



CCS Senior Update

December 2018

Questions? See your Senior School Counselor and IKIC Advisor!

Finding Money for College!

- Complete your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Every student planning to attend college should do this. There is no need to try to do this alone. I Know I Can staff can help! Call their main office at 614-233-9510, talk to your school's IKIC advisor or get more information at www.iknowican.org.
- It's SCHOLARSHIP season! Winter break is a great time to search for scholarships and apply for a few. Make sure to check out all of the scholarship info and featured scholarships with upcoming deadlines at the end of this Update. Here are some quick tips:
 - Many scholarships are offered by specific colleges, so consider submitting a few more college applications to colleges where you could get merit aid. Application deadlines still haven't passed for many colleges.
 - Many outside organizations offer scholarships and many of those are just now available. Check the scholarship section in this Update, search the Naviance scholarship list and definitely keep up with scholarship matches through FastWeb and Cappex. Every dollar helps!!!!

Don't give in to senioritis!

Many colleges will request mid-year grades. Retake any end-of-course exams you need and **MAKE SURE** you understand what you still need to do to graduate. If you do not have the required points you need on end-of-course tests (18 OST total plus the required sub-scores), make sure you are preparing for your OST retakes, getting sleep & eating before the tests and understanding the test schedule. If you are taking a credential program, prepare for WorkKeys too (see prep resources below). Questions? See your counselor!

OST Prep: Curriculum Test Prep Website <https://www.ccssoh.us/airbootcamp>

ODE Testing Resources <https://oh.portal.airast.org/resources/>

ODE Student Practice Test site (click on Student Practice Test, bicycle icon)

<https://oh.portal.airast.org/users/students-and-families.stml>

Parents:

- Make sure you understand what your child still needs to do this year to graduate! Make sure you have a copy of your student's Graduation Agreement and check it often with your child. If your child did not provide this to you, please call their counselor for a copy.
- Make sure to contact the counselor if you have *any* questions or concerns. We are here to work with you and support your child.
- Please look over all documents shared with your senior, including their transcript and test scores and senior activities. It's a busy year, but we are in this together!

College Applications : If you haven't applied to any colleges yet, it's not too late. There's plenty of time for most colleges. See your counselor and IKIC advisor right away. We can help!

TESTING INFORMATION:

- **Saturday, December 8:** ACT for registered students- don't forget. Prep resources below! **Contact your colleges and make sure they know to consider your new scores.**

Also, check with your colleges to see if they will still accept ACT/SAT scores to increase scholarship money. Sometimes they will! If they do and better scores could mean more money for you, you may want to take the February ACT.

ACT – Register for the February 9 test by January 11!

WorkKeys Test Prep Resources: For those students who need to take the WorkKeys again to reach 13 total points, try the following test prep:

- Practice tests: <https://jobseeker.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/Assessments/Home.aspx> or www.jobtestprep.com/workkeys-assessments
- CCS Test Practice: <http://ple.platoweb.com> (please check with your counselor for more info!)
- Video of one Applied Math explained: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRcAstXKi-0>
- Prep Material for Locating Information: <http://casstech.schools.detroitk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Workkeys-Math-Locating-Information-practice-test-with-answers.pdf>
- Prep Material for Applied Math: <https://nphs-math.wikispaces.com/file/view/Work+Keys+Practice+Math+Test.pdf>

Other opportunities besides college!

Military Service:

Information and recruiter contacts are available from your counselor.

Apprenticeships (“the other four-year degree!”):

Many trades (plumbing, electrical, welding...) offer apprenticeship programs. These may offer great alternatives to traditional college training and provide excellent career options. For more information, visit your counselor and go online to: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/apprenticeship/index.stm> .

Consider a year of service before college:

Programs like City Year give high school graduates the opportunity to serve their community and earn money for college. Go to <http://www.cityyear.org/columbus.aspx> for more information.

