

A Guide to College Counseling for Parents and Students

A Note to the Parents of Our Students

It probably seems like only yesterday that you were sending your child off to kindergarten, now you have a child who is more than halfway through high school. With each age have come different challenges. Now you must embark on the latest challenge—helping your child to head toward college. We are all aware of the necessity of a good education. Education really matters, especially in our day of advanced technology and rapid change. Your attitude toward higher education, and the attitude of your child, is one of the major determining factors in your child's academic success, and ultimately, success in life. It is our responsibility to help our students gain a sense of connection to their education by demonstrating that how they do in school is linked to everyday life, and how college is not just an expectation but also a tool that they can use to get them to where they want to be in life. You are the primary supportive adults of our students, so don't miss out on this important educational step of college planning.

Dear Class of 2009

Did you know that income is linked directly to education? According to the latest U.S. Census figures, a person with a bachelor's degree is earning an average of 45% more than a person with a high school diploma. Even some education following high school will boost your salary about 15% above the earnings of a person who concluded their education with high school graduation. It's not all about money though. Education beyond high school will make you smarter because it will improve your thinking skills. Your verbal and mathematical skills will increase, you will become a better writer and communicator, and overall, you will develop higher level thinking skills that you aren't even aware of yet. Education isn't all about money and it's not all about intellectual growth. Further education will affect your political, social, and religious values. Independence, maturity, growth, new social experiences, exposure to different types of people, building social networks, gaining new friends, and seeing yourself as a more confident and caring person are all benefits of a good education beyond high school. Consider these things as you move through your senior year, knowing that graduation on May 15, 2009, is not the end of learning, but the beginning of a life of learning.

Timeline for Juniors—2008-2009

September

- Be very conscious of your academic record. Colleges are looking for students with good grades, GPA, class rank, involvement in a variety of extra-curricular activities at school as well as volunteer work in the community.

- Look over your performance on the EXPLORE and PLAN tests, especially the results of your interest inventory.
- Investigate the careers that interest you. Talk to your parents, teachers, counselors and others who may have knowledge about those careers.
- Begin to consider the types of schools you would like to attend. Identify a list of 4-5 schools and begin to research.
- Register to take the PSAT, a practice ACT, or the ASVAB in October.

October – November

- Continue investigating careers and colleges.
- Take the appropriate test (PSAT, practice ACT, or the ASVAB) on October 14 or 15.
- Consider attending the National College Fair at St. Louis University on Sunday, October 19, from 12:00-3:00pm.
- Participate in the guidance interpretive sessions held during Academic Lab for the tests taken on October 14 or 15.

December – January

- Have a discussion with your parents sharing your test results and your career and college plans.
- Study for your semester exams and finish off first semester with solid grades.

February – March

- Choose challenging and appropriate courses for senior year.
- Register to take the ACT in April or June, obtain and complete a practice ACT from the Guidance office. To familiarize yourself with the ACT, you should consult the ACT website (www.act.org). The deadline for registering for the April 4 ACT is February 27.

April – May

- If you will be taking the June ACT, you must register by May 9th. The actual test date is June 14th.
- Over the summer, arrange to visit the campuses of the schools that interest you.
- Finish your junior year with good grades. Move comfortably into your senior year!

Timeline for Seniors—2008-2009

September—October

- Review your ideas for career plans and the type of schooling which seems right for you (4 yr. College, community college, technical school, etc.)

