

BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Senior College/Post High School

Planning Night



Beaverton High School Auditorium

Tuesday, September 26th, 2017 7-9pm

Welcome/Overview	7:00-7:20
First Session	7:25-8:10
Second Session	8:15-9:00

Welcome/Overview @ Auditorium

Karen Stabeno, Head Counselor, Beaverton High School

Break-Out Sessions (Attend One or Two)

Private/Selective Colleges @ Lower Cafeteria

Nial Rele, Assistant Dean of Admissions, Lewis and Clark College

Public/State Colleges @ Auditorium

Jim Rawlins, Director of Admissions, University of Oregon

Community College @ Upper Cafeteria C-218, C-220

Heidi Edwards, Outreach and Orientation Coordinator, Portland Community College

Fine/Visual and Performing Arts Colleges @ Choir Room

Sharron Starling, Director of Admissions, Cornish College of the Art

Writing an Effective College Essay @ Library

Eric Delehoy, Independent College Counselor

**The first four breakout sessions offer insight into the admission requirements, application process, testing timeline, financial aid/scholarship information and other specific information pertinent to the type of college or university represented. The last session provides tips on writing an effective college essay.*

BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

2017-18 INFORMATION NIGHTS

Students and parents are encouraged to attend the following monthly information nights at the location nearest to their home high school. Each location will provide similar information on the topic listed. These evenings are designed to provide information about the college process, financial aid, scholarships and additional options available post high school. Interpreters will be available at all of these nights.

Topic	Date	Time	Location	Grade
12 th Grade College & Post HS Planning	9/26/2017 9/28/2017	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Beaverton HS Sunset HS	12 th
FAFSA/ Scholarships	10/5/2017 10/10/2017	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Westview HS Aloha HS	11 th & 12 th
Finding Affordable Colleges	11/2/2017	6:30 PM	Beaverton HS	9 th – 11 th
Building Your College Profile/ Post-Session: NCAA	2/28/2018 3/1/2018	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Sunset HS Mountainside HS	8 th - 10 th
Career/Technical Programs	3/6/2018	6:30 PM	Merlo HS	All Grades
Pre-Session: Support Services for Students with Learning Differences/ Finding the Best Fit/College Application Process	4/5/2018 4/11/2018	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Westview HS Southridge HS	11 th

All high schools will offer FAFSA Workshops in October. These dates will be publicized by the home high school. Latino College/First Generation College Night will also be offered by each high school throughout the year.

**BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFERS FREE ONLINE VIDEOS FOR STUDENTS AND
PARENTS IN ITS NEW COLLEGE INFORMATION SERIES**

GET EDUCATED ABOUT:

- The College Application Process
- Building a Competitive Profile
- Scholarships
- Financial Aid
- Finding the Best Fit College
- Advising the Art Student

HOW TO GET THERE:

1. Go to www.beaverton.k12.or.us
2. Click on the *PARENTS & STUDENTS* tab.
3. Click on the *Student Services* tab.
4. Click on *COLLEGE & CAREER INFORMATION*.
5. Select the topic you want to learn about!

College Admissions Timeline

Senior Year:

September:

- MEET WITH YOUR COUNSELOR.
- Verify graduation credits and college entrance requirements.
- Review college choices and the application process.
- Finalize teacher and counselor recommendations.
- Review scholarship and financial aid information.
- Consider re-testing (SAT, ACT, and/or SAT Subject Tests), if necessary.
- Attend College Planning Night with your parents.
- Meet with college representatives who visit your school.
- Plan visits to your top choices. Spend the night on campus whenever possible.

October:

- Submit Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online (www.fafsa.ed.gov).
- Complete applications for Early Decision, Early Action or Early Action Single Choice.
- Complete applications for University of California and California State University system, if applicable.
- Attend information sessions with college representatives at your school and/or events they host in Portland. Ask about interviews in Portland – take advance of them when you can.
- Start or continue with your scholarship search. Many college specific merit scholarships have early deadlines.
- Attend Scholarship Night.
- If you intend to apply for need-based financial aid, use the FAFSA4caster at <http://studentaid.ed.gov> to calculate how much financial aid you may need.
- Complete the CSS Profile (if required by your colleges).
- Attend the Portland National College Fair. Over 300 colleges and universities will be represented.

November/December:

- If you have applied early decision or have sent in any applications early, follow up with teachers and counselors to make sure letters and transcripts were sent.
- Make sure your test scores have been sent to the colleges you selected.
- If you have completed the FAFSA, you should receive your Student Aid Report (SAR); review it carefully and report any inaccuracies and corrections to the FAFSA processor.
- Complete applications with January deadlines.
- Finish all college applications and meet with your counselor to put the “final package” together.
- Write Thank-You notes to teachers who have written you letters of recommendation

January:

- Study for semester finals and finish your 7th semester strong.
- If colleges require a first semester grade report (mid-year report), request that they be sent as soon as they are available.

