

**Class of 2019
Junior Guidance Night**



Resources

August 30, 2017

COLLEGE FAIR

Visit with representatives from:

- colleges
- universities
- community colleges
- technical colleges
- specialty schools
- military organizations

For a complete list of participating schools go to www.mn-acac.org.

These free Post-High School
Planning Programs
are sponsored by

MACAC

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION for COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING

Contact your high school counselor for more information.

**Don't want to fill out cards at the fair . . .
REGISTER HERE NOW!**



**Tuesday, Oct. 24 1-2:30 pm
Bethany Lutheran College**

Or you can pre-register your information for this fair at www.gotocollegefairs.com

Campus Visit Checklist

When you visit a campus, it is important that you ask the right types of questions:

Look at Equipment and School Facilities

- Are the facilities and equipment up-to-date and operating?
- Is the equipment similar to what you will be using on the job?
- Is the library good for studying and research?
- How large are the dorm rooms? What types of furniture are provided/allowed?
- Are the dorm rooms quiet enough for studying?
- What is the cafeteria like?
- Are there plenty of computer labs?
- Do students get free e-mail and Internet access?

Sit In on a Class or Two

- Do the instructors seem knowledgeable?
- Are the students participating in classroom activities?
- What kinds of work are the students doing?
- How large/small are the classes?

Talk with Current Students in the Program

- How long have they been in school?
- Are they learning what they need to know to get a job?
- What is their opinion of the instructors? Are instructors available outside of class?
- Do the instructors spend time with them to be sure they understand the material?
- How much time is needed for studying and other work outside class?
- Have they had any problems with the school, the instructors or the classes?
- What do they like most/least about the school/program?
- How do they spend their free time?
- What are the other students like?

Talk with Instructors in the Program

- What are the academic requirements in the program?
- What kinds of courses are offered? How often are they offered?
- How many students are in the program? How many are accepted into the program each year?
- How long does it take most students to complete the program?
- How long have they taught at the school? Do they teach full time or part time?
- What background do they have in the field? How does it relate to the courses they teach?
- What types of activities are they involved in that relate to the field of study?

Talk with an Admissions Counselor

- Has the institution and its programs been accredited by a recognized accrediting association?
- What are the admissions requirements for the college or for a specific program?
- How do you apply and which forms do you fill out?
- When are the important deadlines for admissions?
- Will your family's ability to pay for college be a factor in the admissions process?
- What are the housing requirements and parking rules?
- What types of extracurricular activities are available?
- Can credits be earned online or transferred from other colleges?
- What percentage of first-year students return the following year?
- What percentage of graduates are employed within one year?

Talk with a Financial Aid Counselor

- How much does it cost to attend the college (including tuition, room and board, fees, etc.)?
- What financial aid options are available?
- Does the school participate in federal and state aid programs? (Not all schools are eligible.)
- What percentage of undergraduates receive aid? How much do they receive on average?
- Which financial aid forms do you need to fill out and what are the deadlines?
- Does the college offer scholarships? Who is most likely to receive them? How do you apply?
- Will private/non-government scholarships reduce the amount of need-based aid you receive?
- How is financial aid paid out? When will you receive it?

Campus Visit Score Card

Copy 'n' carry
this score
card for each
college you
visit!

College Name: _____

Date of Visit: _____

Visit Checklist

Here are some ways to round out your visit. The main thing is to explore and get a sense of what it would be like to attend.

- Take a campus tour.
- Take pictures.
- Eat in the cafeteria.
- Pick up an application.
- Pick up financial aid forms.
- Look at bulletin boards for day-to-day life.
- Check out a real dorm room.
- Read student newspapers.
- Sit in on a class or two.
- Talk to a professor in a subject of interest.
- Talk to a coach in your sport.
- Walk around town.
- Go to a campus event—game, concert.
- Ask current students what they love/hate about the college.

Contacts

Write down the names of anyone you want to remember or contact later—admissions and financial aid staff, professors, coaches, or students.

name: _____

contact: _____

name: _____

contact: _____

name: _____

contact: _____

name: _____

contact: _____

name: _____

contact: _____



College Search Online

- Get maps and directions.
- Create a college list and save these campus notes online.
- Look up the latest college info.
- See if you're on track to get in.
- Compare colleges side by side.
- Get deadline reminders.
- Find more college matches.

bigfuture.org/college-search

Campus Ratings

Rate these areas from 1 (low) to 5 (high). Jot down your impressions—things you like or don't like, things you want to remember.

