

Flambeau Falcons



Junior Handbook

School District of Flambeau
Flambeau High School, School Counseling

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FALL OF JUNIOR YEAR:

- Make sure your schedule is filled with challenging and appropriate courses
- Gather information about a variety of schools and programs
- Give some thought to the types of schools that best fit your needs
- Complete interest inventory or talk with your counselor to help with possible career choice
- Utilize resources available online and Student Services Office to prepare for entrance exams
- Meet with college and military representatives that visit school

SPRING OF JUNIOR YEAR:

- Compare and contrast list of college choices and plan campus visits
- Register for appropriate entrance exam (PSAT/ACT/COMPASS)
- Plan and choose a solid, challenging curriculum for senior year
- Meet with your counselor and your parents for additional assistance
- Consider a job shadow or program shadow as a way to further explore your interests

SUMMER BETWEEN JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEAR

- Continue to narrow down list of college choices
- Plan additional campus visits
- Plan final campus visits
- Create activities resume
- Draft your scholarship essay
- Volunteer (if you haven't already started)

FALL OF SENIOR YEAR

- Finalize list of schools that you wish to apply
- Ask for letters of recommendation (form in the back of the book)
- Retake ACT if necessary
- Apply to college of choice and observe DEADLINES
 - September 1st-November 1st
 - Apply on-line
 - ACT/COMPASS scores sent
 - Submit **official** transcript (obtain from High School Office)
 - Application fee, some are waived

OCTOBER/DECEMBER/JANUARY SENIOR YEAR

- Apply for financial aid-Fill out FAFSA, October 1
 - Must be accepted at schools before financial aid can be received
 - After October 1st, will need information from your parents taxes
- Attend financial aid workshop at Flambeau High School or attend an individual meeting held at your school of choice
- Call institutional financial aid offices for additional help

NOVEMBER-MAY OF SENIOR YEAR

- Make final choice for college attendance (consider financial aid package awarded)
- Apply for scholarships-local/state/national
- Register for College Placement tests (unless you have already taken this for English 101-102)

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS - CREDIT CHECK LIST (26.5 Required for Graduation, class of 2024)**Language Arts: 4.0 credits**

<input type="checkbox"/> English 9	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> English 10	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> English 11	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> English 12, 101-102, Creative Writing, Literature, Mass Media/speech	1.0 credit

Social Studies: 3.0 credits

<input type="checkbox"/> Grade 9 American History	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade 10 U.S. History	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade 11 Government	1.0 credit

Math: 3.0 credits

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre Algebra	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 1	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Geometry	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 2	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Calculus	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> AP Calculus.....	1.0 credit

Science: 3.0 credits

<input type="checkbox"/> Biology	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry/Integrated Science	1.0 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry/Environmental/Physics/A & P	1.0 credit

Physical Education: 1.5

<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education	1.5 credits
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Health: .5 credit

<input type="checkbox"/> Health	.50 credit
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Finance 1.0 Credit

<input type="checkbox"/> Money Management 1 (grade 9 or 10)	.5 credit
<input type="checkbox"/> Money Management 2 (grade 11 or 12)	.5 credit

Elective Courses (10 Credits)**Total Credits 26.5**

Student Transcript

A transcript is the official high school cumulative record. All transcripts contain the following information:

- Courses, grades, and credits for each grade level completed, beginning with grade 9
- Current cumulative grade point average and class rank

Students must request an OFFICIAL transcript from the High School Office to be sent at the end of the senior year. Official transcripts will be sent directly from the school to a college. Students can view an unofficial transcript at any time on by seeing their school counselor. Transcript requests can be found in the School Counselor's office or see Melissa in the front office.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Your grade point average is one of the most important criteria for college admissions.

GPA is the average of a student's semester grades, starting with the freshman year. Flambeau High School uses a 4.0 grading scale:

A = 4.00 (97-95%)
A- = 3.67 (94-92%)
B+ = 3.33 (91-89%)
B = 3.00 (88-86%)
B- = 2.67 (85-83%)
C+ = 2.33 (82-80%)
C = 2.00 (79-76%)
C- = 1.67 (75-74%)
D+ = 1.33 (73-71%)
D = 1.00 (70-68%)
D- = 0.67 (67-65%)
F = 0.00 (Below 65%)

Since college applications are generally completed during the fall of senior year, the GPA at the end of the junior year is very important.

Job Shadowing

It is highly recommended that you complete one or more job shadowing experiences in your high school years (one job shadow experience is required in English 11)

Job shadowing is often an important step a student takes in defining a career goal. Once a student has read what he/she can about an occupation, job shadowing allows the student to see the occupation in action and to ask employees important questions. This activity assists the student in deciding to either explore the career further or search for an alternative.

Students explore a variety of positions within the community by observing employees perform their duties. This is an actual on-the-job experience where a student is paired with a person who is in a career in which the student has shown interest. A student will shadow a professional ranging from a few hours to a half-day. See Mrs. Carlsen if you are needing assistance with this experience.

Program Shadowing

If you are considering attending a technical college, take some time to program shadow. This allows you to spend time in a class or lab related to your program of interest. You will have the opportunity to visit with students and faculty members and find out what it's really like to be a student.

If you are interested in setting up a program shadow at Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College (WITC), at 715.234.7082 OR see Mrs. Carlsen for more information.

College Representative/ Military Recruiter Visits

Representatives from post-secondary institutions and the military visit Flambeau High School periodically to meet with prospective students. Read the announcements or stop in the School Counseling office for information on upcoming visits. Students will need to sign up with Mrs. Carlsen to make sure they are scheduled for the visit.

Career and Future Exploration

Wisconsin Pathways is a website created with Wisconsin students and educators in mind. The website can be used as a tool for planning a future career and learning about yourself. IT'S NOT TOO EARLY to take charge of your future. Whether or not you have your high school or college education planned, career pathways can help you find the careers that are right for you and get you prepared for them.

To access Wisconsin Pathways, visit:

<https://www.wicareerpathways.org/Students>

Create an account first and then you can access your account using user name and password in the future.