February:

- Monitor your applications. If you do not receive a confirmation that your application is complete for any of your colleges, phone them immediately to check on the status.
- Check your emails regularly. College will often send you pertinent information regarding your application and scholarships by email.
- Stay focused on your classes – remember your college will get a copy of your final transcript.
- Continue to search for local and private scholarships.

March:

- Begin to plan visits to your top choice colleges if you feel the need to visit again as part of your decision making process.

April:

- Make necessary campus visits with a new focus – is this THE college for me? Be aware this is the busiest month for visits at many colleges, therefore early planning is necessary.
- Compare financial aid award packages. Call colleges to clarify and ask questions. If you have not received a package from one of your colleges, contact them.

May:

- **Notify colleges of your decision to attend (or not) by MAY 1st.**

June:

- Request that your high school send your final transcript to the college you are attending.
- Congratulations! Your high school counselor and teachers will celebrate you as a Graduate!

College Categories

Colleges and universities, including two-year and four-year, fall into one of the three general categories: Public, Private, or Proprietary (for-profit). It is important that students and families understand these classifications as they begin the college search. Each type of college has its own strengths, and no one type is better than another. It all depends on what you need and what fits you best. To help you decide, here is a brief explanation of the different types of colleges you may encounter.

College:

Any degree-granting institution offering post-high school, undergraduate education. Colleges typically award either a Bachelors of Arts or a Bachelors of Science degree, but they may also offer different types of degrees. Some two-year colleges offer associate's degrees. Some specialty colleges award training certifications. Colleges may be located on several acres of campus with a large staff and many buildings, or they may exist solely online.

University:

A degree granting institute of higher education that, besides a bachelors degree, also offers a masters and doctorate-level degrees.

Community College:

Two year colleges offer academic programs allowing a student to earn an Associate of Arts or Science degree, which may then transfer to a four-year institution, or receive technical training. Because community colleges are charged with providing educational services to a diverse population, they are constantly working to expand educational opportunities available to the community.

Non-profit College:

Most colleges are nonprofit organizations. This means that, public or private, the institution does not seek to make money in excess of their expenses.

For-profit:

For-profit institutions operate under the demands of stockholders and investors and often offer narrowly focused courses of study. Up to 90% of revenue comes from federal student aid; unfortunately this reliance on federal student aid has led the for-profit industry to promote potentially unsafe borrowing practices.

Online University:

A university that offers online classes only. While the school may have infrastructure located in buildings, student do not attend classes in a typical brick-and- mortar classroom.

Private College:

Any college or university that is funded primarily through tuition, fees and private donations.

Faith-based Colleges:

Whatever your religious faith, there is probably a college affiliated with your belief. Most colleges with a religious affiliation provide traditional college offerings and are open to all students. Some of these institutions, such as bible colleges and rabbinical schools, offer specific training for leadership roles in a religion.

Cultural Colleges:

Many colleges specialize in providing education to students with a particular background. There are the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and colleges like the National Hispanic University. Many Native-American tribes have their own colleges. Some of these colleges have cultural restrictions on acceptance, and others are open to all applicants.

Technical and Trade Schools:

Technical colleges primary focus is to prepare students for immediate employment. Tech schools are less likely to include non-vocational or general subject matter in their offerings. None or not all credits earned in a tech or trade school may transfer to an academic program.

Discovering the Best Fit for Each Student

Choosing the right school will require the student and the parent to explore the goals of the students. While a technical school may be the best choice for one student, a four-year college may be for the next. Parents know their students best and can be an invaluable resource to help students process these questions. Ultimately, though, it is important to choose the school that is right for the student, not what seems right for a parent or friends. It is also important to discuss as many of the details, such as cost of attendance, ultimate goals, transportation and other expenses. Many factors will be important to think about and discuss as a family because these will impact the whole family. Make this discussion a continuous process, not a final conclusion, and something that is reviewed and revised throughout the admissions cycle.

For the student:

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

- **What are the “non-negotiables”? What five characteristics are you not willing to compromise?**
- **Geographical location:** Northeast South Midwest West Coast
- **Campus setting:** Urban Suburban Rural
- **Enrollment Size:** Very Small (less than 1000) Small (1000-5000)
Medium (5000-10,000) Large (10,000-20,000) Very Large (20,000+)
- **Religious Orientation:** Pervasively Christian Catholic Other church sponsored None
- **Academic Orientation:** Liberal Arts Strong math/science Vocational
- **Campus Character:** Residential Some commuters Commuter
- **Campus Community:** Diversity Homogeneous
- **The Campus Culture:** Highly competitive Competitive Collaborative or no pressure
- **Extracurricular activities you hope to pursue?**

WHY COLLEGE?