- Consider the characteristics that are most important to you in a school (type of program, location, size, cost, etc.)
- Develop and refine a list of schools which match those characteristics
- Collect information on schools that you believe match those characteristics and attend the National College Fair at St. Louis University on Sunday, October 19, from 12:00 to 3:00pm.
- Meet with college representatives that come to Trinity
- Prepare a personal data sheet of your activities, honors, GPA, class rank, and other information that will present you in the best way to colleges
- Schedule visits to college campuses
- Register to take or retake the ACT on October 25, registration deadline is September 19
- Investigate scholarship opportunities from schools that interest you and conduct a scholarship search on the Internet

October, November, December

- Apply to colleges that interest you. **Return your application to Ms. Deddens along with a signed Transcript Release form. If you apply on-line, make sure you inform Ms. Deddens and bring a signed Transcript Release form.**
- Continue to visit schools and talk with students attending those schools, if possible
- Continue to investigate scholarship possibilities and be aware of deadlines
- If you haven't yet taken the ACT, there's a test on December 13, register by November 7. Retake the test if you don't meet college application requirements
- Request a PIN (personal identification number) in order to file the FAFSA form after January 1, 2009. You request a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov. Your parents must also request their own PIN. Don't wait until January to request a PIN. You can get one anytime. You'll receive your PIN through regular mail or e-mail, if you provide your e-mail address.

January—March

- Have your parents complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon as possible after January 1, 2009.
- Make sure you apply for local scholarships, if you qualify
- Start a financial aid folder with items that were sent, award letters that were received, etc. Stay organized!
- If your school requires a mid-year transcript, this is the time to send it.
- Check with your colleges to see how many college credit hours they will accept
- Look for the Student Aid Report (SAR) in the mail or online which contains information about your eligibility for federal and state grants and loans

- Contact the Financial Aid Office at your college to see if all forms have been received and your file is complete

April—May

- Look for your award letter from the Financial Aid Office, compare awards and costs and accept or negotiate the amounts
- Make decisions on the school you will attend (if you haven't already) and request final transcripts be sent after graduation
- Submit any housing information requested
- Notify the schools that you will not be attending
- Learn about summer registration, orientation, transferring your college credit from high school
- Relax! Good luck in the fall!

College Entrance Test: ACT

The American College Testing Assessment (ACT) tests your skill levels in English, Math, Reading, and Science Reasoning. On the ACT, you will have 2 hours and 55 minutes to complete multiple-choice questions on four tests—one for each subject area. The English, reading and science reasoning sections each include several reading passages followed by 5 to 15 multiple-choice questions per passage. The Math section includes 60 questions to be completed in 60 minutes. The Math test includes questions covering pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, and four trigonometry questions.

Students may register for the ACT on-line at www.act.org or by mail. Either way a student should establish a free ACT student web account. This will allow them to make changes to their registration, print a copy of their admission ticket, view their scores free of charge about two weeks after the testing, and request additional score reports. If registering on-line, a student will know immediately if their chosen test center has room for them. If a student registers by mail, they will receive their admission ticket in the mail.

ACT Test Dates, 2008—2009

THE HIGH SCHOOL CODE FOR TRINITY IS: 263108

Registration packets and practice tests are available in the Guidance office. Cost of testing is \$30.00. Checks payable to: ACT Registration.

TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINES	
October 25, 2008	Sept. 21	Oct. 5 (late registration)
December 13, 2008	Nov. 2	Nov. 15
February 7, 2009	Jan. 4	Jan. 18
April 4, 2009	Mar. 7	Mar. 21

June 13, 2009

May 9

May 23

If applying late, the fee is \$49.00.

College Applications

The application process is usually completed by the end of the calendar year (ideally before the beginning of second semester). You may submit a paper application or an on-line application. While the Guidance office has applications for most Missouri colleges, you may need to request an application by contacting the college.

Paper applications should be filled out in blue or black ink and should be neat, no spelling errors, no crossing out mistakes.

Many colleges prefer that you complete their on-line application. Some may waive the application fee if you apply on-line. Often an application will have a section to be completed by your guidance counselor, some may require an essay—make sure you don't miss anything and be aware of deadlines! Always make a photocopy of each application in case the application is lost.

All colleges also require a copy of your high school transcript along with your application. Get a Transcript Release form from the Guidance office and return it to Ms. Deddens when it is completed. **Whether you apply online or use a paper application, a transcript must be sent directly from Trinity to the college.**

Most colleges will respond to your application within three to four weeks. Contact the admissions office if you don't hear anything back from them in a reasonable amount of time. If you apply early, your application will get more attention.