Campus

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Dorms

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Classes/Academics

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Library

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Food

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Fitness Center

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Social Life

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Overall Feel

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

Other Notes: Can you picture yourself here?

2017-2018 ACT TEST DATES



2017 Test Dates
Deadlines

SEP 9

OCT 28

DEC 9

Registration

AUG 4

SEP 22

NOV 3

**Late Registration

AUG 5-18

SEP 23-OCT 6

NOV 4-17

Photo Upload

SEP 1

OCT 20

DEC 1

Register at
act.org

2018 Test Dates
Deadlines

FEB 10*

APR 14

JUN 9

JUL 14*

Registration

JAN 12

MAR 9

MAY 4

JUN 15

**Late Registration

JAN 13-19

MAR 10-23

MAY 5-18

JUN 16-22

Photo Upload

FEB 2

APR 6

JUN 1

JUL 6

School code: _____

The **ACT**[®]



*No test centers are scheduled in New York for the February and July test dates.

**All material sent by mail must be RECEIVED by the last date of the late period, regardless of postmark date.

Providing opportunities that open doors

TEST FEES*

ACT \$46.00

ACT with writing \$62.50

* If you cannot afford the test fee, ask your counselor about requesting a fee waiver.

Join the millions of students who have taken the ACT. It's the leading college admissions test in the United States.

Register at act.org

Registering for the ACT is more than just signing up for a test. The information you provide is used to make recommendations for majors and careers. Here's what you'll need:

- About 45 minutes to complete the registration process.
- A credit card or fee waiver.
- A laptop or desktop computer is preferred.
- Your high school course list and grades.
- Your interests - our interest survey will match you to academic programs and jobs you might enjoy.
- Up to four colleges and universities to send your score reports for free during registration (additional score reports can be purchased later).
- Your photo to upload during registration or later.

Get Discovered

- Opt In to the ACT Educational Opportunity Service, which connects you with universities and financial aid institutions, based on your plans and interests.
- Access college scholarships. Academic scholarships are often awarded, in part, on your ACT scores.
- The ACT is accepted by all four-year US colleges and universities. Let your favorites know you are interested in them by sending your score reports.

Accommodations & English Learner Supports

- During the registration process, you can indicate a need for accommodations and/or English learner supports.
- After registering, we'll email you instructions on how to work with your school to request your accommodations or supports.

Be Ready for Test Day

- The ACT is based on what you learn in high school, but a variety of ACT test prep options are available to help you feel comfortable and confident on test day.
- Review what you can and cannot bring into the test room with you.

Your Scores and More

- Most scores are available through your ACT account within 2 weeks after testing (or 5 weeks for the writing test) but can take up to 8 weeks from the testing date.
- Using information you provide during registration, the ACT score report gives you research-backed guidance about your needs, interests, and possible career options that you can share with colleges.



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For more information, visit

act.org

HOW TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Career decision-making will continue throughout your entire lifetime. The process of selecting from among the countless options available involves knowing yourself well (your abilities, your personal strengths and your needs).

You can then acquire the marketable skills in a setting suited to your learning style. You may still find yourself changing your mind. Many people change jobs within a career or even change their career, some more than once in their working lives. Remember, there is not just one "right" career for you. Rather there are certain to be several options which would allow you to be successful and happy.

The search begins by asking yourself some questions:

- Where have I been? What have I accomplished? What do I want out of life?
- Do I have a clear picture of my skills, talents, achievements, special qualities, and also my weaknesses?
- Have I figured out what I believe in, what I value, what I enjoy most?
- Have I explored the various sources of information about education, training, and self development?

The search continues by getting information about yourself and careers:

- Discover your special aptitudes by examining your school transcript, which show test scores, grades, attendance and school involvement.
- You can assess your current interests by listing them or by taking an interest inventory, which is available at no cost to you in the Career Center.
- Make an appointment with the counselor to share some of your current thinking and to ask some questions about your strengths and options.