Most careers require at least some education or training beyond high school. One career may require four years of college while another may require a six-month program at a technical school. In most cases, your career goal will determine which of the following options is the most appropriate:

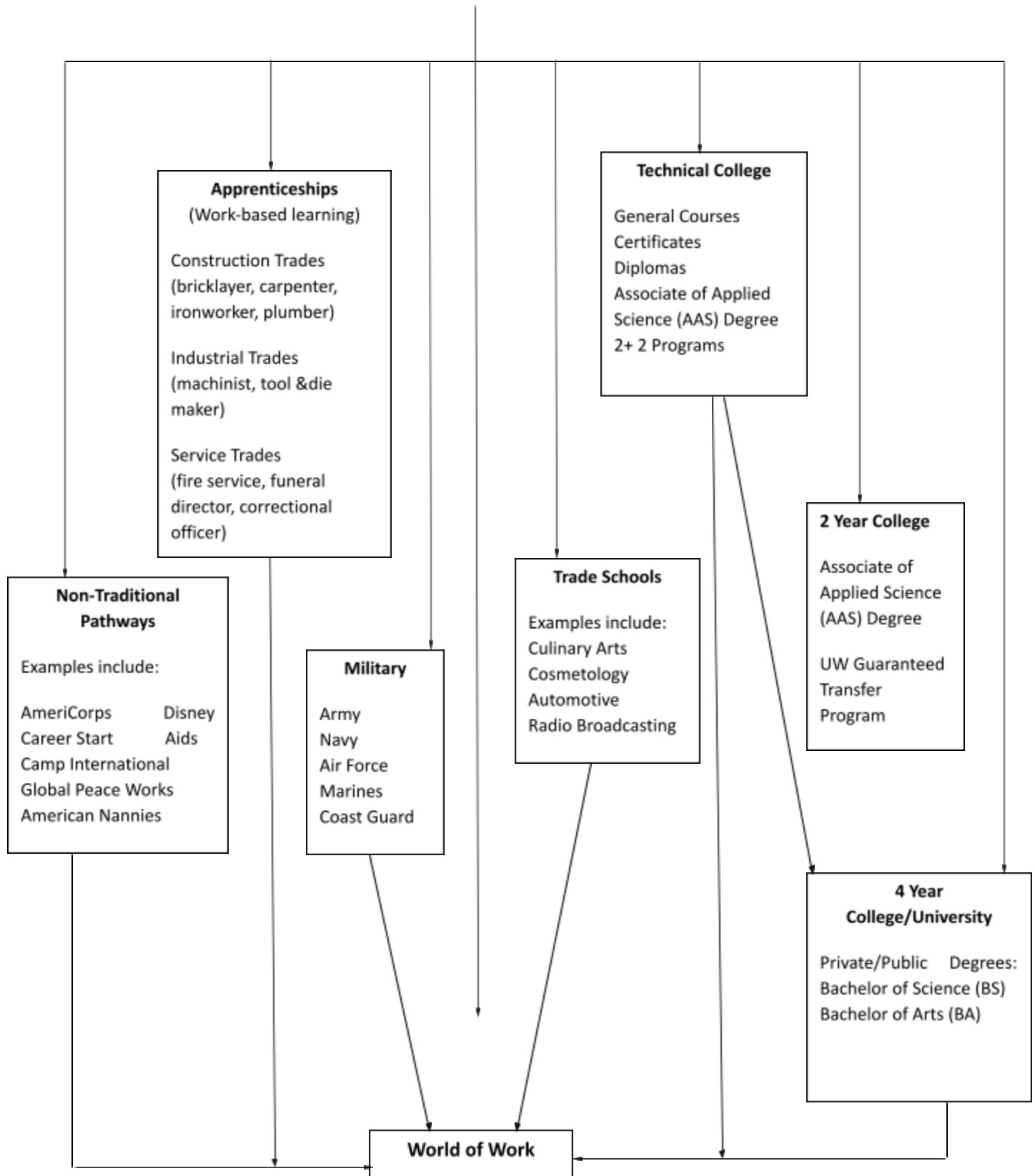
- Military
- Non-traditional Pathways
- Apprenticeships
- Career and Technical Colleges
- Trade Schools
- Two-Year Colleges
- World of Work
- Four-Year Colleges/Universities

Know Yourself

The first step in selecting a college is to take a systematic look at yourself. Some questions you might consider are:

- Why do you want to go to college, enter the military, etc...?
- What do you want to be doing five years from now?
- Do you have a specialized field of study in mind?
- What are your academic abilities?
- Do you want to attend college but have no specific occupational goals?
- What subject areas do you enjoy the most?
- In which subject areas do you do your best?
- What kind of student are you?
- How hard are you willing to work at your studies?
- What are your strengths and talents?
- What are some of your weaknesses?
- What extracurricular and community activities have you enjoyed?

Options for After High School



The Military trains men and women so that they can protect the interests of our country. In order to do this, the military offers qualified high school graduates a good salary and free job training. The military also provides discipline and structure, as well as opportunities for career advancement and travel. The United States military is the nation's single largest employer. It offers training and employment in over 2,000 job specialties, 75% of which have civilian counterparts.

There are many things to prepare for and to organize before getting involved with one of the five branches of the military: the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard or Marines. Opportunities for students also exist in the National Guard and the Reserves. College students who enter the Reserves Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) will enter the military as officers, while academically gifted students will find excellent opportunities at the four military academies.

No matter the pathway, below is a list of things to think about when considering joining the military.

10 Steps to Joining the Military

Step 1: Learn about the military and ways to join.

Find out military basics: what they do, where they go, and who they are.

What does ROTC mean?

ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps) is one of the best leadership courses in the country and is part of your college curriculum. ROTC is an elective curriculum you take along with your required college classes. It prepares you with the tools, training and experiences that will help you succeed in any competitive environment. Along with great leadership training, ROTC can pay for your college tuition, too. You will have a normal college student experience like everyone else on campus, but when you graduate, you will have service obligations.

What are the ways of joining the military?

There are several ways of joining the military. One can become a full-time member in active duty or a part-time member which is considered a reservist. One can also be considered an officer by way of the ROTC program, Officer Candidate School, direct appointment of becoming an officer, being a Direct Commissioned Officer, or any of the military academics.

Can I still go to a school in the military?

