11/18/11	12/03/11	11/08/11	11/20/11
02/11/12	01/13/12	01/20/12	01/28/12	12/30/11	01/13/12
04/14/12	03/09/12	03/23/12	03/10/12	02/10/12	02/24/12
06/09/12	05/04/12	05/18/12	05/05/12	04/06/12	04/20/12
			06/02/12	05/08/12	05/22/12

ACT FEE: \$34.00 LATE FEE: \$55.00
ACT PLUS WRITING: \$49.50 LATE FEE: \$70.50

SAT FEE: \$49.00 LATE FEE: \$ 75.00

It is highly recommended that students apply online at www.actstudent.org or www.sat.collegeboard.org. When applying online, students can immediately get their test site and admission ticket. Students can also get their scores quickly after taking the exam. If a student takes the ACT or SAT more than once, colleges will use the higher score. The most common test for the state of Wisconsin is the ACT. Some students attending school out of state may need to take the SAT. Check with the counselors to determine the appropriate test. Most colleges require a composite score of 21-23 on the ACT if students are not in the top half of their class.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 10	College Fair, New Berlin West HS 6:30-8:30 pm
October 12	PSAT or Practice-ACT for juniors College visits for seniors
October 12	College Fair, Franklin HS, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
October 13	College Fair, Mount Mary College 9am-11am
October 19	Junior/Senior Parent Night, WHS 6:30-7:30 pm (note change in date from 10/26 to 10/19)
October 27	No school
October 28	No school
November 17	Conferences 4:00 - 8:00
November 23	1/2 day
November 24 & 25	No School—Happy Thanksgiving

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The search for scholarships is an ongoing process. Scholarships arrive in our office daily. Students are encouraged to listen to announcements and check the scholarship lists on the bulletin boards. Scholarships are also available on the Guidance page on the Whitnall website www.whitnall.com. Other good sources include scholarship books (available in local libraries) and the internet. It is important that all scholarship applications be turned in to the Guidance Office with enough time allowed to prepare and submit them by their due dates. Do not turn a scholarship in to the Guidance Office on the due date! Because most scholarships require transcripts, letters of recommendation or additional items to be added, we ask that you turn in scholarship applications at least one week before the actual due date. If they are not, we cannot guarantee that they will get to their destination on time. Many applications require that a transcript be sent with the application. There is a \$5.00 fee for each transcript sent, so be sure to include either cash or a check made out to Whitnall High School to cover this cost.

Attention Juniors: The PSAT and Practice ACT will be offered 10/12 to juniors planning to attend college. Information will be presented to juniors by Whitnall personnel - no sign up sheet.

College Representatives: Many colleges send admission representatives to Whitnall to meet with interested students. Students need to listen to announcements and sign up in the Guidance Office to see these representatives.

Junior ACT/SAT Timeline: Juniors planning to attend college or technical school after their senior year should plan to take the ACT or SAT in April, June or October of 2012. Juniors should take advantage of visiting colleges throughout the school year. Students are also encouraged to use the updated material in the Guidance Office to research colleges and technical schools.

An ACT prep class (ZAPS) will be offered on 10/10 and 10/11 and another class on 3/26 and 3/27. Information will be mailed to juniors. The class will be held from 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm. At Whitnall. Seniors can sign up by going to www.zaps.com. The cost for this class is \$75.00. Study materials are available in the Guidance Office.



LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Many students will be asking their teacher, counselor, coach and/or employer for a letter of recommendation. In order to allow for enough time, people should be asked to write a recommendation at least two weeks before it is needed. It is also a good idea for students to include an activity sheet which would include what students have done in and out of school during the past four years. Include things such as work, extra-curricular activities and volunteering experiences.

YOUTH OPTIONS FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS

The Youth Options program allows all public high school juniors and seniors who meet certain requirements to take post-secondary courses at a Wisconsin technical college or university. Applications must be turned in to the Guidance Office no later than 9/30/11. No late application will be accepted. See your counselor for details.

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Online Applications

1. Most applications are now filled out online. If you are applying for a UW school, you can easily apply at www.apply.Wisconsin.edu.
2. **Submit the "counselor sheet" sheet, if required, to Guidance with \$5.00 for your transcript fee.**
3. **If no counselor sheet is required, you still need to fill out a transcript request in Guidance with your \$5.00 fee.**



Paper Applications

1. Fill out your applications neatly and completely. We can begin processing applications in early September.
2. **Submit your completed application to the Guidance Office.** Include a check made out to the college for any application fees **and a separate check or cash for \$5.00 for each transcript.** (This transcript fee can be paid either in cash or a check made out to Whitnall High School)
3. **Your application along with your transcript and test scores will be mailed directly from the Guidance Office.** The same procedure will be followed for scholarship applications.
4. **Do not mail applications out yourself!** It is to your advantage to turn in all material to the Guidance Office for mailing. You do not have to include postage or an envelope.
5. For those people planning to apply to UW schools: A \$44 application fee is charged for each school that you apply to. Try to narrow your choices to avoid paying numerous application and transcript fees.

Please note that some colleges do require an original copy of your ACT to be sent directly from the company. At this point, UW Madison, UW La Crosse and UW Green Bay are the three state schools that require an original copy. If you applied to take the ACT and did request specific schools to receive your score, you will not need to request that it be sent later from the ACT company.

If you are undecided about college choices, make plans to visit campus open houses. Also, sign up in the Guidance Office to meet with the college representatives who stop in to answer your questions. Representatives are listed on the calendar in Guidance and are also mentioned on the daily announcements. Your school counselor will also be happy to help you.

EMPLOYMENT AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

If you are not planning to continue your education after high school, the Guidance Office can still help! Your counselor will be happy to advise you regarding your resume' and to discuss various options available to you after high school. Occasionally we get information regarding job and apprenticeship opportunities. Please stop in the Guidance Office to discuss your options.

Selective Service Registration is required of all male students within 30 days of their 18th birthday. You may register at your local post office, at school, or on-line at www.sss.gov.