Get advice from others:

- Talk to friends who have recently spent a year or so of preparation in either a vocational training setting, the military, a college, or in other programs, including working full time after graduation.
- Talk to people who employ students who have finished the kind of training you might select. From what schools or programs do they prefer to hire?
- Ask your parents what financial help they might be able to provide if you continue your education so you'll know what contribution you will need to make yourself.
- Remember, advice is just that: no more. You have to make the decisions.

Is it hard to figure out what you are interested in? Look at how you learn:

- Do you think you work best in structured situations where everyone is doing the same work?
- Do you like a competitive environment or are you happier in a more relaxed learning situation?
- Do you like being with lots of different people or are you more comfortable with people whose interests and abilities are similar to yours?
- Do you think you can handle large classes or are smaller ones best?
- Do you need a lot of individual attention from instructors?
- Do you prefer doing special projects or independent study?
- Do you prefer to work with people, with things, with numbers, with ideas?

SHOULD YOU CONSIDER THE MILITARY?

Enlistment Programs

If you are not a high school graduate, the various branches of the military service are not interested in you.. Why? Because they can get thousands of other young men and women who are graduates from high school and a person with more education is more valuable to the service.

Some basics to think about when considering the military as a post-secondary option are:

- Salary - You will receive a monthly salary plus room and board, medical care, etc. There are routine salary increases.
- Training - Close to 400 technical training programs - "earn while you learn." Most branches will have a contract. If you do not qualify for the job of your choice, you can choose between equal level jobs and an honorable discharge.
- Travel - Some programs guarantee placement in the country of your choice.
- Advanced Education - There are many opportunities to participate in the cooperative education program. In many cases the military will pay up to over 75% of the educational cost. These cooperative programs are available during off duty hours.

Service Academies (for men and women)

Free college education plus expenses in return for a five year military obligation. To apply, request a nomination form from your Senator or Representative and take an ACT or SAT test in the spring of your junior year. See one of the counselors for more detailed information.

Reserve Officer Training Corps - ROTC

Scholarships are a way to finance your college education, and you will begin your service following graduation as a commissioned officer. For more information, Call the Army 1-800-USA-ROTC, Navy/Marine Corps 1-800-USA NAVY, Air Force 1-800-522-0033, Ext. 2091, or US Army ROTC-Minnesota State University-Mankato 389-5088.

Local Recruiters

Space 50 Riverhills Mall, 1850 Adams St., Mankato, MN

U.S. Air Force 625-3490

U.S. Navy 345-4904

U.S. Army 625-7165

U.S. Marine Corps 387-3094

U.S. Coast Guard 5192
Central Ave, NE. Columbia
Heights, MN 55421 (612) 334-4000

Minnesota Army National Guard
100 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Mankato, MN 56001 (507) 389-6600



YOUR CAREER CONNECTION

EXAMPLES OF CAREERS RELATED TO ACADEMIC SUBJECT AREAS

English

Includes Speech

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| *Actor | ^Library Technician |
| *Advertising Copy | ^Movie/TV Director |
| *College/University | *Public Relations Specialist |
| ^D. amattist | ^Radio/TV Announcer/
Newscaster |
| *Editor | *Reporter/Journalist |
| *Educational | *Speech-Language Pathologist |
| *Historian | *Teacher |
| *Lawyer | *Technical Writer |
| ^Legal | *Writer/Author |
| *Librarian | |

Math

Includes Computer
Science/Math

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| *Account Executive | *Industrial Designer |
| *Accountant | *Insurance Claim
Representative |
| *Air Traffic Controller | *Insurance Risk Manager |
| *Architect | *Loan Officer/Counselor |
| *Astronaut | *Market Research Analyst |
| ^Bank Branch Manager | *Mathematician |
| ^Building/Construction
Inspector | *Meteorologist |
| *Buyer | *Oceanographer |
| *College/University Faculty | *Physicist |
| *Computer Network Specialist | ^Real Estate Agent |
| *Computer Systems Analyst | *Retail Store Manager |
| *Electrical/Electronics | *Sales/marketing
Manager |
| ^Financial Services Sales Rep | *Tax Accountant |
| ^Food Service Manager | *Teacher |
| ^Hotel/Motel Manager | ^Tool and Die Maker |
| *Human Resources Manager | Travel Agent |
| | ^Web Site Developer |