Transcripts

A transcript is a copy of your academic grades, attendance, test scores, class rank, grade point average, a listing of the classes you took, and the number of credits you earned while in high school. A transcript must accompany every college application that is sent. Normally this is a 6th semester transcript, including information from your freshman, sophomore, and junior years. If you apply after the first semester of your senior year, a copy of your first semester senior report card will accompany the transcript. After graduation, a final transcript is sent to the college you have decided upon. This will be a record of all four years of high school.

Letters of Recommendation

Many colleges will require one or more letters of recommendation. This enables them to know more about your personality, abilities and capacity for growth. There are two types of recommendations, a school recommendation written by your counselor and a teacher recommendation.

The school recommendation presents a broad picture of you throughout four years at Trinity inside and outside the classroom

The teacher recommendation on the other hand, specifically focuses on a student's performance in that teacher's class. For a teacher recommendation you should choose a teacher who knows you well, and who has taught you in junior or senior year. These particular teachers should be asked well in advance of the deadline whether they would write on your behalf. All necessary forms should be in their hands two to three weeks before the deadline. Teachers put a lot of time and effort into writing recommendations, so it would be nice to write a thank you note to them and keep them informed of the college decision. They would like to hear the good news!

You are strongly advised to complete a biographical information sheet (these can be found in the Guidance office) before you request a letter or recommendation. This will give the person writing the letter an advantage and will allow them to write a more complete letter of recommendation for you.

College Essays

Some colleges, especially private ones, will require an essay as part of the admissions application process. The personal essay might provide you with the greatest challenge but it also provides you with one of the greatest opportunities. This is one part of the application process where you are in charge. Much of the rest of the process is a reporting of the past; past grades, past courses, past extra-curriculars, etc. You can't change the past, but you can add some insight with your essay, insight that might help others learn more about you than just the facts. Writing a good college essay enables you to add a personal dimension to your application. It is an opportunity to set yourself apart from other applicants.

Topics

Most college essays fit into one of three categories: the "YOU" question, the "WHY CHOOSE US" question, and the "CREATIVE" question.

➤ **The "YOU" Question:**

This is an open-ended question that requires you to write about yourself. It should show how your life experiences have helped to make you into the person you are today. It would be helpful to put a positive spin on most

experiences, even those, which at the time, caused you some degree of adversity.

- The “WHY CHOOSE US” Question:
Your answer here should include what you want out of your education and resulting degree. After reviewing the literature, visiting the school and/or discussing the school with current or former students, your writing should include examples of why this school is the right place for you. Discuss how well the school’s programs mesh with your plans. Let them know how serious you are about attending the school.
- The “CREATIVE” Question:
This question might ask you to respond to a particular quote, book, issue or event, or might ask you how someone or something has influenced your life. Your explanation should include examples that show how your life, hopes, dreams or attitudes have been shaped by the particular quote, event, etc.

Where to Begin

- Who are you?
Collecting this information will not only assist you in essay writing but will also enable you to help those who will be writing recommendations. Take the time to survey your accomplishments and what they mean to you. Likewise, draw up lists of significant experiences both good and bad and write down their affects on your life. Put a positive spin on shortcomings and stress how they have helped you to develop into a better person. And don’t forget to list the personality traits you value most about yourself.
- Just start writing. Forget the spelling and the grammar for now. Write, write, write. Wait a day or two and write some more. Now go back and re-read what you wrote. Now you start to correct and refine.
Remember—you can’t refine or tweak what’s not there. You have to start somewhere. You don’t have to get it right the first time, so begin writing.
- Try talking first. If you have trouble writing, talk about it. Record it and transcribe it. This will give you something with which you can begin to work.
- Read your work aloud. Hearing it will help you identify strong, clear phrases or sentences that help you to realize something about your style. Do you like what you hear? Does it merely need editing or do you need to start again with another rough draft? Is there something worth salvaging or do you scrap it and begin again?
- Did you answer the question asked? Did you give specifics?