- What are three things you want most from your college experience?
- What kind of pressures from others are you feeling right now regarding your college choice?
- What are three things you would like the college of your choice to offer?
- Looking at yourself both in and out of school, what personal assets will help you succeed in college?
- Who or what will be your most helpful resource in making your decision about which college to attend?
- What is your number one reason for going to college?
- What will a “successful college experience” mean to you?
- Do you prefer a big city? Suburb? Small town?

Questions for Parents—the answers to these questions should be shared with your student:

- How far is the college from home?
- Do you have a specific location in mind?
- Why do you think your child wants to go to college?
- How will your child react if your expectations conflict?
- Will your child be more successful in a very small college? A smaller private school? A medium sized school? A very large university? Why?
- How good is your child at asking for help (anything from directions on campus to tutoring) when needed?
- Do you prefer an institution that is primarily for undergraduates? Why or why not?
- Would you consider a single-sex school? Would you prefer one?
- In a coed school, do you care whether the male to female ratio is balanced?
- Do you prefer a school with a religious affiliation?
- What preferences (and prejudices) do you think your child has regarding the size and student composition of the college he or she will attend?
- How realistic do you view these preferences?
- Does your child have a major in mind? If so, what?
- How certain about it do you think your child feels? Does he/she have a career goal? If so, what?
- How do you feel about this choice of major and/or career?
- Do you think your child would be happy at this school if he/she changes major?
- What other academic areas do you hope will be pursued in college?
- Are there subjects that your child is likely to avoid that you think should be studied?
- Do you think your child works better when challenged by tough classes and bright classmates or when near the top of a less competitive group?
- Is having your child attend a prestigious college important to you? Is it equally, more, or less important to your child?
- Will cost influence where your child attends college? Do you plan to apply for financial aid?
- How much money, if any, have you set aside for college expenses for your child?
- What amount do you expect your child to contribute from earnings and assets?
- What extracurricular activities do you hope your child will pursue in college?
- Would you prefer your child to live at home? In a single-sex dorm? In a coed dorm? In a fraternity or sorority? In an apartment?
- How will your child do with a roommate? How about more than one?
- Most importantly, why do you want your child to go to college?

The Application

College applications can now be found online at individual college websites. You should review the college's website for application information and the current year application, financial aid, and housing information. It is recommended that you complete your application online. For independent colleges and universities, and some public universities, we encourage you to use the the Common Application (www.commonapp.org) if the institution is a member.

Personal Statement and Essays

Virtually all colleges will request that you address a personal statement or essay as part of your application. You should begin the writing process early and have your essay reviewed by teachers and your counselor. The essay should give the college a better picture of you as a student and as an individual.

Tips for writing your **Personal statement**:

- Write about parts of your life that cannot be gleaned from other parts of your application.
- The personal statement should complement, not repeat, the rest of your application.
- Write about the substantive aspects of your life.
- Concentrate on only a few characteristics so that you can have a clear focus to the essay.
- Be careful about being too self-revealing or personal.
- Remember that you only have 1-2 pages to write about the qualities and accomplishments that reveal more about You.

Tips for writing an **Essay**:

- Answer the what and why –read the question carefully!
- Colleges are looking for a higher level of thinking and for students who are able to make connections between simple and complex concepts.
- Write from an analytical point of view.
- Write an essay you like – write something you will be proud of.
- Be thoughtful and have a spirit to your essay.
- The less the essay sounds like a seventeen year old, the more it may hurt your application.

Other **Essay and Personal Statement** hints:

- Be **PASSIONATE** about what you write.
- Answer the question and demonstrate how well you think, as well as how well you write.
- Don't select topics that bore (i.e. the social problem of the year), irritate (a hot political topic) or suggest you don't see the world beyond high school.
- Do proofread and ask someone to proofread for you.
- Don't make careless mistakes.
- Stay away from vague examples- don't be afraid to reflect real life.

- Write about what you know.
- Realize that humor can be difficult to pull off in an essay. Don't try to be funny if that is not your personality.
- Limit the topics so you can effectively deal with the material.
- If you write about parts of your life dealing with issues around the 3D's (drugs, divorce, depression) – be able to evaluate and reflect rather than just relay information.
- Remember that the essay is being read quickly and for general impression.
- Don't be afraid to use a second page rather than compressing sentences.
- Make it easy to read.
- BE ABLE TO SAY, "THIS SOUNDS LIKE ME!"

