



WILLOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

YOUR NEXT STEP

A PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE

College & Career Planning Guide



Published by:
Willowbrook High School
Counseling Department

Your Next Step

A Plan For Your Future

Look at the Big Picture

“Your Next Step” is part of the Willowbrook Counseling Department’s program to provide you with the information you need to set realistic educational/vocational goals and to assist you in your efforts to reach those goals.

It is obvious that a booklet such as this cannot answer all of your questions. It can, however, provide you with some of the basic information needed to get you started. But remember, it is only the beginning of your journey! You will soon find that you need more specific information. At that point, we urge you to expand your search and see your counselor! Use the resources available to you in the College & Career Center. Consider completing an interest inventory or an aptitude test. Use the school and public library. Check with your teachers. Visit industries, businesses and schools. Talk to people in your fields of interest.

Be an active participant in your future!!

Since approximately 93% of WBHS graduates go directly to college, this handbook concentrates on the details of that search, application and decision-making process. If you are considering delaying college or pursuing a vocation or the military, the handbook provides brief information, but more information is available in the College & Career Center, Counseling Office and from your counselor.

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College and Career Planning Calendar

Junior Year

SEPTEMBER - JANUARY:

- ☐ **Begin researching colleges and careers:**
 - Use Naviance program
www.connection.naviance.com/willowbrook
 - Take Career Interest Profiler, Strengths Finder, and Cluster Finder on Naviance
 - Complete SuperMatch College Search on Naviance
 - Read career reference materials
 - Read college brochures and catalogs
 - Visit college campuses and websites
 - Visit the College and Career Center during lunch period for drop-in College and Career Assistance
- ☐ **Take the PSAT/NMSQT .**
- ☐ **Meet with college and military representatives visiting Willowbrook.**
- ☐ **Attend “Conquering the Challenge of College Costs” Student and Parent Program**
- ☐ **Sign up for the SAT Prep Class.**
- ☐ **Attend Junior Parent and Student Night (*The College Search and Planning Process*).**

FEBRUARY - APRIL:

- ☐ **Take Schoolwide SAT exam**
- ☐ **Register and take a National ACT and/or the SAT or take SAT Subject Tests.**
- ☐ **Meet individually with your counselor for a Junior Interview.**
- ☐ **Choose a rigorous course load for senior year.**
- ☐ **Register for Advanced Placement Exams if enrolled in AP Courses.**

FEBRUARY - APRIL Cont:

- ☐ **Meet with college and military representatives visiting Willowbrook.**
- ☐ **Visit the College and Career Center during lunch period for drop-in College and Career assistance**
- ☐ **Continue visiting college campuses.**

MAY - AUGUST:

- ☐ **Interpretation of ACT and/or SAT by counselor.**
- ☐ **Take Advanced Placement Exams if enrolled in AP Courses.**
- ☐ **Narrow your list of prospective colleges.**
- ☐ **Visit college campuses over the summer.**
- ☐ **Take June ACT and/or SAT if desire additional score.**

College and Career Planning Calendar

Senior Year

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER:

- ☐ **Register to retake ACT and/or SAT or SAT Subject Tests, if necessary.**
- ☐ **Meet with your counselor for a Senior Interview.**
- ☐ **Attend Senior Seminars on College Application:**
 - Highly Selective Colleges/Universities
 - Common Application and Naviance
 - College of DuPage
- ☐ **Attend Senior Student and Parent Night: (College Application & Decision Process).**
- ☐ **File FAFSA application: (Available October 1st)**
- ☐ **Meet with college, military and career representatives visiting Willowbrook.**
- ☐ **Finalize college choices and complete college applications.**
**Many schools have a November 1st priority filing date for applications*
- ☐ **Check individual colleges for:**
 - Early decision/action requirements and deadlines
 - Application deadlines
 - Scholarship Opportunities
- ☐ **Complete the CSS Profile, if necessary**
- ☐ **Schedule campus visits.**

DECEMBER - JANUARY:

- ☐ **Receive admission notifications.**
- ☐ **Search and apply for local and national scholarship opportunities.**
 - *Listen to bulletin announcements, view WBHS website, or Naviance*

FEBRUARY - MAY:

- ☐ **Continue to receive admission notifications**
- ☐ **Maintain rigorous academic schedule and involvement in your final 8th semester**
- ☐ **File FAFSA application if not already completed**
- ☐ **Continue to search and apply for scholarships**
- ☐ **Register and take Advanced Placement Tests if enrolled in AP Courses**
- ☐ **Revisit Colleges**
- ☐ **Make final college decision by May 1 deadline**
- ☐ **Submit housing deposits**
- ☐ **Explore and apply for employment or internship opportunities**

WBHS College and Career Center

Willowbrook High School College and Career Center is available to help students in the college & career search and application process. It is connected to the Student Cafeteria to provide easy access for students.

College Rep Visits: When college and university representatives visit Willowbrook, they meet with students in the College and Career Center. The full list of upcoming college visits is posted on Naviance and announcements are made in the daily bulletin. The list is updated on a regular basis. Students must sign up in Naviance or get a pass from their counselor or secretary to visit with the representatives. More information about visiting with college representatives can be found on pages 30-31.

Military Rep Visits: When Military Representatives visit Willowbrook, they meet in the College & Career Center. Signing up is the same process as College Visits...see above.

During **Warrior Time**, Counselors offer targeted workshops/presentations for students in specific grade levels.

Students are welcome to **drop-in** during their lunch period or schedule an **appointment** with their counselor.