Social Studies

Includes Economics and Psychology

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| *Anthropologist | *Lobbyist |
| *College/University Faculty | *Market Research Analyst |
| *Counselor | ^Park Ranger |
| *Criminologist | *Parole Officer |
| *Economist | *Political Scientist |
| *Educational Administrator | *Private Detective
Investigator |
| *FBI Agent | *Psychologist, Clinical |
| *Foreign Service Officer | *Recreation Leader |
| *Geographer | *Reporter/Journalist |
| *Gerontologist | *Social Worker |
| *Historian | *Sociologist |
| *Human Resources | *Teacher |
| ^ Human Services Worker | *Travel Guide |
| *Lawyer | *Urban Planner |
| ^Legal Assistant/Paralegal | |
| *Librarian | |

Natural Sciences

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ^Aircraft Technician | *Medical Records Adm. |
| *Animal Scientist | *Medical Technologist |
| *Astronomer | *Meteorologist |
| *Athletic Trainer | ^Nuclear Medicine Tech |
| *Biochemist | ^Nurse |
| *Biologist | *Occupational Therapist |
| *Botanist | *Oceanographer |
| ^Broadcast Technician | *Optometrist |
| *Chemist | *Pharmacologist |
| *Civil Engineer | *Physical Therapist |
| *College/University | *Physician |
| ^Dental Hygienist | *Physicist |
| *Dentist | *Physiologist |
| *Dietitian/Nutritionist | *Psychiatrist |
| *Ecologist | ^Radiographer |
| *Fish and Game Warden | ^Respiratory Therapist |
| *Food and Drug | *Speech-Language
Pathologist |
| *Forester | *Teacher |
| ^Funeral Director | *Veterinarian |
| *Geologist | *Zoologist |
| *Horticulturist | |

Foreign Language

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| *Archivist/Curator | ^Police Officer |
| *College/University | *Public Relations Specialist |
| *Editor | ^Singer |
| *FBI Agent | *Social Worker |
| ^Flight Attendant | *Teacher |
| *Foreign Service Officer | *Technical Writer |
| *Foreign Trade Clerk | Travel Agent |
| *Interpreter | Travel Guide |
| ^Nurse | ^Welfare Eligibility Worker |

Fine Arts

Includes Art, Music & Drama/Theater

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| *Actor | ^Graphic Artist (Software)
Illustrator |
| *Advertising Manager | ^Interior Designer |
| *Architect | ^Jeweler |
| ^Artist | *Landscape Architect |
| ^Cartoonist | ^Movie/TV Director |
| *Cinematographer | ^Musician |
| *College/University | ^Photographer |
| ^Composer | ^Singer |
| ^Dancer/Choreographer | Teacher |
| ^Dramatist (Playwright) | ^Video/Film Editor |
| ^Fashion Designer | ^Web Site Developer |
| ^Floral Designer | |

Key....

^2-year or 4-year degree

*4-year or high school degree

STUDENT NAME _____

DATE OF INTERVIEW _____

GRADE _____

JOB SHADOWING QUESTIONS

INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW

This form is a guideline. You may ask other types of questions.

Name of person you are interviewing _____

Place of employment _____

Career/Title _____

1. Please give a description of the work you do each day.
2. How long have you been in this position?
3. How long have you been with this company, organization, business?
4. Why did you get into this type of work? (Life experiences, natural talents, enjoyment, etc.?)
5. How much education do you have? How much education is needed to do this type of work?
6. What are some of the skills and/or abilities that a person needs in order to do this work?
7. Does it help to have other work experiences to do this job better? What is a typical day like?
8. Do your work hours change every day or do you start work at the same time and end at a certain time? Do you work Monday-Friday or do you have to work weekends also?
9. Are there reasons a person may not like this type of work? What are the toughest problems you encounter?
10. What is the beginning salary? What lifestyle can a person expect from a career in this field?
11. What advice can you give someone who wants to pursue a career in this field?
12. Write how you feel about this career now that you have job shadowed. Are you more or less excited about this career? Why?