Checklist for Submitting Application and Essays

Whether you are completing a multi-page college application, or writing a 650-word scholarship essay, the task can be intimidating. Here are a few hints we have compiled to make the process smoother and ease your anxieties.

Completing The College Application

- 📄 Read the entire application, making notes of important points.
- 📄 Follow the directions exactly.
- 📄 Make sure you enclose everything the application requests i.e., application fees, recommendations, transcripts, OR you can make arrangements for these items to be sent. Do not include anything that is not specified.
- 📄 If the application asks for hours involved in a project, do not write, "varies." This means nothing to the selection committee. Estimate the hours as accurately as you can. If the scholarship asks for total hours, do not give weekly or monthly hours give total hours.
- 📄 Do not use acronyms until you have used the entire title once, with the acronym in parentheses.
- 📄 Check the date of the deadline and the day of the week on which it falls. Send in the application well before the deadline. Find out when the schools begin to accept students' application. The earlier you send it in the better.

Requesting Recommendation Letters

- ☞ If you need a recommendation, ask a teacher or counselor who knows you personally and is willing to write the recommendation. Provide this person with requested information well in advance and ask them for a deadline.
- ☞ The more information you can provide the writer (i.e., resume, personal goal statement, type of scholarship you are applying for and/or college), the better they can write a letter to meet your needs.
- ☞ Be sure to give the person submitting a recommendation for you a stamped envelope addressed to the college where it is to be sent, if the application is not sent electronically.
- ☞ Before the deadline, follow-up with the person submitting your recommendation to assure that it is turned in on time.

Organizing Your Application

- ☞ Keep a copy of the final application for your records.
- ☞ Create a separate file folder for each school or scholarship to which you are considering applying.
- ☞ Keep copies of all your application materials, so when you apply for additional scholarships, you can rework information you have already developed, rather than starting again from scratch.

Writing the Perfect Scholarship Essay

- ☞ Give yourself plenty of time to write and rewrite essays.
- ☞ Your essay must be original, and must fit the requested format. Reusing essays without reworking them to fit the specific scholarship is not effective.
- ☞ If the scholarship requires answering essay questions, be sure your writing answers the question. If the question has more than one part, be sure to address the various components of the question.
- ☞ Choose a topic that is meaningful to you so you can put your heart into your writing.

- ☞ Brainstorm. Think about content and organize what you feel is important and will best describe you and your goals.
 - What are your major accomplishments?
 - What attributes, qualities or skills distinguish you from everyone else?
 - Consider your favorite books, movies, works of art, people you admire and how they have influenced you.
 - Have you ever fought hard for something and succeeded?
 - What are your future aspirations, dreams, and goals? How do you want to be remembered, or what do you want to be known for?
 - What have you done outside the classroom that shows more of who you are as an individual? What are your most important extracurricular and community activities?

- ☞ If a scholarship asks for educational goals, and you are not sure what you want to do, either, a) pick one likely scenario and explain it. Or b) explain everything you do know such as; how much education you want, the type of work and work setting you wish to prepare for, the driving force that would make any line of work meaningful to you, some areas of interest you are currently considering.

- ☞ Do not use an essay just to repeat information already in the application.

- ☞ Emphasize the things that are unique about you.

- ☞ Your objective is to convince someone else that they should invest their scholarship in you. Be sure to choose a topic that will give you the opportunity to be convincing.

- ☞ Know your audience and speak to their interests. For example, if you are applying for a business scholarship, speak in your essay about your personal interests and experiences in business-related areas.

- ☞ Do not be overly humble in your application. The selection committee is not likely to know you, or to realize you just don't like to brag. You can be clear about your accomplishments with our sounding like the biggest ego in the universe.

- ☞ Your essay needs to be engaging and memorable. Start out strong.

- ☞ Humor on paper is tricky; save it for your friends.

- ☞ Be yourself and be creative. Do not adopt a negative or preachy tone.

- ☞ If you choose to write about a traumatic experience, write about how it caused you to grow, rather than focusing on the negative outcomes of the event.

- ☞ Leave these phrases out of your application: “I didn’t do much in high school”, “next year I plan to do some volunteer work.”, “I just can’t tell you how meaningful that was for me.”
- ☞ If the essay has a page or word number limit, do not go over the limit. Scholarship committees need to be able to compare parallels essays. If yours is longer, it gives you an unfair advantage. Some committees may solve this by removing your application from consideration.
- ☞ Check and double-check the grammar and spelling. Don’t just depend on the spell-checker; have someone critically proof read for you. The experience may be painful at first, but the pay off is more important. Be especially certain you spell the name of the scholarship correctly.