Resources available to assist students in the college and career search and application process:

- College Catalogues
- College Files
- College Informational Reference Books
- Peterson's Guide to Colleges and Universities
- Peterson's Scholarship and Finance Guide Books
- Peterson's Vocational Guide
- Princeton Review
- Rugg's Top Majors
- Testing Information: ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests, PSAT/NMSQT
- College Applications
- Scholarship and Financial Aid Information
- Military Information
- Computers/Internet Access
- Counselor or Counselor Intern available during all lunch periods

Deciding on Your Path

Step 1: Who Am I?

It is important for you to have a realistic perception of yourself and gain knowledge about who you are in a variety of ways.

→ **Assess who you are by taking various assessments:**

- ☐ Strengths Finder (Naviance About Me Tab) - Assessment that identifies top three areas of natural talent.
- ☐ Examine Career Interests (Naviance Career Interest Profiler)-Activities that are liked or disliked
- ☐ Cluster Finder (Naviance Cluster Finder) - Identify perceived activities of interest, personal qualities, and school subjects.
- ☐ Skills in demonstrating competence in doing certain activities as well as abilities that come naturally to you that can be further developed

→ **Additional areas of self-exploration:**

- High School Courses: *What classes did you choose to take and which were you good at?*
- Transcript/Grades
- Projects
- Clubs, Activities, Sports, volunteer activities, Jobs
- Reflection
- Standardized Exams such as ACT, SAT, PSAT or AP Exams



Step 2: Where am I going?

- Based on your assessment results, begin examining matching career options
- Career Clusters identify the knowledge and skills learners need as they follow a pathway toward their career goals. Career clusters provide a means of exploring the many occupational options. Each cluster is divided into different pathways. Pathways are grouped by the knowledge and skills required for occupations in these career fields.
- Review Bureau of Labor Statistics-examine job outlook, earnings, skills/training necessary

Step 3: How do I get there?

- Based on your career options, begin examining the skills and training necessary.
- Majors & Programs of Study
- Education/Training Options
 - ♦ 4-year Colleges/Universities
 - ♦ Career/Technical Colleges
 - ♦ Community Colleges (College of DuPage)
 - ♦ Military
 - ♦ Apprenticeship
- Searching for Schools & Programs (Selection Criteria to consider: location, size, programs, etc.)
- Admission Requirements (Testing, GPA, Rank, etc.)
- Application Requirements (Letters of Rec, Essays, Test scores, etc.)
- Financial Aid & Scholarships

Post High School Options

4 Year Colleges & Universities

Four-year colleges and universities provide students with a broad range of classes and educational experiences, along with in-depth courses specific to their major or minor. These institutions generally offer Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees, and prepare students for a career. A degree from a four-year college may also allow students to do advanced studies to earn a master's or doctoral degree. Four-year colleges may be public or private and are generally more expensive than community and technical schools.

2 year & Community Colleges

If students have a high school diploma or the equivalent, they can go to a community or junior college. These two-year public colleges can help students further their education, prepare for a four-year college, or focus on a particular trade for a specific job. Students can earn a certificate in a specific area of study, or earn an associate's degree when completing a two-year program. To help save money, students can complete required general courses at a community college and then transfer those credits to a four-year college to finish their degree. Most Willowbrook students who choose this option, attend **College of DuPage**. COD offers an **honors program**, a number of **transfer programs**, and is cost effective more many students. COD has also partnered with several universities to offers **3+1 programs** where students can earn their Bachelors Degree at a greatly reduced cost. For information and benefits of attending College of Dupage or visit their website at www.cod.edu. (See page 27)

Vocational/Technical Schools

Vocational and Technical Schools prepare students for a specific trade, job or career. Generally, these colleges offer two-year programs, though some offer three and four-year programs as well. Likewise, most help students earn a license, certificate, or associates degree, while some may help earn a bachelor's degree.

Gap Year Programs

Some students choose to delay further education for a year to pursue "Gap Year" programs in travel, service, training, language immersion, and adventures that are opportunities of a lifetime. For more information about Gap Year. (See page 10)

Military

Every year, the Armed Services (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard) hire more than 340,000 people for military careers in 142 different occupations. Training for and experience in military jobs can be helpful in testing out or preparing for civilian careers. If students enlist directly after high school, they will complete training in order to carry out fundamental operations of the military. Students

can choose to enlist in Active Duty (Full-time) or Reserves which requires participation in drills one weekend per month and 2 weeks per year. The military also offers tuition support and ROTC programs for college. For more information, visit www.todaysmilitary.com. (See Page 51)

Apprenticeship Programs

An **apprentice** is a paid worker who is enrolled in a special training program administered by an employer together with a labor organization or trade association. (See page 53)

Apprenticeships offer:

- **Many growing job opportunities:** During the next 10 to 15 years, the number of construction-related jobs in Illinois is expected to grow at a very healthy pace.
- **Good wages:** Apprentices earn about half the going trade person's wage to start. Pay is gradually increased over the length of the apprenticeship, until training is completed and the trainee graduates to full trade person status.
- **Long-term, on-the-job training:** Most apprenticeships take three to five years to complete. The typical program includes 2,000 hours of on-the-job training plus at least 144 hours per year of related classroom instruction.

For more information, go to <http://www.ides.illinois.gov>

Work

Some students choose to go directly into the workforce. Students need to be realistic about the types of jobs that are available and the competition they will face from those with higher education and training.

Try to find a job in the area that matches your career interests. For example, a student interested in business management could work in fast food, with the goal of working up the management ladder.

On-the-Job Training: Some occupations require completion of a formal, on-the-job training program. For example, if you would like to work as a flight attendant, bank teller or emergency dispatcher, you must complete a formal training program provided by the employer. Employers are often willing to teach someone the technical or job specific skills needed for the job, but the employer expects the new hire to come prepared with good interpersonal skills.