For other gap year (taking a year between high school and college) opportunities, check out sites such as www.gap-year.com or www.usagapyearfairs.org

COLUMBUS SHEET METAL WORKERS APPRENTICESHIP: Accepting applications “MOST” Thursdays between 12:30 and 4:00. Phone: (614)-471-3107 www.tinman24.org Application Requirements (You can come in without these- they can get them later if you are on track to get them) : • Must have a high school diploma or GED • Valid Driver’s License, Birth Certificate, SS number • Oral Interview with 2 or more trustee representatives • Pass drug test, background check and Join SMART LU#24

Paying for College:

How will you pay for college other than writing a check each semester? Most people cannot pay full tuition out-of-pocket- that’s where different types of financial aid

come into play. Each *Update* will feature various types of financial aid and tips to help you afford college. This edition will focus on the basics of earning **scholarships**. Look for *Scholarship Tips*, *How to Write Scholarship Essays* and other handouts in your Naviance documents section.

If you are an **undocumented student or renewed your DACA status**, you can share this with your school counselor and it will remain confidential! You can attend college. There are also resources for undocumented students in the Documents section on you Naviance Family Connection site.

Complete your FAFSA! Families may fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**) after **October 1** using 2016 tax return/financial information. IKIC FAFSA workshops will be held now through February. Go to the IKIC site for more information!

Scholarships:

Scholarships offered by colleges:

- Carefully check the **websites of your colleges** for any scholarships for which you may qualify. Work with your school counselor, your college's admissions counselors and your I Know I Can advisor to understand how to apply for college's scholarships and various programs. **This is by far the BIGGEST source of scholarship (and grant) aid for students, so applying to the right colleges for you is key!**

Outside scholarships:

- All local, regional (and some national) scholarships – Local and regional scholarships are often less competitive than national scholarships, and students should definitely apply for these if they meet the application criteria! Even a scholarship of \$250 can provide books for the semester for cash-strapped students- every bit of money helps enormously! And multiple smaller scholarship dollars can really add up. These are updated on your **Naviance Student** site under the “colleges” tab, then “scholarships and money,” then “scholarship list.” Please check regularly as new scholarships will arrive throughout the year. It is your job to read the information, determine if you fit the criteria for the various scholarships and MEET DEADLINES. Please see your counselor if you have questions or for any copies of paper applications. Make sure to give your counselor two weeks of notice to send transcripts!
- National scholarships - Register on Cappex and Fastweb (or use other scholarship sites listed below) for scholarships offered to students across the nation and world. These are very competitive- but our CCS students have won these every year! You can also complete the scholarship search in Naviance under the colleges tab (bottom of that page).
- Unpublicized scholarships - Check with your church, parents' workplaces, your internship site, your parents' banks/ credit unions, your current/past clubs organizations (scouting, cotillions...), Veteran's Affairs (if your parent qualifies), and any other connections you might have through your family and friends!

Featured Scholarships on your Naviance List (more in Naviance!):

- **The Ron Brown Scholar Program:** This program awards scholarships on a very competitive basis to academically talented, highly motivated African American seniors. To be considered for the program

plus scholarships for a select number of universities, apply by **11/1**. To apply to the Ron Brown Scholars Program only, apply by **1/9**. Up to \$40,000 www.ronbrown.org