Questions to Ask During a College Visit

Admissions Office:

- What are the admission requirements for this college/university?
- How many students applied for admission last year? What percentage of students did you admit? What percentage of applicants was admitted during early action/early decision?
- What were the stats of the average student admitted during the regular admission cycle?
- What were the stats of the average student admitted during early action/early decision?
- What weight in your admission evaluation do you give to the following:
 - GPA and rank in class
 - Difficulty of course work taken
 - ACT/SAT scores
 - Parent of applicant is an alum
 - Essays in application
 - Recommendations
 - Involvement in extra-curricular activities
 - Demonstrated interest
- When you are examining the student’s cumulative GPA, do you give more weight in calculating honors or AP/IB courses?
- What are the deadlines for admission and financial aid?
- Is there anything else about the admission evaluation process that you feel students should know?
- What are the most popular majors at your college?
- What departments/majors do you consider to be especially strong at your college?
- Are there any national awards or evaluations that have been given to particular departments that you are proud of?
- Does this school offer a variety of programs in the areas that interest me?
- What percentage of freshman and sophomore courses do graduate students teach? Is there a spoken English standard required for your teaching graduate students?

- What is the average size of a typical freshman class?
- How does academic advising work on campus? What are the strengths and weaknesses of your advising system?
- What study abroad or volunteer opportunities are there for students?
- Are there opportunities for internships, co-ops, etc.?
- Do faculty conduct research with undergraduates or just graduate students?
- What academic support resources are available?
- Does this college award college credit for performing well on AP or IB exams?
- Are students required to live on campus?
- Are there fraternities or sororities available? If so, can freshman live in the house?
- Is it difficult to get on-campus housing? How do I apply for on-campus housing? What is the cost?
- How many students live on campus? Do most stay on weekends?
- Is on-campus housing required? Is it guaranteed all four years?
- What extracurricular activities are available?
- What medical services/facilities are available to students?
- What percentage of students comes back for the sophomore year?
- What is the university's commitment to students graduating in four years?
- HOW SAFE IS THE CAMPUS? What proactive measures are taken?

For the Financial Aid Office:

- What is the total tuition and fees for this college?
- What kind of aid is available?
- What percentage of demonstrated need does this college meet?
- In your financial aid award offers, what percentage does the average admitted student receive in gift aid? Loan and work-study?
- Do I need to fill out the PROFILE in addition to the FAFSA?
- What are the priority deadlines for financial aid?
- Are there institutional scholarships to apply for? If so, what are their deadline dates? Is there a separate application?
- If a student receives an outside organizational scholarship, how does that affect his/her financial aid award offer?

For Current Students:

- How many hours a week (day) do you study? Is that typical of all students here?
- Do you feel safe here?
- Are professors available to students outside of class?
- Do you find support services readily accessible?
- Is it easy to be involved on campus?
- Are students encouraged to study abroad? Do research?
- Are campus jobs available?

- What is dorm life like?
- Do students stay around campus on weekends?
- What types of activities are available to students on weekends?
- Is the dorm food good?
- Is it possible to study in your dorm room?
- What type of political climate exists? Would you describe this campus as conservative? Liberal? Moderate?
- What do you like most about this college?
- What do you like least?
- If given the opportunity, would you choose this school again?

Admissions Interviews

Selective colleges may invite you to an interview on campus or with a representative at a location near you. Sometimes, the interviewer is an alumnus of the college or university, or it may be the regional admissions counselor. Colleges use the personal interview to learn more about you beyond your application. If you are given the opportunity to interview - Take It!

Helpful hints for interviews:

- Research the school ahead of time. If you have had the opportunity to visit, be sure to mention this. Demonstrate that you have done your homework.
- The interview is not the most important piece of your application process. Your transcript, meaningful involvement in activities, essays/personal statements and recommendations weigh more than a polished presentation.
- Dress appropriately. No jeans or pants that sit below your natural waist. Clothes should not be too tight or too loose. How you dress shows that you have given thought to a good first impression.
- Be prepared to talk about yourself. You are the expert on you! What are your best attributes? What are you looking for in a college? What most interested you about this particular college/university? What are your strongest or most favorite academic subjects? What was your proudest moment and why?
- Many times, the interviewer will be an alumnus of the university. This is your chance to ask about the student experience.
- Be prepared to ask knowledgeable questions about what you are looking to do in college: internships, research, study abroad, athletics, etc.
- Bring your resume and transcript. You may be asked to talk about various aspects of your resume and/or transcript.