These skills include the ability to:

- ☐ Demonstrate a good ethic (being dependable, trustworthy, punctual, polite, well-groomed)
- ☐ Communicate effectively (both verbally and in writing)
- ☐ Work as part of a diverse team
- ☐ Ability to manage time, money & materials
- ☐ Use computers effectively
- ☐ Be a self-starter

Gap Year Programs

What is a "Gap Year"?

Some students choose to delay further education for a year to pursue "Gap Year" programs in travel, service, training, language immersion, and adventures that are **opportunities of a lifetime**. This is a common practice in many other countries and is starting to become more popular in the United States.

Advantages:

- ✦ **Enjoy a once in a lifetime experience and a real personal adventure.**
- ✦ **Travel the world and discover exciting new countries and cultures.**
- ✦ **Step outside your comfort zone and get a new perspective.**
- ✦ **Meet new people and make friends for life.**
- ✦ **Take a break and return refreshed and re-focused on what you want to do in life .**
- ✦ **Add unique experience to your resume helping you get into a university or get a new job.**

(<http://www.gapguru.com>)

Gap year consultants, students, parents, and even college admissions officials all claim that gap year experiences make students more mature, confident, and career driven. Goodman says, "Taking a gap year can clarify the intellectual, academic, and professional objectives of a student." Brown, of Binghamton University, says, "The students do very well when they enroll at Binghamton—many become leaders in cultural clubs and organizations and bring an increased maturity and cultural savvy to the campus."

The students emphasize that the experiential learning during their gap year was unlike any they could gain in the college classroom.

Sills, 19, says, "I learned just as much in my nineteenth year than I probably learned in my last two years of high school. When I was in Canada, I was the only American at the ranch. There were Canadians, Germans, and Australians, so it really made me appreciate other cultures. I learned a lot in Canada; the type of work I did made me come outside of my comfort zone." Sills spent the other half of his gap year interning for a film production company in New Zealand. He says this experience helped prepare him to pursue a film degree this fall at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

Emily Carr, 19, spent September to December 2009 taking courses related to marine biology while on a boat that toured the Eastern Caribbean. For the rest of her gap year, she spent this spring volunteering for a penguin and sea bird hospital in Cape Town, South Africa, and then in an animal rescue and refuge center outside of Bangkok, Thailand. "My gap year helped me build my people skills, gain more independence, and more maturity. There's no way to not become more mature after this," Carr says.

(www.usnews.com)

Resources/GAP Year Programs:

Below are a few resources and programs for students interested in pursuing a GAP YEAR:

GlobalQuest

www.globalquestinc.com

City Year

www.cityyear.org

Outward Bound

www.outwardbound.org

The Woolman Semester

www.woolman.org

Bridgton Academy

www.bridgtonacademy.org

Sojourns Abroad

www.sojournsabroad.org

The Center for Interim Programs

www.interimprograms.com

El Casal

www.elcasalbarcelona.com

Center for Cultural Interchange

www.cci-exchange.com

Magic Carpet Rides

www.magiccarpetrides.com



Every year, New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL, hosts a GAP YEAR fair. For more information, see your counselor. They also have a publication which lists several programs and valuable information. The link is below:

[http://www.newtrier.k12.il.us/uploadedfiles/files/content/New Trier Web Site/Student Services/PHSC/Gap%20Year.pdf](http://www.newtrier.k12.il.us/uploadedfiles/files/content/New%20Trier%20Web%20Site/Student%20Services/PHSC/Gap%20Year.pdf)

Developing Good Decision Making Skills

As you are faced with an increasing number of choices, you will need to understand and practice good decision making skills. The model below shows how to arrive at a decision by thinking it through beforehand.

Identify your Goal

- Focus on what you want to achieve and state that as your goal. The goal may be deciding what courses to take in school, what majors to study in college, what technical school to attend, or what job to take after high school.

Gather Information

- Gather facts, ideas, and other information related to your decisions.
- Talk with people, read books, visit the College & Career Center or library, and use the Internet.
- Write down all of the choices that appeal to you.

Evaluate each alternative in terms of its consequences

- Consider the possible effects of each choice
- As yourself these questions:
 - Will I feel good about this choice?
 - How will my parents feel about it?
 - Will it be satisfying for me?
 - Will certain risks be involved?
 - Am I willing to take such risks?
 - How will I feel about this choice five years from now?
- List the advantages and disadvantages of each choice.
- Rank choices from highest to lowest, according to level of desirability of each choice.
- Make a choice and state that as your goal.

Develop a Plan of Action

- Examine your choice
- If you are not happy with your choice, start the decision making process again

Modified from: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/info/planningguides/GettingReady.pdf>

DON'T LET STRESS INVADE YOUR COLLEGE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS 04/19/2013

This is the time of year when students are thinking, stressing and ultimately making their college choice. Most colleges have May 1 as their deadline for making a decision.

When it comes time to choose the college, cost, location and programs tend to be areas of major focus. Committing to a college requires reanalyzing your priorities. This will assist in determining which college will be the right choice personally and financially.

Finances should be a major part of the decision making process. Some parents decide to appeal their package, especially if there are wide discrepancies between schools. Michael Stridel, the director of undergraduate admission at Carnegie Mellon University, stated that "his school sets aside slightly under \$1 million a year of freshman aid allocation" to be used for renegotiation. Parents need to tell the schools something that they do not know in order to be successful in the renegotiation process, such as a change as a change in job or family medical condition. Also, it is risky to send a copy of another school's financial aid package for comparison, as that could backfire.

Another important last step is to **revisit the student's college of choice, its campus and its student life**. Feel free to talk with a professor in the desired field of study, have lunch with the students and arrange for an overnight stay if it is an option.