- **UNCF** manages various scholarship programs and each program has its own eligibility criteria, open/close dates and required documentation. To apply for a UNCF scholarship, you must apply through the on-line application process. As many of the UNCF scholarships require that the scholarship recipient apply for Federal Student Aid, it is recommended that applicants complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). <https://scholarships.uncf.org/>
- **The Columbus Foundation** offers over 200 scholarships for Central Ohio students with goals in higher education. This database makes finding the right scholarship easy for you. Simply follow the steps, which will allow you to enter your information. With the information you provide, our database will sort through and display scholarships offered through the Foundation that match your criteria. Please see the attachment in your Naviance Scholarship List for scholarships that specifically apply to CCS students! tcf-apply.fluidreview.com Deadline: **March 1**
- **The I Know I Can Founders' Scholarship** will award multiple scholarships of \$10,000 each to CCS seniors who meet the following criteria: have completed a college prep curriculum, have at least a 3.0 GPA, demonstrate need, have completed internship hours and ACT or SAT tests and who have 98% or better attendance records. Some scholarships will apply to specific sponsoring colleges. Applications and more information may be found online at www.iknowican.org Deadline: March 1
- **The APIASF General Scholarship** is open to Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) high school and college students who will be enrolling or are currently enrolled in a U.S. accredited college or university as a degree-seeking undergraduate student in the upcoming academic year. There are multiple scholarship opportunities that vary in award amount, number of years, field of study, location, and more. www.apiasf.org Deadline: **1/10**
- **Engineers Foundation of Ohio** offers scholarships to aspiring engineers who study at an Ohio engineering college or university. Applicants must have a 3.0 GPA or higher and math scores equivalent to a 29 on the ACT or a 600 on the SAT. Award amounts vary by particular program. ohioengineer.com Deadline: **1/15**
- **The Jack Donahue Scholarship** is meant to support students affiliated with **Franklin County Children's Services** in pursuing college. Applicants must have a 2.0 GPA and have some leadership and/or extracurricular experiences. Recipients will also take part in a mentoring program. Applicants not selected for this scholarship will be considered for the UNCF Alvin R. Hadley Scholarship. Contact your FCCS caseworker if you believe you are eligible to apply! **Deadline: 1/16**
- **Kenneth L. Howard Endowed Scholarship Fund** scholarships are available to male high school seniors who will graduate in the spring of the academic year for which he is applying or current college students in an active chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. under the jurisdiction of the Columbus, Ohio Alumni Chapter. Application packets are available in your Naviance scholarship list. columbuskappafoundation.com **Deadline: 1/23**
- **Charles L. Warren Memorial Heritage Scholarship seeks** students who demonstrate and show a continued commitment to cultural and intellectual diversity with a grade point average of a 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale who are in a college preparatory curriculum are eligible to compete for this scholarships. The students must also plan to attend an Ohio college or university. Applicants must attend a high school that is a member of OACAC (ask your counselor- he or she will have the application!) www.oacac.org **Deadline: 1/19**
- **Point Foundation** empowers promising **LGBTQ** students to achieve their full academic and leadership potential and despite the obstacles often put before them are to make a significant impact on society. www.pointfoundation.org **Deadline: 1/28**
- The **Deniece Pittman Scholarship Fund** provides financial donations to high school girls with a parent or guardian who has been diagnosed with any type of cancer, is currently in treatment or has deceased

after battling cancer. \$1,500 **Deadline: 1/15**

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/4bc774_8d321d6b9ebc408c9ac4b538325a9287.pdf

- **The SMPS Columbus Scholarship Fund** was established in 2017 to support current high school and higher education students and SMPS Columbus members who are pursuing and/or advancing their careers in the Architecture, Interior Design, Engineering, Construction and/or Marketing fields. \$500 smpscolumbus.org **Deadline: 12/21**
- The purpose of the **OAASFEP Scholarship Program** is to financially support postsecondary education for qualifying Ohio high school seniors who are planning to attend a college/university located in the state of Ohio for the fall semester to major in the field of education. \$500 docs.wixstatic.com **Deadline: 1/31**

Helpful Websites:

Remember to visit all of your colleges' websites **often** for the latest information. Check all deadlines, especially those for scholarships and honors programs!

General College Application/ College Information Sites:

www.review.com and www.weapply.com are both Princeton Review sites that feature excellent college search programs and are both great online application sources.

www.collegeboard.com is a comprehensive site where students may explore every aspect of the college admissions process.

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org> is part of the College Board site and offers guidance on everything from the college search to paying for college- great user-friendly site with lots of student testimonials.

www.EducationPlanner.org gives students information related to all aspects of the college admission process.

<https://www.collegegreenlight.com/> College Greenlight connects first generation and underrepresented students to caring colleges, generous scholarships, and life-changing counselors and mentors.

www.campuspride.org Campus Pride offers great information about LGBTQ-friendly campuses and universities as well as scholarship information for LGBTQ students.

Information about College Costs:

<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/> The US Department of Education launched this site to provide families with college cost comparisons. You can also do a basic college search on the site.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/college-admissions/paying-for-college> Khan Academy takes on the challenge of paying for college!

<http://www.thecollegesolution.com/> features excellent information on how to cut college costs, including free webinars and reliable resources from Lynn O'Shaughnessy, college expert and higher-ed journalist.

<http://costoflearning.com/> uses Net Price Calculators to help you compare the cost of attending several of your top choice colleges.

<http://www.collegedata.com/> provides such tools as net price calculators, Estimated Family Contribution calculators, financial aid award comparisons and scholarship information.

<http://collegecost.ed.gov/catc/> is a site maintained by the US Department of Education's College Affordability and Transparency Center.