For those interested in an academy approach, there are schools allocated for the different branches. These consist of the U.S Naval Academy at Annapolis, U.S. Coast Guard Academy at New London, U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and U.S. Air force Academy at Colorado Springs.

Step 2: Decide if you're ready.

Get a handle on the basics of joining: eligibility, benefits information, and branch missions.

Keep in mind that there are also educational benefits involved such as: GI Bill, college assistance, tuition assistance, college loan repayment, community college options, college funds, and continuing education programs.

Step 3: Choose the right path.

Find the best point of entry for you: compare services, consider guard and reserve services, compare enlisted, vs. officer, and look at your job choices.

There are three types of *enlistment options*. One can decide upon Standard Enlistment, Delayed Entry Program (DEP) in which you enlist now and delay starting your training for up to 365 days, or if you enlist in the Army Reserves there is the Delayed Training Program (DTP) which lets you delay your Basic training for up to 365 days.

In addition, there are several hundred different specialties and career options for people entering the military. To find out careers available in each of the branches, consult a recruiter.

Step 4: Meet the recruiter

How do you handle meeting recruiters? Though it can be nerve-racking, just remember that you are under no obligation when talking to a recruiter.

Step 5: Ace the ASVAB

If you will be enlisting, you need to ace the ASVAB (Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery) test. There are places where you can get help to get the best score possible. Check out www.military.com for study guides.

The ASVAB is offered to all students at Flambeau High School. See your counselor for more information.

Step 6: Get the best job

You want to join as soon as possible to make sure you will be doing what you like! There are plenty of jobs to choose from, but which one will be best for you? The ASVAB test will help you determine which job fits you best.

Step 7: Complete the process.

Before you can join, the military has to make you are healthy enough to join. This will be done at the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS).

Step 8: Raise your right hand

Every service member must clear the enlistment Oath. This will be the last thing you do at the MEPS. The Oath ensures that you promise to defend the Constitution and to accept and obey orders given to you by the President of the United States and officers appointed over you.

Step 9: Get ready for boot camp

Are you ready to be challenged? In the military, you will be given continuous training and opportunities to learn new skills throughout your career.

Step 10: You're in! Make the most of it!

Military Sites:

www.defenselink.mil

www.airforce.com

www.goarmy.com

www.marines.com

www.navyjobs.com

www.uscg.com

www.1-800-go-guard.com

Students who prefer a hands-on approach to learning may want to consider an apprenticeship program. Apprentices learn a skilled trade through a combination of classroom instruction and on-the-job training. Apprenticeship programs are considered by many to be the best way to receive training in the skilled trades. After successfully completing the prescribed hours of related classroom instruction and training, the graduate will become a highly experienced “journey worker.”

Why choose Apprenticeship?

People can earn money while they learn a trade. They can provide the knowledge to perform and learn a skilled trade while earning a wage and having a sense of job security. They provide the ability to learn a trade while making about 50 percent of the full salary. Apprenticeships often serve as an entry into a career that would otherwise be closed to an individual due to lack of experience. The skills received to provide a person with life skills and comprehensive knowledge about specific trades. Skills learned through an apprenticeship are transferable from one employer to another, generally from one area of the country to another.

How does one become an apprentice?

Applicants must be at least 16 years old and interested in a skilled trade. Completing a vocational or technical program may increase being hired as an apprentice. Math, physical science, and English are essential to many apprentices.

- To first become an apprentice, it is essential to choose a trade that interests you and find out its basic information.
- Find a possible employer to hire you as an apprentice in the trade you are interested in and would like to apply to.
- Review the standard for the program you want to apply for so you know what is required of you.
- Once you have decided on a program, contact the program advisor and determine if they are taking applications.
- If you get accepted into your registered apprenticeship program, you can complete the paperwork and start your hands-on training.

Some apprenticeship types in Wisconsin

- Construction trade examples: bricklayer, cabinetmaker, and carpenter.
- Food processing and preparation trade examples: baker, cook, meat cutter.
- Graphic arts or mass communication trade examples: bookbinder, lithographer, press operator.
- Metalworking trade examples: machinist, tool-and-die maker.
- Transportation trade examples: cutter and auto glazier, automobile mechanic.
- Utilities trade examples: line wire, a power company.

A *vocational or trade school* focuses on providing graduates with marketable skills. Common examples of trade schools include:

- Maritime academics
- Esthetician colleges
- Culinary schools
- Automotive repair training programs
- Medical technician programs

After graduating from a trade school, an individual will be able to immediately enter the job market with his or her skills and be able to receive a high rate of compensation.

Because a trade school is less costly to attend than many four-year universities and provides graduates with immediately useful skills and sometimes job placement services, going to a trade school is an option that many high school graduates consider in alternative to a college or university. Many trade school programs are equivalent to college programs. In a well-run trade school, students will learn the basics of their trade and be able to practice it. After graduating, a student will be certified, and eligible to take any state administered tests which may pertain to his or her trade. In some parts of the world, trade schools are associated with minimal education, but this is a misconception. While graduates of trade schools do not have the background that a liberal arts education provides, they are highly trained and skilled individuals who often receive well-grounded education in addition to their technical training.

Admission to trade schools can be rigorous. Most of them are accredited, just like colleges, and subject to ensure that their curricula are strong.

Useful Websites:

www.tradeschool.org

www.tradeschools.net

www.wisegeek.com/what-is-a-trade-school.htm

Employment is an appropriate option for some high school graduates. Turn a job into a career. High school graduates with no vocational training will probably find that they have limited career options. In many cases, they will find that they are, in reality, not entering a career field as much as they are “getting a job.” In most cases, they will also find that they will not be making much more than minimum wage, and opportunities for advancement will be minimal.

On the other hand, businesses and industry are always anxious to find employees who are hard-working, polite, punctual, well-groomed, willing to learn, and able to get along with others. Of course, if a student has a particular talent or skill in sales, art, computer, etc., they can be precious to an employer. Contact your school counselor for more information.