Lastly, **don't let the college decision cause short-term satisfaction with long-term repercussions**. The repayment for college is typically spread over 15 years after graduation. The federal government limits the amount an undergraduate can borrow to \$27,000 over four years. The amount borrowed should not exceed the expected first year salary of the student.

The importance of a well-thought-out financial plan is vital and should be included as part of the overall plan and decision. When making this life decision, do so intelligently and informed. Remember to **consider the plan, the goals and the future results**.

<http://blog.collegeplanningservices.org>

Naviance Family Connection

Willowbrook High School is pleased to introduce Family Connection from Naviance, a web-based service designed especially for students and parents. Family Connection is a comprehensive web site that you can use to help in making decisions about colleges and careers. Family Connection is a service that we use in the Counseling Office to track and analyze data about our students college and career plans. See Features below:

Feature	Description	How to Access
Résumé	Record your high school activities, awards, volunteer experience, etc. Rearrange your information into multiple printable versions of a résumé that you can use to present to potential employers or colleges.	Click the <i>About Me</i> tab Scroll down to 'My stuff', click and select 'Resume' Click 'Add/Update Sections' to create your own resume through the system
Explore Interests	Take a career survey, a tool that can help you discover the types of work activities and careers that match your interests. Use the results to explore suggested occupations; examine the education, training, and skills required [and where to obtain them], as well as wages typical for these occupations.	Click the <i>Careers</i> tab Click the 'Explore' link, on the left hand side of the screen click 'Career Interest Profiler' hyperlink under the <i>What Are My Interests?</i> section
College Search	Set search criteria to yield a list of colleges to explore. Save your search to access/modify later. Click on the various tabs of the college profile (<i>general, admissions, financial aid, majors and degrees, and student life</i>) for additional information. Add colleges you're interested in to your <i>My Colleges</i> list for future reference.	Click the <i>Colleges</i> tab Scroll down to 'Find Your Fit' Select the 'SuperMatch' link and follow the directions in selecting criteria
Career Interest Profiler	Locate career and work activities that match your interests 180 questions about work activities people do at jobs List of matching careers provided at conclusion	Click the <i>About Me</i> tab Select 'My Assessments', Click 'Career Interest Profiler'
Maps	Groups types of colleges by location. Click on a college to view its profile.	Click the <i>Colleges</i> tab Click the <i>College Maps</i> hyperlink under the <i>College Research</i> section
Scholarship List	National, regional, local and collegiate sponsored scholarship opportunities updated weekly. Database lists entries by name, deadline, award amount, merit vs need-based and application requirements; click on a column header to sort entries. You can also browse by category to yield a search list relevant to your interests.	Click the <i>Colleges</i> tab Click the <i>Scholarship List</i> hyperlink under the <i>Scholarships & Money</i> section
School Statistics	Historical summary of WBHS application outcomes (number admitted, denied, etc.) by application decision plan (i.e. regular and early decision) by college. Historical average of GPA, SAT and ACT scores for admitted applicants, by college.	Click the <i>Colleges</i> tab Click the <i>Acceptance History</i> hyperlink under the <i>Research Colleges</i> section After looking up and selecting a college, scroll down to see a test score comparison chart OR (on top of the page) click on <i>How does this relate to me?</i> hyperlink located under the 'acceptance rate'
College Compare	Compare your GPA and test scores to the average GPA and test scores of WBHS admitted students for colleges you are considering. School averages are displayed in green when your numbers are higher and in red when your numbers are lower than those of past admitted students. If there is no comparison information, there are no students that applied or provided information to utilize this tool.	Click the <i>Colleges</i> tab. Click the <i>Colleges I'm Thinking About</i> hyperlink from the <i>My Colleges</i> section. Click the <i>Compare Me</i> hyperlink above the table.

Naviance Registration

Naviance Registration

Log on to *Naviance*: <http://connection.naviance.com/willowbrook>

1. In the login box entitled “**New User**” Enter your registration code.
2. On the registration page, fill out the fields *using an email address that you check regularly and a password that you will not forget*. Check “**I accept**” in the box provided. Then click the box “**Complete registration**.”

You are now registered for Naviance Family Connection!

Once logged in, you will be taken to your “**Home Page**.” This page gives information about the Willowbrook High School Counseling Office and is the launching point into all aspects of the program.

- ✦ The features are separated by three tabs (Colleges, Careers, About Me). You can access the different features by clicking on each tab.
- ✦ On the right side, you will see notification of any new messages. Any email messages from a counselor or Naviance will go here and to your email address that you entered on your registration page.
- ✦ You will also see a list of the upcoming college visits. You can view the most recent list here or by looking under the “**COLLEGES**” Tab.
- ✦ On the left side, you will see a list of links to ACT and SAT registration as well as links to financial aid websites and other helpful websites regarding the career and college planning process.



Career Exploration & Planning

Your career is the totality of work you will do in your lifetime. It will affect how much money you have, your leisure time, where you will live, whom you know, and it will greatly affect whether or not you are basically satisfied with your life.

Most people spend between 20 and 45 years of their lives in full time work. If your career will take up that much of your life and make so much difference in how you live, isn't it worth some time and effort NOW to make sure your career will help you lead an enjoyable, productive life?

Tips for Choosing a Career

Put some serious thought into how you want to spend the rest of your life because you are going to spend a lot of time at work.

Know your Passions: Pick a career that you are passionate about. The best gift you can give to yourself is to pursue a career that is so enthralling that it gets you out of bed in the morning, wide-eyed and bushy-tailed, eager and in anticipation of that day's work and what it will entail.