Requesting Letters of Recommendation

When you ask a faculty member to write a letter of reference, common courtesy dictates the following:

- Generally, college applications should be mailed as a “package,” including your application, letters of recommendation, high school transcript, and an application fee. In cases where a letter of recommendation should be mailed directly, provide an addressed, stamped envelope with the recommendation form or request.
- Any person who writes a letter of recommendation for you needs specific information about you, especially about your activities outside of the school day. Ideally, hand them an “activity resume.” Otherwise list your activities and information on a separate sheet of paper.
- Recommendation forms should contain your name, address, etc. before you present it to the person requested to complete it. When a letter of recommendation is being requested, provide to the writer the name and the address of whom it should be addressed.
- Be respectful and courteous when you ask someone to provide a recommendation for you. Not everyone is willing to write letters of recommendation. Allow at least two weeks to complete it, and make sure they know the deadline.
- Convey a good attitude. When you request a person to write a recommendation, indicate the importance of it. A very casual attitude may give them the message that it is not really that important.
- Inform the person a little bit about your plans. If you know your intended major and vocational area of interest, it may make a difference in what is written.
- When you learn that you have been accepted, let the person who wrote your recommendation know about it. Courtesy means saying, “Thank you.”

RULE OF THUMB:

Allow at least one week for transcript requests

Allow at least two weeks for letter of recommendation

Deneal M. Sperle
907 8th S. Street, New Ulm, MN 56073

School Activities

- Student Council, 2013-2016
- Speech Team, 2015-2016

Leadership Roles

- Student Council Secretary, 2014-2015
- Student Council President, 2015-2016
- Speech Team Captain, 2015-2016

Volunteer Activities

- Dog walker at the Humane Society, 2010-present

Activities Outside of School

- Gymnastics, 2008-2015
- Piano lessons, 2004- present
- Quilting Club, 2014-2015

Classes Taken Outside of MVL (including online classes)

- Human Growth and Development, 2013 – Concordia University Wisconsin
- AP Psychology, 2015 – Area Lutheran High School Online

Hobbies

- Downhill skiing
- Dog training
- Crocheting

Countries outside of the U.S to which I have traveled

- Ukraine – 2014. I traveled to Ukraine to teach VBS for two summers.

Skills

- Playing Piano
- Archery

Awards/Achievements

- Spelling Bee Winner, 2014
- Blue ribbon brownies at the Brown County Fair, 2015
- Most Improved award for the softball team, 2015

Other

- In this category, you will list significant facts about you or events in your life that don't fit neatly into one of the other categories.

10 HOT TIPS

From A Scholarship Judge

There's no doubt about it: To win a college scholarship, it helps to have good grades, notable achievements, and a variety of interests both in and out of school. But a little inside information doesn't hurt either.

A few years ago, I volunteered to be a judge in the Mervyn's California/Women's Sports Foundation Scholarship Program. Mervyn's California, a department store chain with locations in 14 states, was giving out more than \$300,000 in scholarships, including one \$10,000 grand prize. Here are my tips for writing a winning application:

- 1). Use the scholarship application itself-don't type the questions over. One applicant thought she was being thorough by typing out each question on another sheet, with her answer under it. But judges go through lots of applications, and they get used to seeing information in the same place. A typed-out application is harder to read. Plus, this particular applicant left off one of the questions, and that knocked her out of the running.
- 2). Fill out a practice application first. Photocopy the application and use the copy to write a draft. Once you've fine-tune your answers, type them neatly on the original.
- 3). Pay attention to details. Most applications ask for your name, address, date of birth, and expected graduation date. be careful-omitting information can cost you. The applications I read asked students under 18 to have a parent or guardian sign the form. Applicants who ignored that had a mark against them from the start.
- 4). Be concise, but creative. Judges will be impressed by what you write-not how much you write. Try to emphasize what makes you different from everybody else. And let your personality show through so judges can feel connected to you.
- 5). Have some self-respect. When explaining how you overcame a hardship, don't milk your difficulties. The judge should admire you and your achievements-not squirm in her seat as if she's passing a car wreck!
- 6). Be humble. When reporting accomplishments, don't be cocky. Try to convey your dedication and skill, but also maintain modesty. Watch for a bragging tone.
- 7). Do the math! If an application asks for your family's income or college expenses, make sure those financial numbers are correct and add up.
- 8). Choose your teachers wisely. Often, it's hard to pick scholarship winners from a pool of so many excellent entries. Outstanding teacher letters may make the difference.
- 9). Help your teachers write the best letter possible. Give them summary of your achievements and goals and all the scholarship information.,
- 10). Don't miss the deadline. After your work hard putting together the best application possible, you want to make sure it gets read!

-Sue Macy