- If your parents attend, decide in advance the role they will play. Be polite and introduce them to the interviewer. However, remember, this interview is about you and for you. If your parents have questions, leave these for the end.
- Turn off your cellphone.
- Write a note or email to thank the interviewer. Be sure that you have his/her contact information prior to leaving. Mention something specific that you spoke about in your interview and ask any additional follow up questions to demonstrate that you have thought about the interview.

College Terminology

Associate Degree-

The degree granted upon completion of an educational program at a two-year institution (community college or technical college). Students may earn an Associate of Arts degree or an Associate of Science degree, necessary for a student pursuing engineering or science-related degrees, to be transferred to a four-year institution.

Bachelors Degree-

The designation of the degree conferred by a four-year college or university based upon completion of a program normally requiring four to five academic years of study. Examples are B.A. (Bachelors of Arts), B.F.A (Bachelors of Fine Arts) or B.S. (Bachelor of Science).

Masters Degree-

A degree earned upon completion of approximately two years of study beyond the bachelors degree. Often a thesis is required for completion of the Masters degree.

Doctor's Degree (PhD. Or Ed.D.) –

An academic degree carrying the title of “Doctor”. Higher than a master’s degree, the earned Ph.D. requires extended study, coursework and research. The doctorate is generally earned after 4-8 years of study beyond the bachelor’s degree.

Early Action (EA)-

An admissions program whereby a student can submit an application, or multiple applications to Early Action schools, by a designated date in early November and received a decision by mid-December. The Early Action student, if accepted, is not bound to enroll. Students are not

required to notify the college of their enrollment decision until *May 1st*.
Commitment: Non-Binding

Early Action Single Choice (EASC)-

An application program whereby a student may apply by mid-November and are notified by mid-December. Under the EASC policy, students may not apply to colleges under any other EA or ED programs. However if admitted, the student is not required to make an enrollment decision until *May 1st*. This also may be referred to as Restrictive Early Action (REA) program. Commitment: Non-Binding

Early Decision (ED)-

An early application process that carries a *binding commitment* to enroll, if accepted, to the college. Student and parent must sign an agreement to withdraw all other applications at the time of acceptance through Early Decision and may apply to only one college Early Decision. It is likely students and parents will not be informed of financial aid awards prior to the decision to admit under Early Decision, which is a major drawback when it comes to negotiating your Financial Aid package. Commitment: Binding

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)-

Money a family is expected to contribute toward their child's education, which is calculated, based upon the information provided on the FAFSA.

Federal Pell Grant-

An award of money based on demonstrated exceptional financial need. Each year, the federal government determines the maximum amount Pell grant. Qualified families will receive an amount consistent with their need.

Federal Plus Loan-

Available to parents of dependent undergraduate students, regardless of financial need. A parent may borrow up to the full cost of education, minus financial aid, with interest accruing while the student is in school. Repayment will begin within 30 days following the full disbursement of the loan.

Federal Perkins Loan-

A low interest loan for both undergraduate and graduate students who demonstrate exceptional need. The loan is made and repaid to the school.

Federal Stafford Loan-

A loan provided by the government, which may be subsidized (repayment begins six months after graduation) or unsubsidized (option of paying interest and principal while in school).

Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)-

The application for federal student aid used by colleges to determine aid eligibility. It will determine the student's eligibility for grants, loans, and work-study. Families may submit the FAFSA on January 1st of the senior year and are encouraged to adhere to all published deadlines in order to have priority consideration.

Work Study-

A form of federal aid, students may work to earn part of their educational costs while attending college. Work-study provides campus-related job opportunities to students.

Profile-

A *supplemental* financial aid form used by some independent and public universities for additional financial aid information. There is a processing fee for the PROFILE. Students must also complete the FAFSA to be eligible for federal aid programs. The PROFILE may be submitted beginning in September of the senior year.

College Fair Visits

Performing & Visual Arts Fair

Monday, October 16, 2017

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Portland Art Museum

NACAC Portland National College Fair

Sunday, October 29, 2017

1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Monday, October 30, 2017

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Oregon Convention Center

PNACAC Spring College Fair

Sunday, April 22, 2018

University of Portland, Chiles Center

SAT or ACT

Which one is best for you?