Please Yourself: If your well-meaning parents are insisting that you go to medical school, which you don't want to do, or become a teacher, because it's a secure job, but which holds no appeal for you, this is the time to take a stand. You can either succumb to parental pressures and wishes or say, no, that's not what I want to do. Of course, if the parents are footing the bill you have a dilemma on your hands. However, if you do as you advised to do and not as you want to do you are probably going to regret it. Showing up to a job that you dislike or even hate every day for the next 40 years or more is not going to make you a happy camper.

Financial Analysis: Ideally, pick a profession that interests and excites you but one that also pays decently. Yeah, we know. You want to be a professional rock n' roller, but you need to figure out a way to incorporate your musical leanings into a paying job.

Rate your Values: Write a list of what is most important to you or the things that you value: Is money at the top of the list? Ample leisure time? Do you want the kind of job that requires that you travel? Is job security the most important thing to you or do you prefer flying without a net?

Understand the difference between a Job Vs.

Career: Realize that a career is different from a job. A job is something that you do to pay the mortgage. A career is something that infuses you with pleasure and accomplishment because it is work you love to do and purposely set out to do it by getting the education and experience that was necessary.

Complete Assessments: Naviance Interest Inventory & Personality Assessment

Research: Determine what you need for a particular career (education, etc.), job outlook, average salary, etc. What are the day-to-day tasks?

Planning For a Career

Career work involves two main areas:

1. Knowledge about yourself
2. Knowledge of the job world

The most useful sources of information about the world of careers:

- Occupational Outlook Handbook.
- Bureau of Labor Statistics Website (bls.gov)
- Career Vision Website (careervision.org/)
- Naviance (connection.naviance.com/willowbrook)
-Complete Interest & personality assessment & research careers.

You should investigate:

1. The career fields that interest or intrigue you now.
2. The careers that will be in demand when you enter the workforce.

Avoid making too narrow a choice. If you make too narrow a choice:

- Your decision may not allow you to take advantage of new opportunities that come along.
- Your decision may not allow you to move in new directions should opportunities decline in a chosen field, should interests change, should something stop you from reaching your goal.

Recommended approaches to avoid choosing a poor career path:

- **Choose one occupation that truly fits your abilities, interests, values and educational potential.**
- **Set up career alternatives related to your first choice:**
 - 1.) In line with ability, interest, etc. of first choice, or
 - 2.) Not relating to ability, interest, etc. of first choice, i.e. a new set of abilities, etc.
- **Use college or other training to prepare yourself for your first choice, but give time to other alternatives through:**
 - 1.) Activities
 - 2.) Part-time/full-time work
 - 3.) Elective courses
 - 4.) Volunteer work
 - 5.) Internships
 - 6.) Job Shadowing

• **Make a broad career choice**

- ⇒ Instead of choosing one occupation, select the field in which you hope to work.
- ⇒ Aim to achieve as much knowledge as possible about occupations in that area.
- ⇒ Aim to achieve the best background possible by careful choice of courses.

Career Exploration & Planning

What should you do now?

You should not try to make an absolute career decision! Since it usually takes 20 years to establish a career lifestyle, you should be developing your knowledge in the areas that are basic to successful career decision making:

Learn about yourself--your values, interests and abilities

- Watch yourself. Notice the patterns of your choices, interests, and abilities as they have developed over the years in school, jobs, hobbies, and other activities.
- Listen to what your friends, counselors, teachers and parents tell you about yourself. What kinds of things do you do well, what kinds of things do you seem to like? Sometimes outsiders have a better view of us than we do.
- Take the available interest and aptitude surveys.

Learn basic academic skills and as many technical skills as you can. *If not, you may have very few career choices open to you.*

Learn about careers appropriate to you.

This takes time and effort. Search until you can find a career that fits you.

- Read about the careers that interest you or are suggested by interest inventories, aptitude surveys, counselors, parents, teachers and friends.
- Attend career days; talk to people in careers that interest you.
- Use the Naviance to explore (Refer to Naviance section)
- Learn by doing:
 - Volunteer or do paid work in a situation where you can learn more about yourself and get experience in a career you are considering.
 - If that is impossible, try to notice and discuss the job of your fellow employees wherever you are working.
 - Attend summer programs that might help you investigate a career.
 - Investigate career/vocational classes at Willowbrook High School through your counselor.
 - Be open minded, flexible and true to yourself. Jobs chosen for their status or large salaries may not be satisfying in the long run.

Learn about the preparation necessary for careers that fit you.

- Plan your high school courses so that you are ready for several occupations and able to enter more than one area of training. You may change your ideas as you get older.
- Expect to take additional training or schooling sometime after high school; 80% of jobs now require it.
- Expect to go back for more training as you get older or change careers. The average American adult changes jobs six times.
- Examine ALL post high school options. A college education may improve the quality of your lifestyle but may or may not directly prepare you for a job. It is perfectly acceptable to go to college first and then get specific occupational training later or vice versa.
- Some methods of gaining direct occupational preparation are:
 1. Military service
 2. Apprenticeships
 3. Community college transfer programs
 4. Community college occupational training programs
 5. Business, technical, trade and vocational schools
 6. Some college and university programs