<https://collegeabacus.org/> College Abacus is a one-stop, secure search site that helps students and families compare the net price estimates of 5,000+ colleges before students apply and before any financial aid determination is made.

Scholarship Search Sites:

*Your Naviance Student site!

www.fastweb.com tailors scholarship searches based on students' profiles. Every student should register for this free service.

<http://www.cappex.com/scholarships/> Here you can uncover millions of dollars in scholarships from colleges, universities, private companies, foundations -- and more -- to help pay for school.

www.columbusfoundation.org/scholarlink/index.aspx is the link to the Columbus Foundation's list of scholarships. Type in your information, and they match you with possible scholarships!

www.free-4u.com/minority.htm is an excellent site that lists scholarships for each ethnic background (Irish, Portuguese, Japanese, Jewish, African American....)
<https://scholarships.uncf.org/> provides information about UNCF (and affiliated) scholarships, including one for Central Ohio students. This site is updated on an ongoing basis.
www.blackexcel.org/link4htm is a great site for minority students.
www.freshinfo.com allows you to conduct personalized searches for scholarships much like Fastweb.
www.brokescholar.com is a general scholarship site that searches based on your profile.
www.jockscholarships.com This is a free site for students interested in pursuing collegiate athletics. It is supposed to be most helpful for students interested in non-revenue producing sports.
www.wiredscholar.com is another good general scholarship search site.
<https://www.goldendoorscholars.org/> and <https://getschooled.com/dashboard/article/1320-scholarships-for-undocumented-daca-mented-students-get-that-money> provide scholarship resources for DACA and undocumented students
<https://www.collegegreenlight.com/> assists first generation and underrepresented students.
www.finaid.org/otheraid/gay.phtml , www.thepointfoundation.org, www.pflag.org and www.safeschoolscoalition.org/rg-scholarships.html are all excellent sources of financial aid for GLBT students, students with GLBT parents and/or students involved in social activism.

Financial Aid Informational Sites:

www.fafsa.ed.gov is the site for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. You can file your FAFSA after January 1st.
<https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm> is the first stop for students and parents who plan to complete the FAFSA online. An FSA ID gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature. Your FSA ID application can take 1-3 days to process before you can begin using your number(s) to complete the FAFSA online. Both the student and one parent must each get an FSA ID. Contact the Social Security Administration first if you believe yours or your parent's names or other information needs to be updated! Your FSA ID and SSA information must MATCH!
www.OhioMentor.org is a wonderful site full of information where students can fill out financial aid and admission applications online.
www.ed.gov/OSFAP/Students deals with federal programs.
www.finaid.org covers both federal and private loan options.
www.studentaid.ed.gov provides many answers to financial aid questions.
<https://www.khanacademy.org/college-admissions/paying-for-college> provides guidance on completing the FAFSA and CSS Profile.
www.nasfa.org is a site sponsored by the National Assoc. of Student Financial Aid.
www.collegeboard.com is the home page for the CSS Financial Aid Profile, a form required by many selective colleges. Click on CSS/PROFILE
www.wellsfargo.com/collegesteps You may also register to win a \$1500 scholarship at this site. It features information on college planning, including financial aid.

Sites for College Entrance Tests and Free Test Preparation:

www.actstudent.org is the site used to register for the ACT but there are also a number of test prep resources! ACT Question of the Day, ACT Academy (Individualized Prep!) for ALL students and practice tests are all available here: <https://www.ed2go.com/cpe/online-courses/sat-act-preparation-1?tab=syllabus>
www.number2.com/ is a free site for test prep. It includes word of the day vocabulary builder and more. Teachers, parents or other mentors can sign up as coaches to monitor student progress.
www.collegeboard.com is the site used for SAT registration and students may also do some test prep here. There are many free test prep resources through College Board and Khan Academy.
<https://jobseeker.k-12.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/Assessments/Home.aspx> from OhioMeansJobs offers prep for a variety of tests, including ACT, SAT and Accuplacer and WorkKeys mainly in the form of practice tests. The site also offers basic test taking strategies.
<https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep> Khan Academy is the site to use for SAT and PSAT prep!
<http://www.erikthered.com/tutor/> offers a great overview of SAT and ACT math formulas & strategies.
www.march2success.com is a site sponsored by the US Army that provides free test prep for ACT, SAT & ASVAB