Valuable Websites:

Wisconsin Job net: www.dwd.state.wi.us/jobnet

Job Center of WI: www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com

Workforce Connections: www.workforceconnections.org

For students who are indecisive/undecided about what lies ahead, some corporations and programs prepare people for real-life situations while getting community and volunteer experience. Some nontraditional pathways may be targeted toward definitive programs for people to make sure they are making the right decision or to find themselves. These programs help to find out strengths and weaknesses, and many times, people will enter college programs based on what they have found out. Other times, people may find lifelong careers within these experiences to help others who had similar experiences. There are many options to consider when thinking about nontraditional pathways.

AmeriCorps is an eleven-month service program that allows one to earn a living allowance, health care, and an education award of up to \$4,725 to help pay for college or vocational training. It offers opportunities on both a state and national level with many affiliate programs. If you would like more information on programs in your area or additional materials, call the recruitment hotline at 1-800-942-2677 or the La Crosse area office at 1-608-785-7003; or visit the AmeriCorps website at www.americorps.org.

job corps is an educational experience providing participants an opportunity to complete their education, learn a trade, and graduate with a good job in hand. All locations are dormitory living with practical and classroom-based instruction. The program provides for a monthly allowance. The program requires that you be 16-24 years of age, willing to fully participate in their educational environment, and meet the eligibility requirements. For more information go to www.jobcorps.dol.gov

Catholic Network of Volunteer Service is an online directory with volunteer program listings in the U.S. and beyond. Each program listed has its requirements as far as education and age. Benefits and financial arrangements vary with each opportunity. Go to the response directory to search their database of opportunities. Their website is located at www.cnvs.org/aboutus/index.php

Disney Career Start is an opportunity to live and work at Disney World Resort. They offer a variety of ways to help operate and upkeep their theme parks. Participants live in a gated community with planned and supervised activities. Participants structure a living opportunity unique to their interests. For more information, log onto www.disney.go.com/disneycareers/careerstart/wdw/index.html.

Outward Bound Wilderness is a nonprofit adventure-education organization. They offer participants a variety of activities in the US and internationally. Programs are meant to support personal growth through hands on experience and challenges. To search for opportunities, go to www.outwardboundwilderness.org/index.html; search under Our Courses research courses by Age and check the College Age opportunities.

Center for Interim Programs offers individuals the opportunity to explore different areas of interest via a personally tailor, experience based format. For more information, go to www.interimprograms.com

American Nannies is looking for people to be live-in nannies with a family within the U.S. this agency deal with screening and placement of nannies and families seeking them. The process is meant to match the job descriptions of both what families expect and what nannies are looking for. The program requires applying nannies to be at least 18 years old, HS or equivalent graduate, verifiable references, and willing to make a one-year commitment. Go to www.americannannies.com/ to apply and get more information.

Au-Pairs, Nannies and Mother's Help is looking for people to be live-in nannies in Europe. Requirements are made by the families. For more information, go to www.aurpair-agency.com

Aids Camp International is an organization looking for volunteers to participate in three-week projects serving different third world countries. Volunteers get a rare view of life and culture and an opportunity to serve people in that culture. Projects will have you working side by side with the locals skilled in the necessary tasks. This program requires that you are 18 years of age, in good health, and culturally sensitive. A minimum donation and registration fee is expected to cover the aid project and Aids Camp International. For more information, go to www.aidscamps.org

Global Peace Works is a multi-faith based organization bringing together individuals of many faiths to serve in a community in India performing charitable unskilled labor. Volunteers go on 10-day service projects and are brought together with a much larger group to encourage respect and peaceful interaction between people of many different backgrounds. This program requires volunteers to be at least 19 years of age, provide your own transportation to and from the project, and be respectful of others spiritual and moral values. For more information, go to www.globalpeaceworks.org/

Organic Volunteers is a website that provides a listing for people who might be interested in a volunteer internship dealing with some form of farming or outdoor activity. You can search the website by state or by type of work. Each position has its own required work but most seem to provide housing, food, and some type of living wage. For more information, go to www.organicvolunteers.com

Volunteers for Peace provides an international volunteer opportunity with over 3000 types of programs in some 100 countries. Most volunteer programs last 2-3 weeks and have a registration fee. Majority of work camps take place between June and September and work with construction/restoration, environmental, and social service work. Program requires volunteers to be at least 18 years old. For more information, go to www.vfp.org

Volunteer Match is a website that is run much like a job search engine. Use it to look up local area volunteer opportunities for a wide variety of causes and agencies. Many are minimal commitments and need varying degrees of skill or experience. Go to www.volunteermatch.org/results

Volunteer Resource Directory is a website that gives internet sites on volunteering. For more information, go to www.volunteer.com

Career and Technical Colleges

Career and technical colleges offer student short-term training in a wide variety of career fields. Career and technical colleges may be privately owned and the programs they offer vary greatly. Some career and technical college programs last only weeks, while others take two years to complete.

These programs are designed to prepare students for specific careers. Students, therefore, spend most of the class time in job-related settings where they receive hands-on training from experienced instructors. Degrees that may be obtained include Technical Diplomas, Certificates and Associate's Degrees.

Wisconsin Technical Colleges

The Wisconsin Technical College system has 16 colleges and offers over 300 programs that can place you in a vast majority of the high-skill, high-paying jobs of today and tomorrow. 91% of Wisconsin Technical College graduates get jobs within six months of graduating.

In addition, the Wisconsin Technical College system offers nearly 400 program-to-program transfer agreements that make keeping your credits easier. You can find more detailed information at www.transferoptions.org

For information on

- Wisconsin technical Colleges www.witechcolleges.org
- Minnesota Technical Colleges www.mnscu.edu
- Transferring between Wisconsin institutions www.uwsa.edu/tis

Two-Year Colleges

Two-year colleges provide affordable, career oriented programs, which enable students to begin their careers after only one or two years of college. Typically, class sizes are kept small and professors have worked, or are working, in a related career field. Students completing one-year programs receive Certificates or Diplomas, and students completing two-year programs earn Associate's Degrees. Degrees that may be obtained include A.A.-Associates of Arts, A.S.-Associates of Science, and A.A.A.-Associates of Applied Science.

Students may also start their education at a two-year college, and then transfer to a four-year college to earn a bachelor's degree. Check out the transferability of credits from one school to the next before transferring. Schedule a campus visit to learn more about their programs and facilities.