- Work within the guidelines. If you are asked for only one page then provide only one page.
- Write about what you care about using your style and your vocabulary. In other words, do not try to be humorous if that's not your style and avoid using vocabulary to which you are not accustomed. Avoid trying to be something you are not.
- Don't use the essay to try to explain away shortcomings, such as poor grades or test scores that may appear on your application or transcript. Pleading your case in such instances is better left to a separate letter or for a counselor or teacher.
- Check, check and check again. Proofread your essay again and again. Have others read and make suggestions but be sure that the final product is yours.
- Don't wait until the last minute. You want to provide the school with your FINAL DRAFT, not your FIRST or SECOND DRAFT.
- Keep a file of your essays as you might be able to recycle them for use with other applications or they may, at the very least, provide you with a starting point for another essay.

Creating an Activity Resume

Colleges, universities, technical schools are all looking for students who have more than a 4.0 GPA, or a strong ACT score. They are looking for students who are involved in a number of extracurricular activities and students who know how to give back to the community through volunteer service. An activity resume helps you summarize all this information about yourself.

Your activity resume should be typed and look neat and professional. It should include in-school and out-of-school activities and jobs. Note any leadership positions you have held and also the amount of time spent or the level of your involvement. Here are some suggestions:

1. Put your name, address, phone number, email address, and social security number on top of the page.
2. Present your information for the sake of the reader.
 - a. Limit your resume to one page if possible.
 - b. Make it concise and clear.
 - c. Emphasize headings by using **bold print**.
 - d. Explain unfamiliar terms (example: 3 in the Morning)
 - e. Don't clutter it with insignificant information.

- f. Give a brief description of your job, volunteer service, or leadership role.
3. Organize your information either chronologically (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior) or categorically (athletics, leadership, volunteer service, employment, in-school activities, out-of-school activities, honors and awards, etc.)

College Representatives

Colleges and universities send representatives to Trinity to meet with students who have an interest in their programs. This is a great opportunity to hear about a particular school and to ask specific questions. Students find out about these visits by looking on the board in Guidance and by listening to the announcements during “3 in the Morning”. Seniors may be excused from class to meet with college representatives. However, students must get a permission form from Guidance and obtain their teacher’s signature **one** day in advance of the scheduled visit.

Campus Visits

In order to make an informed decision, you **MUST** visit the college campus itself. This will give you a better idea of whether the college has what you want or if you feel comfortable at that college. **One college visit day is permitted during your senior year. It must be taken prior to April 15th.** College days do not count as a day of absence. Try to schedule your college visits on days when you are off school at Trinity. If that is not possible, get a “College Visit” form from Guidance and obtain signatures from your teachers and your parents. It is best to call the college admissions office at least two weeks before your visit. Request a campus tour, check out the facilities that you think you would use, see the dorms, eat in the cafeteria, and talk with a financial aid counselor. Dress appropriately. Bring along a list of questions you would like answered. Following is a list of things to look for and at during a campus visit:

- General neatness of the campus
- Friendliness (eye contact, offer to help, etc.)
- A “typical” freshman classroom
- Security
- Library and media facilities
- Computers lab facilities
- Academic support offices
- Science labs
- Student attire

- Theatres, auditoriums
- Athletic facilities
- Residence halls, dorms
- Recreational facilities
- Bookstore, cafeterias or dining halls
- Overall quality of student life
- Surrounding city or town

When you leave make sure you received:

- A detailed list of majors at the school
- The admission criteria of the school
- An application, if you will be applying
- A detailed list of costs at the school (including books, fees, etc.)
- Any specific information about a major of your interest
- A list of freshman scholarships

Information for Potential College Athletes

If a high school student wants to play college-level sports (Division I or II), he or she must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. A student must fill out a Student Release Form and pay a fee to NCAA. By completing this form a student is authorizing the high school to send a transcript, test scores, and proof of graduation to NCAA. This is also an authorization to NCAA to send this information to the colleges that the student lists. As soon as NCAA has received and processed all necessary documents, it will make a certification decision and report that decision to the student. Students who are interested should see Mr. Drake or Ms. Deddens for further assistance.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

College is expensive. However, do not let the cost of a specific school deter you from applying. Many of the colleges that interest you may become affordable if there is significant financial aid awarded.

