

COLLEGE PLANNING NIGHT PART 2: FOR JUNIORS AND PARENTS OF JUNIORS

On March 10, the Counseling Center will offer a follow-up to last fall's College Planning Night. This event will be different from the event that was held last October. Admissions counselors from three local universities will be at Pius XI to talk about the process of getting into college. From campus visits, applications, and the admissions process, to the selection of a college, the representatives will cover all of the fundamentals. Pius XI counselors will be on hand as well to answer questions. We hope to see all Pius XI juniors and their parents at this event. There will be a break-out session held entirely in Spanish for all who are interested.

When: *Wednesday, March 10*

Where: *Pius XI Fieldhouse*

Time: *7:00 - 8:30 p.m.*

TESTING FOR JUNIORS

The spring of your junior year and/or the fall of your senior year, you will need to take very important admissions tests. The most commonly accepted tests are the ACT and the SAT tests. Most colleges in the U.S. require that students submit scores from these standardized tests as part of their application packages.

JUNIORS SIGN UP FOR JUNE TEST DATE AT PIUS XI!

The ACT will be offered twice this spring for students nationwide: April 10 and June 12. Pius XI will be a host site for the June 12 test date. Students from other schools do have the option to test at Pius XI. There are only 250 seats available, so sign up early to reserve a spot.

Registering for the ACT

For detailed information about the ACT Tests, registering for these tests, how to prepare for the tests, what to take with you on test day, etc., visit: www.act.org and/or see your assigned counselor.

ACT PREP

Pius XI is offering a variety of ACT prep workshops this spring, focusing on both valuable test-taking strategies and subject content. There will be something for everyone. Please contact the Counseling Center for details.

Option 1: Has already begun; however, it's not too late to get on board! This prep course takes place during the school day: A-day (mods 7 & 8), D-day (mods 11 & 12), and E-day (mods 9 & 10). All students who have these double mods open are welcome to attend! This is a general introduction of the ACT test format including sample questions and timed practice of the four major sections, plus the optional writing section. There is no fee or registration.

Option 2: This six-hour workshop emphasizing test-taking strategies and techniques for each of the five ACT subject tests. This workshop blends the ACT facts and essentials, plenty of hands-on practice, and test-taking strategies that make sense to students. Two sections of this course will be offered. Choices include either April 24 or STAR-day afternoons on April 16 and April 26. The fee for this course is \$55.

Option 3: This seven-session course will focus on the English, Reading, and Writing sections of the ACT. Classes will be held on STAR-day afternoons from March 11 to May 25. The class size is limited to twenty students, so register early. The fee for this course is \$175.



SENIORS & COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

By this time, seniors should have wrapped up their applications for college admissions. The Counseling Center has already sent out almost 1000 transcripts this year on behalf of our current seniors. If you have not yet begun this application process and are planning on attending college in the fall, please stop down and see your counselor immediately.

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

What is the FAFSA?

FAFSA stands for: Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This form is required for all students seeking college financial aid, such as grants and loans. Completing the FAFSA is the first and most important step in qualifying for aid. This form is submitted on or after January 1. Parents should complete their income tax forms in anticipation of financial aid applications. If they haven't yet completed their taxes, providing estimated figures is acceptable.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Be sure to check the Pius XI website monthly for an updated college scholarship list compiled by the counseling center. This scholarship list can also be viewed in TAC.

FUTURE COLLEGE ATHLETES

Students interested in participating in Division I or Division II college athletic programs must file the NCAA Eligibility Center Application anytime after the beginning of their junior year. These applications can be found online at the NCAA website. There is a \$50 application fee. See your counselor with questions.

A MESSAGE FOR 18-YEAR-OLD MALES

The law says that all 18-year-old males must register with Selective Service, a government agency whose job it is to provide untrained manpower for the armed forces if there's a national emergency. You should register within 30 days of your 18th birthday. If you don't register you are breaking the law and could face prison time and fines. Registering takes less than two minutes via the Internet at: www.sss.gov. You can also register by going to your local post office. The Selective Service will accept a late registration, so if you are 18 and have not yet registered, please do so ASAP.

WISCAREERS

WisCareers is an Internet site that will help you assess your career interests and abilities, research career fields, and provide you with an enormous amount of information related to salaries, educational requirements, college planning, career availability and budgeting, to name a few. It's also a great way to compare schools side-by-side. See your counselor if you do not have an account or if you have forgotten your username and/or password. www.wiscareers.wisc.edu

"KNOW HOW 2 GO"

For helpful information related to college preparation for all grade levels, career interest inventories, and free ACT prep, visit: www.knowhow2gowisconsin.org.



EARN COLLEGE CREDIT FAST

The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) is a series of examinations that allow individuals to earn college credit for what they know, regardless of where they learned it. CLEP-granting policies vary from college to college. To find out whether the college of your choice grants credit for a specific exam, contact that college's admissions or testing office. At UW-Milwaukee, for example, there is no limit to the number of credits you may earn through CLEP. CLEP exams are 90 minutes each and are administered only on computer. The CLEP fee per exam is \$70 plus the administration fee requested by the college. UWM requests \$25 per test. More information can be found at www.collegeboard.com/clep.

COUNSELING CENTER STAFF

Know who to talk to. We are here to help! Come see us in 220 and 222. Find your TAC below to identify your assigned counselor:

Tim Doherty: # (414)-290-8111

- Department Chair
- 207, 307, 316, 320, 334, 406, 407, 413, 416, 501, 507, 520, 611

Brian Anderson # (414)-290-8163

- 110, 215, 300, 318, 322, 402, 404, 417, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 432, 434

Cheryl Hartenstein # (414)-290-8131

- 101, 200, 202, 306, 310, 400, 410, 415, 430, 515, 518, 604, 609, 610, 613

Karen Holpfer # (414)-290-8143

- 74, 201, 314, 326, 408, 414, 506

Suzanne Lovinus # (414)-290-8199

- 315, 503, 510, 512

Sue Linski: # (414)-290-8145

- Administrative Assistant

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you should need anything at all.