UW-Colleges

There are 13 freshman-sophomore campuses in the UW College Campus system. These campuses have the lowest tuition in the UW system and provide students with numerous opportunities for service-learning and research to build professional skills. Most importantly, the UW system has a unique Guarantee Transfer Program, which ensures admission to the UW four-year campus of your choice.

For more information on

- Wisconsin colleges www.uwhelp.wisconsin.edu
- Minnesota Community Colleges www.mnscu.edu
- Guaranteed Transfer Program (WI) www.uwhelp.wisconsin.edu or www.uwc.edu

Statistics show that students who complete their sophomore year at a UW college campus perform better their first semester after transfer than students who transfer earlier.

-UW Colleges

Four-Year Colleges/Universities

A bachelor's degree can open doors, provide status, and prepare students for financially rewarding careers. All colleges and universities hope to attract bright, well-prepared students. Colleges and universities vary greatly in their majors offered, admission policies and costs.

Four-year colleges and universities want students to have both a broad-based education, and education in a specific subject area or major. In order to ensure that students receive a well-rounded education, most four-year colleges and universities require that students take 25-50% of their classes in general education courses like English and History. Since many of the general education courses are taken during freshman year, "undecided" students can use their first year of college to fulfill general education requirements and to decide on a major.

Entrance requirements vary greatly. Colleges and universities that have an open admission policy will accept most high school graduates who apply. At the other end of the spectrum are colleges and universities that are highly selective. In order to be accepted at a highly selective college or university, a student must usually have a high ACT/SAT score and a high GPA.

College admissions are looking for the following categories including:

- ACT/SAT score
- GPA
- Class Rank
- Co-curricular activities
- Attendance
- Well written essay
- High School Class Rigor(Math & Science)

The student who has not taken several of the recommended college preparatory courses may want to start at a two-year college or university's branch campus where the admission requirements are less competitive, classes are smaller, cost is generally lower, and where there is less academic pressure. Students can attend the branch campus for one year or two years, then, if they have high enough grades, transfer to the colleges or universities main campus.

Degrees from a four-year college include:

B.A.-Bachelors of Arts
B.S.-Bachelor of Science

M.A.-Masters of Arts
M.S.-Masters of Science
Ed.D.-Doctor of Education
Ph.D.-Doctor of Philosophy
J.D.-Juris Doctor (lawyer)
M.D.-Medical Doctor

After a Bachelor's Degree, some advanced degrees include:

For more information on:

- Wisconsin Universities www.uwhelp.wisconsin.edu
- Wisconsin Private Colleges & Universities www.goindpendent.org
- Minnesota Universities www.mnscu.edu
- Minnesota Private Colleges & Universities www.mnprivatecolleges.org

General Admission Standards

Colleges will use some, if not all, of the information listed below when determining whether or not to accept an applicant. Individual colleges, however, differ in how they evaluate this information. For example, one college may place a great deal of importance on test scores, while another college may not. Most colleges give primary consideration to academics, class rank and ACT scores, but do not look at other factors as well to determine admissions.

- Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Class Rank
- Strength of Subjects (rigor)
- ACT and/or SAT scores
- Recommendations
- Activities/awards
- Personal Essays
- Interviews
- Volunteerism

University of Wisconsin Admission Standards

Admission standards to University of Wisconsin four-year institutions and 2-year colleges include the following core curriculum:

- A minimum of **4 years of English**
- A minimum of **3 years of Mathematics, including Algebra II**
- A minimum of **3 years of Science**
- A minimum of **3 years of Social Studies**

(Some UW four-year schools require a minimum of 2 years of foreign language)

In addition to the core curriculum requirements, schools may deny admission to applicants with low ACT scores and/or a low class rank.

Reciprocity

Residents of Wisconsin may qualify for reduced rates at Minnesota Colleges or Universities by complying with procedures of the reciprocal agreement. Reciprocity form can be accessed on-line at www.heab.wi.gov/mnwiinfo.html

College Athletics

If you are planning to participate in Division I or II college athletics, you must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. To be certified by the Clearinghouse, you must:

- Graduate from high school on time

- Complete a minimum of 16 core courses
- Secure a minimum grade-point average (GPA) in core courses
- Achieve a qualifying test score on either ACT or SAT test

More information on regarding NCAA eligibility can be found at www.web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common

College Entrance Exams

There are two major college exams, the ACT and SAT. All University of Wisconsin two and four-year schools accept the ACT. Nationally, most schools will accept scores from either the ACT or SAT I. Students are encouraged to take the ACT or SAT in the spring of their junior year.

The ACT and SAT are significantly different tests and, in many ways, they measure different skills. Depending on a student's particular strengths and weaknesses, he/she may perform better on one test as opposed to the other.

What is the difference between the ACT and SAT?

<u>ACT</u>	<u>SAT</u>
Achievement test measuring what a student has learned	Aptitude test measuring reasoning and verbal abilities
Up to five components: English, math, reading, science and an optional writing test	Three components: Verbal, math and a required writing test
Scored based on number correct	Penalty for guessing the wrong answer
Each section is scored on a scale of 1-36 with the highest composite score being 36	Each selection is scored on a scale of 200-800 with the highest composite score being 2400
Math account for 50% of your score	Math accounts for 25% of your score
Vocabulary is less important	Vocabulary is emphasized

*Students who plan to attend a college that prefers the SAT I must also determine if any SAT II subject tests are required. SAT II consists of subject tests, which measure the student's ability to apply knowledge. Subject Tests are one-hour, primarily a multiple-choice test in specific subjects.

Test Prep Resources: www.actstudent.org
www.testprepwj.org

www.collegeboard.com
www.numbers2.com

The Real ACT Prep Guide
The Official SAT Study Guide

College Search

When beginning your college search, look at the characteristics that are most important to you and rank order them. This should help you locate schools that will meet your individual needs.