What is financial aid? Financial aid is funds available to help pay the education expenses at a two-year, four-year and graduate school. These expenses include tuition, fees and, in many situations, living expenses such as room and board, transportation, books and supplies.

Financial aid is given in three forms: gift money, self-help money, and loans. Gift money comes in the form of grants and scholarships—these do not have to be paid back. Self-help aid is money that you earn through work-study programs or

part-time jobs. Loans must be paid back at some point with various rates of interest.

There are two types of scholarships: merit and need based. Most scholarships fall under the broad category of merit based financial aid. Merit based scholarships are awarded for a certain level of ACT, a high GPA in a demanding curriculum, an excellent record of community service, a demonstration of leadership, evidence of athletic ability, or a distinctive talent in music, art, theatre.

The other type of scholarship is based on financial need. Demonstrated financial need is determined by a set formula applied to responses to the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

The three funding sources for scholarships are the government (federal and state), the colleges, and private foundations or organizations. Deadlines must be met, and typically, the students who apply early receive the need based aid first.

The United States Department of Education gives out billions of dollars in aid to students each year. They do this through six major financial aid programs: the Federal Pell Grant, the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins Loans, Federal Stafford Loans, and Federal Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students.

Federal Pell Grant

This is the largest of the grant programs. It provides grants to those students who meet the eligibility and need criteria established by Congress. The exact amount of the Pell Grant depends on the student's need and the cost of attendance.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)

Colleges administer and distribute these grants, awarding amounts up to \$4000 annually. The amount of the grant depends on the student's need.

Federal Work-Study

Colleges administer this program, in which students earn at least the federal minimum wage for campus and community jobs. Students may work part-time while enrolled in classes. They may apply their earnings to their tuition or receive a check for their work.

Federal Perkins Loan

Students who demonstrate financial need and who enroll at least half time at participating colleges are eligible for Perkins Loans through the college. This loan has a low interest rate and is interest free as long as the student remains in school. Undergraduates may borrow \$20,000 total (\$4000 a year maximum). Repayment and interest begin nine months after a student graduates. A student is given ten years to repay the loan.

Federal Stafford Loan

A student who demonstrates financial need may borrow from a bank, savings and loan, credit union, or other lender, and the state or another nonprofit agency will guarantee the loan. The federal government pays the interest on the loan while the student is in school. Repayment and interest begins six months after a student graduates. The annual award limits for this type of loan ranges from \$2,625 to \$8,500 depending on grade level. This loan is interest free while the student is in school and the interest rate never exceeds 8.25%.

Federal Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)

This loan awards varying amounts according to the student's grade level in school, and is accompanied by a fee of up to 4%. The interest rate will never exceed 9%. The federal government does not pay the interest on the loan while the student is in school. The borrower (parents) pay the interest and repayment begins 60 days after the loan is granted. A credit check is necessary for this type of loan.

To qualify for financial aid, a family must file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The FAFSA will tell your family how much they are expected to contribute and how much you are eligible to receive in financial aid. The FAFSA must be completed on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Many families feel that they make too much money to qualify for financial aid, when actually they could qualify. Others feel that they need aid, when actually they are able to finance an education. The general rule is "When in doubt, apply for aid!"

The financial aid process has become complicated and is often confusing, but the reward of a good education is too great not to give it a chance.

Do not rule out a college because of the cost of that particular college. It may turn out that you will qualify for aid and receive a substantial financial aid package.