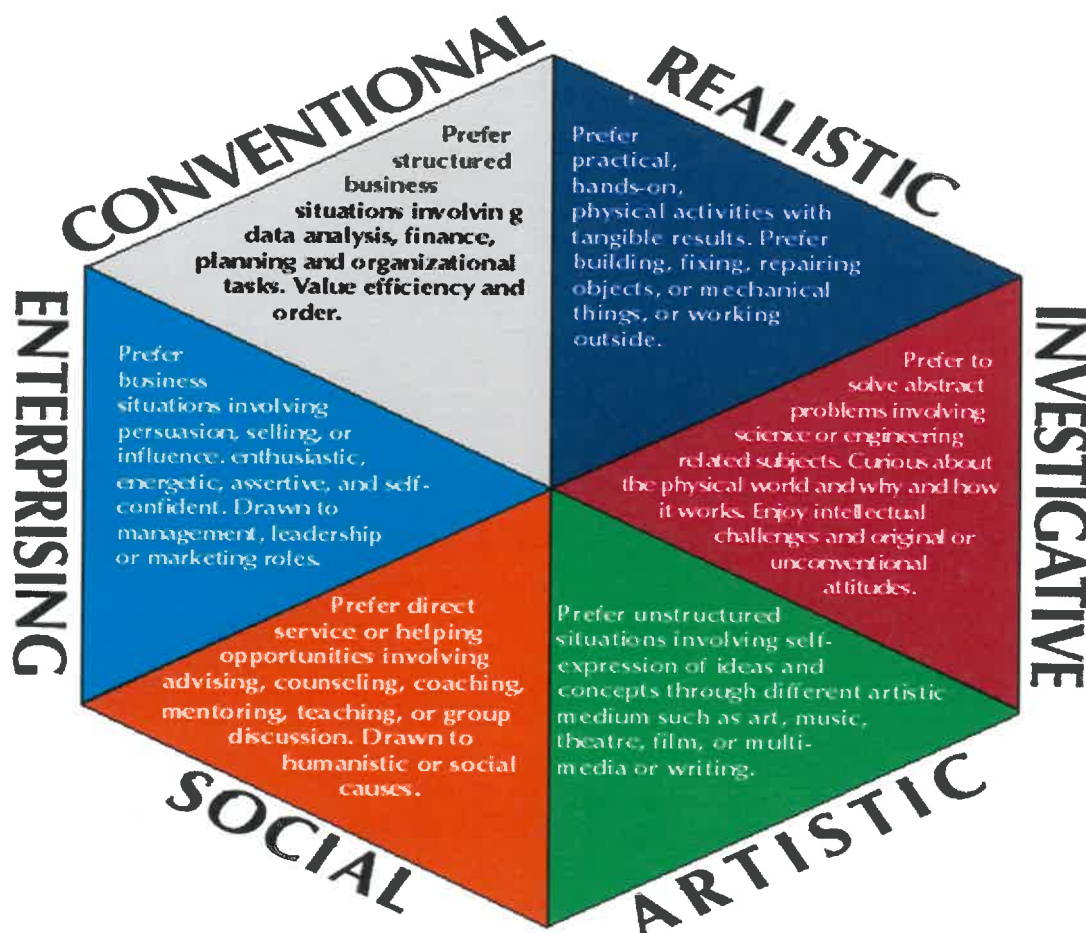
Career Assessments

Naviance Career Interest Assessment

This tool can help you discover the types of work activities and careers that match your interests. The **Holland Codes** is a system to classify jobs into *job categories, interest clusters, or work personality* environments. In the Holland Model, these categories represent work personalities. (Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising, Conventional)

Directions:

1. Log onto your Naviance Account.
2. Click on **CAREERS TAB**. Click on the "**Career Interest Profiler**."
3. Begin "**Career Interest Profiler**", the more accurately you answer each question the better your results will be. *Do not over think it and try to answer "Yes" or "No."* If you choose a lot of "Not Sure," you will not get very useful results.
4. Read your results and click "view matching occupation list"
5. If you find any careers of interest, Click on "**Add to My List**" to save to your Naviance profile.



Career Assessments

Naviance Career Cluster Finder

The Career Cluster Finder helps students learn what career clusters may be a good match on activities of interest, personal qualities and subjects that students enjoy studying in school. This assessment will generate a report that will provide you with important information about the top career clusters that fit them best. Students will have the ability to locate careers within each of the cluster areas that match their assessment.

Directions:

1. Log onto your Naviance Account. Click on "**Cluster Finder**".
2. Read through the list of activities and check the activities you would enjoy doing in the future and ones of interest.
3. Read through the personal qualities and choose which one describes you best.
4. Read through the school subjects you enjoy the most and check the boxes that match.
5. Review your results which will list your top 3 cluster areas. Click on the cluster areas and evaluate careers of interest in this area

Naviance Strengths Finder

The Strengths Finder assessment is in a 70 item, Likert Scale format. Once the assessment is complete, it cannot be reset to take again so be mindful of your answers. This tool helps identify your top three areas of natural talent and will assist students to link personal strengths to a career path.

Directions:

1. Log onto your Naviance Account. Click on "**About Me**" tab.
2. Complete INTRO, ASSESSMENT, and REVIEW RESULTS.

Naviance Road Trip Nation Interview Archive

The Road Trip Nation can assist students with self-discovery by exploring various career paths. Students will identify a personal foundation in addition to two areas of interest.

Directions:

1. Log onto your Naviance Account. Click on "**CAREERS**" tab. Click on the "**EXPLORE MORE**" option under Road Trip Nation interview.
2. Click "**START HERE**" then "**DEFINE YOUR ROAD**".

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

So You Want to Go to College?

Check the Entrance Requirements for Each College and College Major:

Because entrance requirements vary from college to college and can even vary on the same campus depending on the subject in which you plan to major, it is important to check the entrance requirements for each college and college major individually.

- *For example, a college could require three years of Mathematics for admission, but engineering majors may be required to complete four years of Math for admission.*
- *A college may require no art or music for admission, but art majors might be required to present a portfolio and music majors might be required to audition.*

- *Be aware that colleges frequently consider entrance requirements as minimum preparation and may list classes they recommend students complete in high school.*

Enroll in Challenging Classes

When choosing classes, enroll at the most challenging level. As you build on your strengths, be prepared to deal with your weaknesses. Show determination and follow through. Do not run away from your weak points. It's important to include classes which are progressively more difficult.