Some characteristics to consider in the college search are:

- Academic programs of study
- Location
- Type of institution-private of public
- Student population
- Academic standards
- Competitiveness
- Size
- Diversity of student body
- Cost
- Financial Aid
- Special programs and services
- Athletic programs
- Campus Life
- Housing

Campus visits

Arrange to visit any colleges to which you plan to apply. Consider these factors before and during your visit:

- Make arrangements with the admissions office for your visit
- Try to visit on a weekday or stay overnight
- Meet with the college admissions officer
- Verify admission requirements (test and high school preparation)
- Discuss your chances for success
- Obtain the college calendar and catalog
- Determine college costs
- Ask about financial aid opportunities, as well as deadlines, forms required, and other needed information
- Meet with faculty in the academic area of interest to you
- Ask questions about academic requirements/offering, the average class size and academic advising
- Attend a class to get an idea of typical size, teaching style, academic atmosphere
- Check the percentage of entering freshmen who graduate in four years
- Ask about the placement record of graduates in the field you are considering for major study
- Identify career planning services for undergraduates
- Tour the campus. Check out dorms, dining hall, library, bookstore, computer labs and other areas key to your needs
- Talk to students about the general academic environment and the study commitment necessary for success
- Find out what student activities (clubs, organizations, intramurals, etc.) are available

When you write your essay....

DO start early. Plan plenty of time to revise, record and rewrite. Try not to write when you are tired or under pressure, or just feeling down. Your attitude and stress could show in your writing.

DO read the questions carefully. You will want to answer the question as directly as possible, and you'll want to follow word limits exactly. Express yourself as briefly and clearly as you can.

DO tell the truth about yourself. Be interesting but more importantly, be yourself. Convey your true and genuine thoughts and feelings. Don't try to portray yourself as someone with interests, ideas, opinions that aren't really yours.

DO focus on an aspect of yourself that will show your best side. Write from the heart. You might have overcome adversity, worked through a difficult project, or profited from a specific incident. A narrow focus is more interesting than broad-based generalizations.

DO feel comfortable expressing anxieties. Everybody has them, and it's good to know that an applicant can see them and face them.

DO tie yourself to the college and/or program. Be specific about what this particular school/program can do for you. Your essay can have different slants for different situations.

DO speak positively. Negatives tend to turn people off.

DO write about your greatest assets and achievements. You should be proud of them!

But.....

DON'T repeat information elsewhere on your application. The committee has already seen it and it looks as though you have nothing better to say.

DON'T write on general, impersonal topics—like nuclear arm race or the importance of good management in business. They want to know about you.

DON'T use the personal statement to excuse your shortcomings. It gives them additional attention.

DON'T use clichés.

DON'T go to extremes: too witty, too opinionated, or too "intellectual."

Not all colleges require an essay or personal statement. Remember to check the admissions requirements at each school as the requirements vary from school to school.

Letters of Recommendation can play a significant role in the college admissions process and may be required to specific scholarships or a job application. Not all colleges require a letter of recommendation, but in some cases, letters can be a helpful addition to your application. If you are not sure if you should include a letter, check the admissions requirements and/or discuss your individual situation with your school counselor.

Utilize these tips to get the best recommendations as possible:

- **Choose the best references.** You want to choose people who know you well enough to write recommendations that will make a lasting impression with the reader. Choose teachers, coaches, employers, etc. who you interact with often and who can write about your talents and abilities. Recommendation letters should not come from parents or relatives!
- **Ask the letter to write in person.** DO NOT assume the letter will be completed if you leave the request in his/her mailbox or drop it off on a desk; make sure you make personal contact with the individual. When you approach someone for a recommendation, remember to be polite and tactful. If there is any hesitation, you may want to consider asking someone else.
- **Plan Ahead.** It is a good idea to indicate the date you will need the letter completed. Two weeks prior to a deadline is a good rule to follow. As the date you need your letter approaches, a gentle reminder is often a good bet.
- **Help the writer help you.** Give them more information about you by completing and providing a copy of the “Letter of Recommendation Form” located in the back of this handbook, or provide a copy of your resume to assure an accurate and complete recommendation. Give the letter writer specific dates and directions for the completed recommendation. For example: What is the letter for? Should the letter include any specific information? Should the letter writer give the letter directly to you or should they mail it? If it’s to be mailed, you should provide a stamped, addressed envelope.
- **Be appreciative.** Don’t forget to send thank-you notes to all of your references. They are taking time out of their busy schedules to help you out. A sincere thank you opens the door for you to ask for assistance again in the future, should you need it.

Teachers who know your ability in the area you are going into (core subject teachers) are excellent references.

Financial Aid

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the federal form that the U.S. Department of Education used to determine how much federal student aid you qualify for. Every college accepts the FAFSA-and it is free, so you don't pay anyone to complete it for you. The FAFSA application is available online at: www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Ten Great Financial Aid Tips

1. Prioritize your efforts, starting with the federal government. Then turn to the private sector for additional assistance.
2. Complete the FAFSA4caster which provides students with an early estimate of their eligibility for federal student financial assistance. Students considering furthering their education beyond high school can use this FREE tool to calculate your eligibility for federal financial aid, including grants. It will also reduce the time it will take to complete the FAFSA. To access FAFSA4caster, visit www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov
3. Prepare materials ahead of time prior to completing the FAFSA. You will need the students and parents' income, as well as bank statements, tax records, etc. You can find a list of everything you will need at www.fafsa.ed.gov
4. Submit a FAFSA, even if you don't think you will qualify for aid. Being rejected for federal aid is sometimes a prerequisite for private awards.
5. Apply for aid as soon as possible after October 1. The early bird gets the worm! Each school has a priority deadline, make sure you meet your school's deadline.
6. Inform financial aid administrators about atypical expenses or special situations (i.e. medical expenses, loss of income due to death, loss of a job, separation/divorce, parent's college tuition, or sibling tuition at a private elementary or secondary school.
7. Money from grandparents should be paid in your name directly to the school. This avoids gift tax liability.
8. Investigate company-sponsored tuition plans. Many employers will invest in the education expenses of their employees.
9. Apply! You cannot win awards or receive funds for which you do not apply, so pay attention to deadlines.
10. Use scholarship search engines like fastweb (www.fastweb.com) to help you find the private sector assistance you need!

Don't forget to check directly with the financial Aid Office of all schools/colleges you are applying at. They may have scholarships available.

By the fall of your senior year in high school, you should have:

- Chosen the colleges to which you'll apply, you can start applying by Sept. 1 and
- Determine their cost of attendance

Now you are ready to take the next steps.