Local and Area Scholarships

The following list is composed of scholarship information received in the Guidance Office at various times during the school year. Most applications for the awards on this list will be available from Ms. Deddens or the address or sites listed. Information on many of these does not arrive at Trinity until second semester. **Be aware of deadlines!**

Association of the United States Army

The St. Louis Gateway Chapter of the Association of US Army sponsors scholarships ranging in value from \$1000 to \$3000. Eligibility requirements

include: completion of the application; be the child of a parent who works for a defense contractor or a defense agency, or the child of a parent who is currently a member of an active or reserve component of the US Army; submission of a transcript with test scores, a resume, two letters of recommendation, and completion of an essay. The deadline is March 7, 2009.

Arthur Kennett, Jr. Educational Fund

One senior from each St. Louis county high school may be nominated by their high school. Good grades and strong ACT score is necessary. The deadline is in March.

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

The St. Louis Chapter of the AAFA sponsors scholarships for St. Louis seniors, "who have a history of asthma or severe allergies, and the accomplishments they have made despite the hardships of their illness." The application requirements include a transcript, resume, essay, recommendation form from you counselor and a form for your physician to complete. The deadline is May 15, 2009.

AXA Foundation

The AXA Foundation funds scholarships to seniors who demonstrate ambition and drive, determination to set and reach goals, respect for self, family, and community, and the ability to succeed in College. For more information, please go to <http://www.axa-achievement.com>. Apply by December 15, 2008.

Beacon Lodge #3 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons Scholarship

Open to one graduating senior who resides in North County. This scholarship is available to students who maintain passable academic standing and have shown effort. One student from TCHS may be nominated.

Bernard C. Harris Scholarship Fund

Awarded to one Catholic high school senior in each of the national regions of Harris Publishing Company. You must have a minimum GPA of 3.0. One candidate per high school may be nominated. Deadline is in February.

Best Buy Scholarships

Best Buy Scholarships are awarded to graduating high school seniors dedicated to helping their communities. To learn more, visit <http://www.BestBuy.com> and click on Community Relations.

Charles W. Frees, Jr. Educational Fund

Open to male seniors of schools in St. Louis County. Primary consideration goes to students with financial need, high academic performance, and demonstrated qualities of leadership and community citizenship. Must rank in the top 20% of their class with a B average or higher and an ACT score of 22 or higher. Deadline is April 1.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Scholarship

Awarded to an African American high school student based on academics and financial need. It's limited to 3 applicants per school. Deadline in February.

Department of Natural Resources Environmental Education Scholarship
Open to a Missouri graduating senior with a cumulative 3.0 or above who is enrolled as a full-time student. This award is designed to provide scholarships to minority and other underrepresented students pursuing a degree in an environmental course of study. Deadline is in July following graduation. See www.dnr.state.mo.us

Duckie DeMere Scholarship

Open to seniors in North County who are active in the performing arts of music, theatre, or dance. Demonstrated talent, interest, and effort in the performing arts especially in the community is considered. Participation in the Hawthorne Players is considered. Deadline is in April.

Emerson Electric Company Minority Engineering Scholarship Program

St. Louis Community College, the University of MO-Rolla and Emerson Electric Company are co-sponsoring a minority recruitment project to attract, encourage and support promising minority students wishing to enter the field of engineering. Qualifications are: 1) be a high school graduate; 2) be a member of a minority group; 3) be a resident of St. Louis City or County; 4) two years of high school math; 5) math and science GPA of 2.5 or higher; 6) math and science ACT scores of 18 or higher; 7) two strong letters of recommendation.

Ferguson Rotary Club Foundation, Inc.

Applicants must reside in the geographical area of the Ferguson Rotary Club. Have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Scholarships to UM- St. Louis, Florissant Valley Community College, a North County Vocational School, or college of student's choice.

Fireside Catholic Publishing

Fireside Catholic Publishing funds scholarships for Catholic High School Seniors who are daily "putting their faith into action." Every Catholic high school may nominate one student for this award. The nominee must write an essay explaining "How is your religious education influencing your life?" The deadline is December 10th.