TEST	ACT	SAT
TIMING	3 hours and 35 minutes with Essay	3 hours and 50 minutes with Essay
STRUCTURE	4 sections: English, Math, Reading Science Optional Essay	4 sections: Evidence-Based Reading, Writing & Language, Math-Calculator, Math-No Calculator Optional Essay
QUESTION TYPES	Multiple choice and essay	Multiple choice, grid-ins, and essay
SCORE	Highest composite score is 36, which is the average of the 4 test scores	Highest composite score is 1600, which is the sum of the 2 section scores
CONTENT		
READING	35 min—40 questions 3 stand-alone and 1 paired passage: Natural Science, Humanities, Literature, and Social Science	65 min—52 questions 4 stand-alone passages and 1 paired passage: Science, Literature, Social Science, Primary Sources, and Careers
MATH	60 min—60 questions Multiple choice questions with 5 answer choices: Preparing for Higher Mathematics, Integrating Essential Skills, and Modeling	55 min (with calculator)—38 questions 25 min (without calculator)—20 questions Multiple choice and grid-in questions: Algebra, Problem Solving and Data Analysis, and Passport to Advanced Math
SCIENCE	35 min—40 questions Separate science section: Data Representation, Research Summaries, and Conflicting Viewpoints	Science passages throughout the test Students receive an Analysis in Science Cross Test Score
ESSAY (OPTIONAL)	40 min Students analyze 3 perspectives and give their own point of view 4 scores, each on a scale of 2-12: Ideas and Analysis, Development and Support, Organization, and Language Use and Conventions	50 min Students analyze a 650-750 word document and explain how the author builds an argument 3 scores, each on a scale of 2-8: Reading, Analysis, and Writing

NOTABLE DIFFERENCES		
TIMING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less time per question 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More time per question
MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More geometry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More data analysis/problem solving • Math-No Calculator section
SCORING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English, Math, Reading, and Science each make up 25% of score 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Math each make up 5 of score
READING TOPICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More focus on science reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More focus on history/social studies reading
TEST PROVIDER	ACT	SAT
	www.ACT.org	www.collegeboard.org

2017-2018 SAT & ACT Test Dates

SAT: Register online at www.collegeboard.org

For questions, call SAT/College Board customer services: (866) 756-7346

Test Date	Tests Offered	Regular Registration Closes	Late Online Registration Closes
Oct. 7, 2017	SAT and Subject Tests	September 8, 2017	September 27, 2017
Nov. 4, 2017	SAT and Subject Tests	October 5, 2017	October 25, 2017
Dec. 2, 2017	SAT and Subject Tests	November 2, 2017	November 21, 2017
Seniors: The next Test Dates might not meet Application Deadlines			
March 10, 2018	SAT only	February 9, 2018	February 28, 2018
May 5, 2018	SAT and Subject Tests	April 6, 2018	April 25, 2018
June 2, 2018	SAT and Subject Tests	May 3, 2018	May 23, 2018

ACT: Register on line at www.act.org

For questions call ACT test customer services: (319) 337-1270

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 9, 2017	August 4, 2017	August 5-18, 2017
October 28, 2017	September 22, 2017	September 23-October 6, 2017
December 9, 2017	November 3, 2017	November 4-17, 2017
Seniors: The next Test Dates might not meet Application Deadlines		
February 10, 2018	January 12, 2018	January 13-19, 2018
April 14, 2018	March 9, 2018	March 10-23, 2018
June 9, 2018	May 4, 2018	May 5-18, 2018
July 14, 2018	June 15, 2018	June 16-22, 2018

* If you are a junior or senior on free or reduced lunch, please check with your counselor as you qualify for a fee waiver for the SAT and/or ACT.

Top Websites for Post-High-School Planning

Best for comprehensive College Search, Financial Aid, Scholarship Searches, Side-by-Side Comparisons:

1. <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>
2. <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator>
3. www.ucan-network.org

Best for “the Inside Scoop” on college admissions and college campuses:

1. www.collegeprowler.com
2. www.collegeconfidential.com
3. www.unigo.com

Best for online campus tours:

1. <https://www.campustours.com>
2. <https://www.unigo.com>

Best for career/occupational outlook exploration:

1. <https://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/home/> BSD students have sign-in
2. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

Best for Financial Aid and Scholarship Information (also see your colleges “net price calculator” now required by law on websites).

1. <https://netpricecalculator.collegeboard.org>
2. <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/features/net-price-calculator>
3. www.wiche.edu/programs

4. www.fastweb.com
5. www.finaid.com

Best for Required Financial Aid Documentation:

1. <https://www.fafsa.ed.gov> (file only on/after 1/1/2016)
2. <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp> (required only by some private colleges)

Free Web-Based Test Prep Resources

1. www.number2.com
2. www.actstudent.org/testprep
3. sat.collegeboard.org

Special Interest Websites

1. www.questbridge.org
2. www.gmsp.org
3. www.venturescholar.org
4. <http://www.firstgenerationstudent.com/>
5. <http://mup.asu.edu/research.html>

College Athletics

1. www.ncaa.org
2. www.playnaia.org

How To Choose an Art School

Get advice for choosing an art school that caters to your talents and career goals.