For some students, having made their college choices and having determined, based on the total cost of attendance, that their families will not be eligible for financial aid based on demonstrated financial need, the next step is either to check out payment plans and/or non-need-based merit scholarships offered by colleges, to look into a non-need-based loan, or consult a free scholarship search.

For those who are eligible for need-based financial aid, the steps below will help you apply for financial aid.

1. Find out and comply with each college's admission and financial aid application deadlines.
2. Review available scholarship, gather and complete the necessary forms; meet the deadlines.
3. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in order to qualify for aid through the federal government as soon after January 1 as possible.
4. If your college choices require copies of parent income tax forms, be sure to submit them as soon after January 1 as they are completed.
5. If required by your college choices, complete the College Board PROFILE application for financial aid.
6. Complete any additional college-specific financial aid forms that may be required. Ask!
7. Review the Student Aid Report (SAR) for accuracy. This is based on your completed FAFSA. You should receive it approximately four week after you've filed the FAFSA.
8. Review the CSS Acknowledgement you'll receive once your PROFILE application has been processed.
9. Review financial aid award packages.
10. Remember, it's not just about the sticker price, the bottom line, and the grant/loan ratio.

Looking on-line for scholarships? Check out these websites:

www.fastweb.com

www.xap.com

www.collegeanswer.com

Flambeau High School Scholarships

All seniors who plan to attend any school following graduation should apply for the Flambeau High School local scholarships. Applications are typically available in the early part of the Winter season. Depending on the scholarship, an application could be a simple form, an essay or a variety of things. Scholarships are offered from a variety of local businesses and often look for different types of students. For example, some scholarships look for students with high GPA while others require a low or average GPA. Some take into consideration students who are planning to study a particular major or career area while some consider community services. There are many possibilities, so all students should apply.

Scholarship Listings at School

Throughout the year Flambeau High School receives scholarship information and/or applications from various organizations and businesses. These are located on the Flambeau School District web page. The scholarships will all be listed on the school web page. Please see Mrs. Carlsen for information and to pick up a local application form.

Scholarship Search Via the Internet

The fastWEB search on the Internet (www.fastweb.com) contains a database of over 275,000 scholarships. You may set up a fastWEB mailbox to receive information on scholarships which match your personal criteria.

Other Scholarship Opportunities

Brainstorm lists of sources such as clubs, insurance companies, businesses, religious groups, fraternal organizations, unions, employers, and other organizations which may also be sources for scholarships.

Students are encouraged to inquire into the availability of institutional scholarships at the colleges they are considering. Check directly with the Financial Aid office of all the schools/colleges you're applying at.

CAUTION!! Every year, thousands of students and parents are defrauded by scholarship scams. If you have to pay money to get money, it's most likely a scam.

Important documents are frequently misplaced or forgotten because a student has not created an organized plan for keeping records.

The Necessary Components for Getting Organized

- A safe and secure location in your home for all records to be kept
- A metal or wood file cabinet, a plastic file box, an expandable pocket portfolio, or at least a good solid cardboard box (make sure to label the outside so it doesn't get thrown out)
- A yearly calendar or pocket organizer for recording important dates
- Folders to organize your files

You Will Need to Create "Basic Files" for the Following:

- Your Social Security number
- Your high school transcript
- Your personal resume
- PLAN, SAT, ACT, PSAT, Compass or any applicable test scores
- Letters or recommendations from teachers, counselors, employers, etc...
- Immunization records
- Income tax records
- Medical records
- Insurance records
- Your Educational/Career Planning Portfolio

Create these Additional Files as the Year Progresses:

- For each post-secondary institution or college to which you have applied or visited, create a file for:
 - Your admission status
 - Scholarship information
 - Housing information
 - Meal plans
 - Registration information and date
 - Campus visits
- FAFSA application (on-line)
- Each specific scholarship for which you have applied
- Summer employment or internship possibilities
- Student or parent loan documents

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) - A test given to high school students, usually at the end of their junior year or senior year, after they have completed certain AP courses. Many colleges give advanced standing and/or credit for these College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) sponsored tests.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE – The Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science or any other Bachelor's degree granted by a college/university for a program that typically requires four years of full-time study.

COLLEGE – A school of higher learning, offering an academic degree, may be public or private and can be a two year or a four year school.

COLLEGE WORK STUDY- An award of part-time employment for students that demonstrate financial need.

COMMON APPLICATION FORM- A single application form which is accepted by more than 300 private institutions. After completing the original application, you make copies and submit these copies to the Post-High school Counseling Office which will process them to the institutions which accept the common application. Participating colleges pledge to view this common application as equal to their own application.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE- A two-year institution of higher learning which provides academic courses that lead either into the work world or on to a four-year college program.

CONSORTIUM- Several colleges and universities in an area often join together in a consortium or cooperative association, which gives students the opportunity to use the libraries or take courses at all the member institutions. Consortium members often present joint lecture programs or unusual courses.

CORE CURRICULUM/GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS- A group of courses, in varied areas of the arts and sciences, designated by a college as one of the requirements for a degree.

CREDIT HOUR- the system of assigning a given number of credits to a particular college course, usually based on the standard principle of one credit per hour per week per term or class meeting time (e.g. English meets three hours/week for a semester for three credit hours.

DEFERRED ADMISSION- Deferred Admission is a plan which permits a student, once accepted, to postpone enrollment for one year in order to pursue other plans.

EARLY ADMISSION- An exceptional student would terminate his or her high school after the junior year and enroll in college. Early Admission is generally highly selective.

EARLY DECISION- Early decision, a plan offered by a select number of colleges, allows a student to apply to only one school for an early admission judgment between November and mid-January. If accepted, the

student is obligated to attend. The student may submit other applications during the period, but only one can be Early Decision.

FINANCIAL AID FORMS- These are forms completed by the student and his/her parents when seeking financial aid from a college. The forms are submitted to a central processing service which determines the amount a family is expected to pay (family contributions), and supplies this information to the college. Students can obtain these forms from the College/Career Center in the Guidance Office in October of their senior years. A FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP is presented in October to help parents and students understand the financial aid process.