Florissant Elks Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship

Open to graduating seniors planning to enter nursing as a career field. Two awards of \$250 each. Applications available in the Guidance office. Deadline: March 31

Florissant Elks Lodge #2316—Robert Mathis Award

Open to graduating seniors in North County. Six awards of up to \$1400. Local winners may progress to the district, state and national competitions. Applications available in the Guidance office, the Florissant Elks Lodge, or the Elks website. Deadline: Early January.

Florissant Rotary Club Scholarships

One candidate per high school in the Florissant area. Minimum of 2.5 GPA or greater, demonstrated financial need, and a history of community dedication and extra-curricular activities are considered. Deadline is in April.

Florissant Valley Jaycees

The Florissant Valley Jaycees sponsor a scholarship to benefit a student who resides in, or attends school in, the geographic boundaries of Hazelwood, Ferguson-Florissant, and Riverview Gardens School districts, has a GPA of 2.5 or greater, have significant community service experience, and not be related to a current or life member of the Florissant Valley Jaycees.

Greater St. Louis Art Association Scholarship

Must be a current high school senior planning to major in art. Must submit six slides portraying the scope of the applicant's art work. Deadline is in January.

Greater St. Louis Mother of Twins Club, Inc.

Available to multiple-birth students seeking enrollment in college. Criteria include academic, achievement, leadership, citizenship, financial need, and an essay. Deadline is in February.

Greater St. Louis Shell Club Scholarship

Open to students pursuing a degree in the field of marine science. GAP, ACT/SAT scores, essay, and record of extra-curricular activities are considered. Deadline is May 1. www.stlshell.com

Health Professional Scholarship

A group of dentists in the St. Louis area sponsor an annual Health Professional Scholarship. Students are required to write an essay of 500 words addressing "Why My Education Will Benefit My Future". Students interested must be entering a health related area of study. Deadline to apply is April 1.

Horatio Alger Association

The Horatio Alger Association seeks to assist students who have demonstrated integrity, perseverance in overcoming adversity, strength or character, financial need, and a good academic record. www.horatioalger.org/scholarships

Johnny Londoff Chevrolet Scholarship

Awarded to a senior in each high school in the Florissant area. Deadline is in May.

Kids Chance Scholarship Program for Children of Seriously Injured Workers

Open to children with parents who have sustained a serious injury of fatality in a Missouri work related accident covered by worker's compensation. Financial need is a consideration. Amount of the award varies with the need of the individual. Deadline is in April. Applications can be received from Kids Chance of Missouri (314-997-3390).

Ladies Auxiliary of St. Norbert Knights of Columbus Council

The Ladies Auxiliary of St. Norbert Knights of Columbus Council is offering a \$500 scholarship for a high school senior graduating from a Catholic high school. The award is based on academic record and financial need.

Kohl's Corporation

The Kohl's Corporation sponsors the "Kohl's Cares for Kids" scholarship program. This is open to students ages 6 to 18 in recognition of young people who have given generously in service to their community. Nominations are accepted February 1 to March 15, 2009. For rules and more information, visit www.kohlscorporation.com

LEAP Scholarship

Seniors planning to enter accounting or a related field as a college major may apply for this scholarship. Sponsored by the Missouri Society of CPA's. Deadline is in January. www.leap-forward.com

Missouri Insurance Education Foundation

The Missouri Insurance Education Foundation sponsors scholarships for graduating seniors with an interest or intent of pursuing an insurance, risk management or actuarial science course of study.

Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate—Healing and Hope College Scholarship

The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows and the Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate award the Healing and Hope Scholarship to high school senior whose life embodies the philosophy of Share the Healing and Hope.