Select Variety of Classes

Equally important is selecting a variety of classes—not just those in which you excel. Show continuity in your course preparation by not stopping and starting subject areas erratically.

Course Requirements for Admission Types of Colleges/Universities

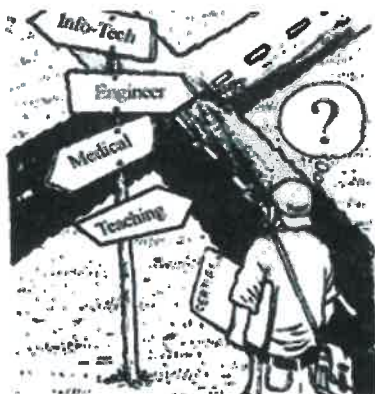
**Colleges that require a world language for admission will require two years of the same world language.*

Public Universities		Private 4-Year Universities /Colleges		Highly Selective Universities/ Colleges		Community Colleges
English	4 years	English	4 years	English	4 years	Requirements vary greatly from an open-door admission policy to selective admission for particular courses as specified by the different departments
Mathematics	3-4 years	Mathematics	3-4 years	Mathematics	4 years	
Science	3 years	Lab Science	3 years	Lab Science	3-4 years	
Social Studies	3 years	Social Studies	2-3 years	Social Studies	3-4 years	
Academic Electives (Art, World Language*, Music)	2 years	Academic Electives	2 years	Academic Electives	2 years	
		World Language	3 years*	World Language	4 years*	

Choosing a College Major

What is a college major?

A college major is a group of courses required by a college in order to receive a degree — an area you specialize in, like Accounting or Chemistry. There are certain "core courses" in the specialization that everyone is required to take, along with several "elective courses". A college major may be called an "academic major", "major", or "major concentration".



What is the difference between a college major and a Career?

A college major is simply the area of specialization you choose to get your bachelors degree in. A bachelors degree is a requirement for many jobs today. The line of work you decide to get into and remain in after graduation is your career. Your major and the career you go into do not necessarily have to be in the same field. While some majors (such as Nursing) lead directly into a career, many jobs today only require a bachelors degree of some kind, it doesn't matter in what field. The major you decide to graduate with should be a reflection of your academic strengths and interests. The important thing employers look for is your ability to complete a higher education program of study.

Reasons for choosing a major:

The Wrong Reasons:

- "My parents want me to study this."
- "My friends are in this major."
- "This major will lead to a career in which I'll make buckets of money."
- "Frankly, I'm too lazy to research this, so I'll just choose something!"

The Right Reasons:

- "I really love studying this field — in fact, I even read about it in my spare time."
- "Pursuing this major seems right to me — I feel that it is a part of who I am."
- "I have many interests, but after doing my research, I think this is the best major for me."

Why is it important to choose a college major?

According to research, only 40% of college freshmen graduate in 4 years while 74% of students with declared majors in college graduate on time. It is important to choose a major to ensure that while you are in college, you are working toward achieving your career goal. Choosing a major also assists in the college search process.

Things to Consider:

For the majors that you think make sense, do the campuses you are considering offer these majors?

Don't reject majors for the wrong reason. "Wrong reasons" can include:

- Not gaining insight into the full range of careers that a major can lead to.
- The careers coming from this major may be more diverse than you think.
- Not being realistic about your chances of success in a major.
- Not distinguishing between an undergraduate major and a career, which can be entered from several majors.
- Not distinguishing between undergraduate majors and graduate degree fields such as medicine, pharmacy, counseling, or library science.

Have you picked a major?

- Talk to a teacher or other professional with this background and find out what he or she thinks about the major now.
- Talk to a recent graduate from your high school that is majoring in this field and find out what he or she thinks about the major.



MyMajors is an online program that assists students with finding the college major that fits them best. They provide student-friendly assessment technology and access to information about a variety of majors at a broad range of institutions. Users can research more than 1,600 college majors and 40,000 pages of detailed career information. It's a good start to help you find a college major.

Take the MyMajors Quiz at
www.mymajors.com

Insider's Advice College Majors

MAJORS THAT LEAD DIRECTLY TO JOBS AT THE BACHELORS LEVEL

Accounting
Actuarial Science
Advertising
Aerospace Engineering
Architecture
Architecture Engineering
Business Administration
Chemical Engineering
Chemistry
Civil Engineering
Commerce
Computer Aided Drafting
Computer Applications
Computer Networks
Computer Programming
Computer Science
Computer Systems
Consumer Economics
Criminal Justice & Administration
E-Commerce
Ecology
Education - Elementary
Education - Secondary
Education - Specialist
EEG Technology

Electrical & Computer Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Engineering Mechanics
Engineering Science
Engineering Technology
Environment Control Technology
Environment Design
Environmental Health Engineering
Finance
Fitness Technology
Geology
Graphic Art & Design
Health Service management
Hospitality & Recreation
Hotel Management
Information Sciences
Institutional Administration
Interior Design
International Business
Management
Marketing
Material Science Engineering
Math & Computer Science
Mathematics
Mechanical Engineering
Medical Assistant

Medical Records
Metallurgical Engineering
Meteorology
Mining Engineering
Music Education
Naval Science
Nuclear Engineering
Nuclear Medicine Technology
Nursing
Occupational Therapy
Operations Research
Optometry
Paralegal Studies
Parks, Recreation & Leisure Studies
Petroleum Engineering
Physical Education
Physics
Radiology Technology
Respiratory Therapy
Securities & Financial Analysis
Social Work Assistance
Surgical Technology
Telecommunications
Travel & Tourism
Web Design