FINANCIAL NEED -the difference between the cost of attending a post-secondary institution and the family's ability to pay for these costs.

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)- The form that must be completed by all students and parents who apply for federal student aid. It is the only form that can be used to apply for Wisconsin State Grant funds and, at most post-secondary institutions, for institutional funds.

FULL-TIME STUDENT - A student who takes at least 12 credit hours per semester. One must be a full-time student to qualify for most student aid.

GRADUATE SCHOOL- Program enrolled in after graduation from a four-year college program, usually for concentrated preparation in a field of study.

GRANT- An outright award to the student, based on academic excellence or financial need. The student does not have to repay this money.

LOAN - A form of assistance that requires repayment after graduation at a low rate of interest.

MAJOR - A particular subject or area in which a student specializes in college.

MINOR - Similar to a major, but requiring fewer credits.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP- The National Merit Scholarship is a private scholarship program for undergraduate study offering college money to several thousand of the nation's most outstanding students each year. Students qualify for the scholarship by taking the PSAT/NMSQT in October of their junior year. Only the students who represent the upper one half of the top one percent of high school graduates in their state are selected as semi-finalists and thereby become eligible to continue in the competition for scholarship opportunities. The IBM Watson is an example of a National Merit Scholarship.

OPEN ADMISSIONS- Students are accepted upon application in Open Admissions. Some programs in these same schools may have more selective admissions.

RECIPROCITY- Students attending any public higher education institution in the neighboring states pay approximately the average tuition that they would have paid at a comparable school in their home state. Wisconsin has complete reciprocity with Minnesota.

RESUME- A resume is a short advertisement of one's skills in outline form. Its purpose is to present oneself to prospective schools and employers in a clear, concise manner with sufficient, accurate information. Utilize the "Resume Builder" in Career Cruising if interested in developing a resume.

ROLLING ADMISSIONS- An admissions decision made by a college as soon as possible after an application is received. An application deadline may be specific, but students are strongly encouraged to submit their applications before winter break.

SCHOLARSHIP- An award to students based on any or all of the following: academic achievement, community involvement, athletic participation, extra-curricular activities and/or financial need. Non need-based scholarships are also available. The student does not have to repay this money.

STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR) - A document received 4-6 weeks after the Free Application for Federal Student Aid is sent in. It contains a Student Aid Index number which determines eligibility for federal Student Financial Assistance Programs and your expected family contribution.

TECHNICAL/VOCATIONAL COLLEGE- an institution which offers intense, focused programs intended to prepare students for immediate employment in various occupations.

TOEFL-TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE- A test used to evaluate the English proficiency of those students whose first language is not English.

TRANSCRIPT (UNOFFICIAL) – a listing of the classes a student has completed, the grades and credits earned, the current grade point average, class rank, and a summary of graduation requirements completed. An unofficial transcript may be generated on Infinite Campus.

TRANSCRIPT (OFFICIAL) - part of a student's permanent record. It includes a list of the courses a student has completed, the grade and credits earned, the current GPA and class rank. Transcripts may be requested from the High School Office.

UNDERGRADUATE - A student who is attending college, but who has not yet received a degree.

UNIVERSITY- An academic organization which grants undergraduate and graduate degrees in a variety of fields. It is composed of a number of "schools" or "colleges" each of which emphasizes a particular field of study.

<p>College Name Do your homework!</p>			
<p>Location-Distance from home</p>			
<p>Size -Enrollment -Physical size of campus</p>			
<p>Environment -Type of school (2 yr/4 yr) -School setting (urban, rural) -Location & size of nearest city -Co-ed, male, female -Religious affiliation</p>			
<p>Admission Requirements -Deadline -Tests Required -Average test scores, GPA, rank -Special requirements</p>			
<p>Academics -Your major offered -Special requirements -Accreditation -Student-faculty ratio -Typical class size</p>			
<p>College Expenses -Tuition, room & board -Estimated total budget -Application fee, deposits</p>			
<p>Financial Aid -Deadline -Required forms -Percent receiving aid -Scholarships</p>			
<p>Housing -Residence hall requirement -Availability -Types and sizes -Food plan</p>			
<p>Facilities -Academic -Recreational</p>			
<p>Activities -Clubs, organizations -Fraternities/Sororities -Athletic, intramural</p>			
<p>Campus Visits -When -Special opportunities</p>			

Questions you should ask when visiting a college:

1. How many students attend? Is it a diverse group?
2. Do professors teach undergraduate courses, or do you use teaching assistants?
3. What is the average class size, and what is the student-to-faculty ratio?
4. Will I graduate in four year? (Will I have to take summer school to get there?)
5. Who will be my academic adviser? What can I expect of that person?
6. Are faculty members easy to reach outside of class?
7. How many students participate in foreign exchange programs, and where do they go?
8. How many students do an internship?
9. What computer and other specialized facilities are available for student use?
10. What do students do for fun?
11. Do students stay on campus during the weekends? Is it a "suitcase campus"?
12. What are admissions' requirements and important deadlines?
13. What types of housing are available?
14. Do you have the extra-curricular activities that I am interested in?
15. Do you offer the academic majors or programs that interest me?
16. How much does it cost?
17. Do you have a textbook rental program?
18. What types of scholarships and financial aid are available?
19. Do you accept my Youth Options, Youth Apprenticeship classes?
20. What percentages of your students attend graduate or professional school?
21. How do you help with job placement? What are the job placements rates?

Letter of Recommendation - Request Form

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ Deadline: _____

Purpose of letter: (please circle what applies)

Scholarship

College Application

Job Application

(Please check one) _____ I will pick up the letter (or)

_____ Please mail the letter to:

If desired, you may type answers on a separate sheet and attach a copy.

What are your future goals?

In addition, what are your plans for college or other post-high school education or training?

What are some of your special interests, hobbies and talents?

What activities have you participated in and out of school (sports, school activities, volunteer experience, work experience)? Please list duration of activity and positions of leadership.

Is your high school academic record an accurate measure of your ability and potential? Please explain your answer.

What circumstances, if any, have interfered with your academic performance?

List any special awards or recognition you've received in both school and community.

Please provide any other relevant information that will be beneficial to the writer.