Missouri Society of Professional Engineers Scholarship Program

Open to students entering engineering at UMC, UMR, , UMKC, SEMO, SLU, or Washington University who have a 3.0 GPA or above and a minimum ACT score of 29 in Math and 25 in English. One \$1500 award is given. Deadline is in January. www.mspe.org

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Offers an Environmental Education Scholarship Program designed to provide scholarships to minority and other underrepresented students pursuing a

bachelor's or master's degree in an environmental course of study. The deadline is July 1 and scholarships will be awarded until the funding runs out.

Missouri Minority Teaching Scholarship Program

The Missouri Minority Teaching Scholarship Program is open to a Missouri resident of African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, or Native American heritage, a high school senior who ranks in the top 25%, or has an ACT score in the top 15%ile, and will be enrolled in a participating , approved teacher education program at a community college or university in Missouri.

Missouri Teacher Education Scholarship

The Missouri Teacher Education Scholarship is open to Missouri high school seniors who rank in the top 15% of their class or has an ACT in the top 15%ile, who plans on attending an approved teacher education program at a four-year college or university in the state of Missouri.

National Federation of Independent Business

The National Federation of Independent Business sponsors the NFIB Free Enterprise Scholars Award. Eligibility is based upon: demonstrated entrepreneurial spirit and initiative and participation in organizations such as Future Business Leaders of America, Junior Achievement and the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship. Visit www.NFIB.com/education

National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Student Athlete Scholarship Program

The NIAAA sponsors a scholarship program to promote, facilitate and increase the knowledge and understanding of the vital role of interscholastic athletics in the educational system. Applicants must complete and essay—"How High School Athletics Has Impacted My Life", have two of the following—a GPA of B+, top 25% of the class or an ACT of 24, participated in at least two sports for two years, played at the varsity level, have a letter of recommendation from the school Athletic Director who is a member of the organization.

Phi Delta Kappa Educators Scholarship

The St. Louis University/Webster University Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa offers two \$500 scholarships. Students must be in the upper one-third of their class and planning to enter a teaching career. The deadline is January 15.

Reverend John E and Regina S. Nance Memorial Scholarship Fund

Students must show evidence of financial need, have a minimum GPA of 2.0, and submit the required application showing leadership and determination. Deadline is in January. (314) 533-5374

Ron Brown Scholarship

Open to African American high school seniors based on academics, leadership potential, community service, and financial need. Deadline is in January.
www.ronbrown.org

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis

Open to students with significant financial need. This foundation will provide interest free loans to over 600 students annually. Loan repayment begins after graduation from college. Scholarship Foundation (725-7990)

St. John's Mercy Medical Group Auxiliary Scholarship Program

Granted to students who are enrolled or plan to enroll in an accredited bachelor's, associate, diploma, or certificate program to pursue a health related career. A total of 20 awards of \$1000 are granted each year. Criteria include academic performance, activities in the school and community, honors, a goals statement. Deadline: April 15.

St. Louis Ambassadors Commitment Counts Scholarship

Awarded to students who have overcome significant personal or social obstacles and have demonstrated a commitment to success. One application per high school. Deadline is in March.

St. Louis Chapter of the American Foundry Society

Open to students from the St. Louis area who will be enrolling in metallurgy, materials science, and engineering at a Missouri or Illinois college or university. Deadline is in April.

St. Louis Tip Toppers, Inc.

Open to a graduating senior who is at least 5'10" for women and 6'2" for men. Consideration is given to school involvement, community service, recommendations and an interview. Deadline is in April.

Society of Automotive Engineers

The Society of Automotive Engineers offers scholarships to seniors who intend to earn a degree in engineering or a related science, meet minimum requirements in regard to grade point average, ACT scores as outlined in the scholarship information. Application must be postmarked by December 1, 2008.

Westlake Scholarship Foundation

Students must be a MO resident planning to attend a four-year college or a transfer student from a community college. Criteria for consideration are: 1) demonstrated financial need of an expected family contribution of \$6500 or less and a family adjusted gross income of \$40,000 or less. 2) a cumulative GPA of 2.5. The award covers tuition, plus \$2000. Awards are renewable. Deadline in February.