[Find Art Schools](#) | [Art School Articles & Resources](#) | [Guide to Art School Degrees](#)

It's no secret that most art careers are highly competitive. So it's not surprising that college art degrees are becoming increasingly necessary for artists hoping to make it in today's tough job markets. Going to art school can help you refine your talents and market your art or performance skills. It can also challenge you, expand your mind and inspire you to take your art to a higher level. It's the education and experience that Art College affords you, not just the diploma that can help you build the right foundation for your career as an artist.

FIND A SCHOOL

Know Your Art School Priorities

Choosing the art school that's right for you is a very important and a very personal decision. There are a number of factors to consider when selecting an art school:

- **Career Goals:** Does the school you are considering offer the art program you are looking for? If so, will the program qualify you for the art career you want? Does the school have the right college accreditation? Are there licensing or certification requirements you'll need to meet for professional practice?
- **Resources & Opportunities:** How much time and money do you have to dedicate to your education? Does the school you are considering offer financial aid to help you in your education? What internships and student teaching opportunities can the art school offer you, and what kind of connections can you make there that will further your art career?
- **Art School Location & Environment:** Are the students at the school the kind of people who inspire and challenge you? What sort of environment suits you best—big city, small town, competitive environment or close circle of support? Will you stay in your home state, or do you wish to move?
- **Previous Experience & Timeline:** Will the art school accept a portfolio with your application? Will they consider allowing you to use previous educational or work experience to fulfill graduation requirements? Are you hoping to begin your career as quickly as possible or are you looking for a longer college experience?

Know Your Art School Faculty

Once you have narrowed down your list of schools and have a short list of prospective art colleges, find out who's on the faculty. Having a teacher who is well known may mean good connections in the industry, but even more important will be their ability to teach and pass their knowledge on to you.

- Check out the faculty, and find out about their industry experience by reading their biographies or through personal contacts.
- If possible, visit the school to meet key teachers and understand their teaching styles.
- Sit in on classes and observe. Make sure the teachers engage the class and offer insight and demonstrate a high level of industry knowledge.
- Talk with current students. Find out if they enjoy positive relationships or mentorships with the faculty.

Know Your Art School Campus Facilities

When you pick an art school, you are choosing the place you will spend the majority of your day for a significant amount of time. Take a moment to consider the look and feel of the campus. See if it is a place you will enjoy spending your days.

- Check out the facilities. If you are a dancer, you will want to see the size and condition of the facilities where you will be dancing. Does the program have one or more large studios with sprung floors, stages equipped for dance productions, and live musicians available for classes?
- If you are looking at graphic design, web design, game design or animation schools, make sure the school is equipped with the latest technology. So many art and design fields require specialized equipment now. For photography school programs, do 50 students have to share one camera? Or is there one camera for every two students?

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Divisions I and II Initial - Eligibility Requirements

Core Courses

- **NCAA Divisions I and II require 16 core courses.** See list below.
- **NCAA Division I now requires 10 core courses** to be completed prior to the seventh semester (Seven of the 10 must be a combination of English, math or natural or physical science that meet the distribution requirements below). These 10 courses become "locked in" at the start of the seventh semester and cannot be retaken for grade improvement.
**It will still be possible for a Division I college-bound student-athlete to still receive athletics aid and the ability to practice with the team if he or she fails to meet the 10 course requirement, but would not be able to compete.*

Test Scores

- **Division I** uses a sliding scale to match test scores and core grade-point averages (GPA).
- **Division II** requires a minimum SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.
- The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes only the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used.
- The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a sum of the following four sections: English, mathematics, reading and science.
- **When you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code of 9999 to ensure all SAT and ACT scores are reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center from the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used.**

Grade-Point Average

- **Be sure** to look at your high school's List of NCAA Courses on the NCAA Eligibility Center's website (www.eligibilitycenter.org). Only courses that appear on your school's List of NCAA Courses will be used in the calculation of the core GPA. Use the list as a guide.
- **Division I** GPA required to receive athletics aid is 2.000 -2.299 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B , found on the NCAA website).
- **Division I** GPA required to be eligible for competition is 2.300 (corresponding test-score requirements are listed on Sliding Scale B, found on the NCAA website).
- **The Division II** core GPA requirement is a minimum of 2.000.
- Remember, the NCAA GPA is calculated using NCAA core courses only.

DIVISION I

16 Core Courses

4 years of English.

3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).

2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).

1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.

2 years of social science.

4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

DIVISION II

16 Core Courses

3 years of English.

2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).

2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).

3 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.

2 years of social science.

4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Quick_Reference_Sheet.pdf