A PARENT'S GUIDE TO HAVING A SENIOR



NODAWAY-HOLT R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT

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



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

Admissions Applications & College Visits

By October 1

Create FSA IDs

Beginning October 1

Complete the FAFSA & Post-Secondary Applications

November - March

 Apply for your institution's competitive scholarships and external scholarships.

Receive and review award letters.

May 1

Submit deposits and accept financial aid

May - August

 Register for classes, finalize payment arrangements, & move in!



ACT



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
 - o Registration Deadline: Jan. 5
 - o 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
 - o 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 onliné 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



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



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.



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



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



FSAID

 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 <u>Click Here</u>

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



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 <u>NOT</u> 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



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.

<u>February 1</u> is the priority deadline in Missouri.



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 with use your information to determine how much federal student aid you may receive at that school.



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?

- Complete the FAFSA as instructed in the application
- Submit FAFSA to intended schools
- 3. Contact the school's Financial Aid Office to discuss change in income
- 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
 - o 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



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



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



How to Request a Tax Return

Get Transcript Online

What You Need

To register and use this service, you need:

- your <u>SSN</u>, date of birth, filing status and mailing address from latest tax return,
- · access to your email account,
- your personal account number from a credit card, mortgage, home equity loan, home equity line of credit or car loan, and
- a mobile phone with your name on the account.

What You Get

- All <u>transcript types</u> are available online
- View, print or download your transcript
- Username and password to return later

Get Transcript by Mail

What You Need

To use this service, you need your:

- SSN or <u>Individual Tax Identification</u> <u>Number (ITIN)</u>,
- · date of birth, and
- mailing address from your latest tax return

What You Get

- Return or Account <u>transcript types</u> delivered by mail
- Transcripts arrive in 5 to 10 calendar days at the address we have on file for you

5.... 4506-T Request for Transcript of Tax Return ► Do not sign this form unless all applicable lines have been completed OMR No. 1545-1872 ► Request may be rejected if the form is incomplete or illegible. ► For more information about Form 4506-T, visit www.irs.gov/form4506t Tip. Use Form 4506-T to order a transcript or other return information free of charge. See the product list below. You can quickly request transcripts by using our automated self-help service tools. Please visit us at IRS.gov and click on "Get a Tax Transcript..." under "Tools" or call 1-800-908-9946. If you need a copy of your return, use Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Return. There is a fee to get a copy of your return. 1a Name shown on tax return. If a joint return, enter the name 1b First social security number on tax return, individual taxpayer identification number, or employer identification number (see instructions) 2a If a joint return, enter spouse's name shown on tax return. 2b Second social security number or individual taxpayer identification number if joint tax return 3 Current name, address (including apt., room, or suite no.), city, state, and ZIP code (see instructions) 4 Previous address shown on the last return filed if different from line 3 (see instructions) 5 If the transcript or tax information is to be mailed to a third party (such as a mortgage company), enter the third party's name, address Caution: If the tax transcript is being mailed to a third party, ensure that you have filled in lines 6 through 9 before signing. Sign and date the form once you have filled in these lines. Completing these steps helps to protect your privacy. Once the IRS discloses your tax transcript to the third party listed on line 5, the IRS has no control over what the third party does with the information. If you would like to limit the third party's authority to disclose your transcript information, you can specify this limitation in your written agreement with the third party. Transcript requested. Enter the tax form number here (1040, 1065, 1120, etc.) and check the appropriate box below. Enter only one tax form a Return Transcript, which includes most of the line items of a tax return as filed with the IRS. A tax return transcript does not reflect changes made to the account after the return is processed. Transcripts are only available for the following returns: Form 1040 series, Form 1065, Form 1120, Form 1120-A, Form 1120-L, and Form 1120S, Return transcripts are available for the current year. and returns processed during the prior 3 processing years. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days b Account Transcript, which contains information on the financial status of the account, such as payments made on the account, penalty assessments, and adjustments made by you or the IRS after the return was filed. Return information is limited to items such as tax liability and estimated tax payments. Account transcripts are available for most returns. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days ranscript. Available for current year and 3 prior tax years. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days Verification of Nonfiling, which is proof from the IRS that you did not file a return for the year. Current year requests are only available after June 15th. There are no availability restrictions on prior year requests. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days. 8 Form W-2. Form 1099 series. Form 1098 series, or Form 5498 series transcript. The IRS can provide a transcript that includes data from these information returns. State or local information is not included with the Form W-2 information. The IRS may be able to provide this transcript information for up to 10 years. Information for the current year is generally not available until the year after it is filed with the IRS. For example, W-2 information for 2011, filed in 2012, will likely not be available from the IRS until 2013. If you need W-2 information for retirement purposes, you should contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days Caution: If you need a copy of Form W-2 or Form 1099, you should first contact the payer. To get a copy of the Form W-2 or Form 1099 filed with your return, you must use Form 4506 and request a copy of your return, which includes all attachments Year or period requested. Enter the ending date of the year or period, using the mm/dd/yyyy format. If you are requesting more than four years or periods, you must attach another Form 4506-T. For requests relating to quarterly tax returns, such as Form 941, you must enter each quarter or tax period separately. Caution: Do not sign this form unless all applicable lines have been completed. Signature of taxpayer(s). I declare that I am either the taxpayer whose name is shown on line 1a or 2a, or a person authorized to obtain the tax information requested. If the request applies to a joint return, at least one spouse must sign. If signed by a corporate officer, 1 percent or more shareholder, partner, managing member, guardian, tax matters partner, executor, receiver, administrator, trustee, or party other than the taxpayer, certify that I have the authority to execute Form 4506-T on behalf of the taxpayer. Note: This form must be received by IRS within 120 days of the Signatory attests that he/she has read the attestation clause and upon so reading declares that he/she has the authority to sign the Form 4506-T. See instructions. Phone number of taxpayer on line For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see page 2. Form 4506-T (Rev. 7-2017) Cat. No. 37667N

Call the IRS at 800-908-9946



For more information please visit: https://studentaid.gov
Or call/visit your institution's Financial Aid Office



A+ AND SCHOLARSHIPS



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
 - Local scholarships typically are brought to our attention in the Winter/Spring
 - b. When scholarships become available, they a 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.