MAJORS THAT DO NOT LEAD DIRECTLY TO JOBS AT THE BACHELOR'S LEVEL

Home Economics
Interdisciplinary Studies
International Studies
Journalism
Literature
Medical Assisting
Medieval Studies
Microbiology
Military Science
Music - Instrumental
Music- Vocal
Natural Science

Philosophy
Physical Science
Political Science
Psychiatric Social Work
Psychology
Recreational Therapy
Social Work
Sociology
Sociology & Anthropology
Speech & Drama
Theology
Women's Studies

HOTTEST CAREER FIELDS FOR THE NEXT DECADE

Adult Education	Culinary Arts	Internet Marketing	Restaurant Management
Architectural Design	Dental Hygiene	Medical Assisting	Retail Profiling
Athletic Podiatry	Electronic Auditing	Medical Profiling	Risk Management
Aviation Security	Electronic Communication Systems	Medical System Technology	Secondary Education
Bioengineering	Electronic Engineering	Network Management	Special Education
Biomechanics	Electronic Entertainment	Nursing	Sports Management
Biomedical Engineering	Electronic Monitoring Systems	Occupational Therapy	Substance Engineering
Biotechnology	Electronics	Personal Enrichment Counseling	System Auditing
Career Counseling	Forensic Medicine	Personal Environment	Telecommunications
Cellular System Programming	Geriatric Counseling	Personal Financial Management	Web Commerce
Chemical Engineering	Geriatric Medicine	Pharmacology	Web Design
City Planning	Geriatric Rehab	Physical Therapy	Web System Management
Civil Engineering	Graphic Representation	Recreation Management	Wireless System Design
Construction Engineering	Hospitality Management	Rehab Chiropractic	
Cosmetic Dentistry			

11 Hot College Majors That Lead to Jobs US News & World Report

From robotics to cybersecurity, STEM majors are among the hottest for career-seeking college students.

By CATHIE GANDEL September 10, 2013

Looking for an academic direction with terrific growth potential? Some traditional fields are newly hot at the bachelor's level; in other cases, enterprising colleges are creating new majors in emerging fields. Here are some hot majors you might want to consider.

1. Biomedical Engineering: The folks standing at the intersection of the life sciences, engineering and medicine are working on such advances as an artificial kidney to help 2 million people worldwide give up their dependency on dialysis, and "designer" blood clots created from artificial platelets to save wounded soldiers on the battlefield. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the field will see a 62 percent growth in jobs between 2010 and 2020.

2. Biometrics: This field teaches students how to build automated identification devices, such as facial recognition systems. As biometric readers replace photo IDs and passwords in both the public and private sectors, the industry is expected to grow to \$363 billion by 2018, according to New York-based Transparency Market Research.

3. Forensic science: More experts are needed to operate the new, sophisticated tools to prevent and investigate crimes. Forensic science focuses on using technology to analyze evidence. Students should expect "tons of math and science, plus learning to interface with the criminal justice system," says Timothy Palmbach, chair of the forensic science department at the University of New Haven.

4. Computer game design: The global market for video and online games is expected to reach \$82 billion by 2017, according to DFC Intelligence, a San Diego-based market research company. Budding designers must learn skills such as animation, audio design, programming and production management — expertise that can also be employed to create simulated training environments in which, for example, emergency personnel respond to an earthquake.

5. Cybersecurity: Large companies and governments are moving aggressively to protect their computer systems. Between 2014 and 2016, the Pentagon plans to add more than 4,000 experts at its Cyber Command. Specialists in cybersecurity can also expect to find openings in health care, energy and at security services firms.

6. Data science: The International Data Corp., a Massachusetts-based technology market research firm, says the global volume of computerized data is doubling every two years. This will help

create some 4.4 million jobs worldwide by 2015, estimates Connecticut-based technology research firm Gartner Inc. Interested students should consider a major in data science or business analytics.

7. Business analytics: While closely related to data science, business analytics is primarily a business major, says Kenneth Gilbert, head of the department of statistics, operations and management science at the University of Tennessee, which launched a degree program in 2010. Courses include computer software, math, statistics and communication skills.

8. Petroleum engineering: New technology has opened up shale formations thought unproductive 10 years ago. A new crop of petroleum engineers will be needed to tap these reserves; half of the current supply is expected to retire in the next decade. Grads, who can expect high **starting salaries of more than \$100,000 a year**, will find employment in three areas, says Robert Chase, chair of the department of petroleum engineering and geology at Marietta College: as drilling engineers who supervise the effort to access oil or gas; as production engineers who design and install the equipment needed to produce it; and as reservoir engineers who analyze how much can be recovered.

9. Public health: Two factors give public health majors rosy prospects: the threat of global epidemics, and the part of health reform that focuses on prevention. Students can focus on the scientific aspects of the discipline, the statistical angle or policy, and find work in hospitals, nonprofits and community health centers.

10. Robotics: Between 2012 and 2020, robotics could create between 2 million to 3.5 million new jobs, according to Metra Martech, a London-based market research firm — hardly surprising in a field helping to expand human capabilities across every walk of life. Anesthesia bots are assisting in surgery; oceanographers are using underwater robots to map the underside of Arctic ice; and NASA's robotic rovers are currently surveying the surface of Mars. Robotics majors generally study mechanical, electrical and software engineering as well as modeling and entrepreneurship.

11. Sustainability: New and retooled environmental degree programs are placing fresh emphasis on practical problem-solving. Sustainability managers in all sorts of companies and organizations look for ways to make the "institution more efficient and produce less waste and pollution. As a result they tend to save money for their organization, which is one reason why these jobs are becoming popular," says McKinney.

Beginning the College Search

Researching the Institutions

Now for the exciting part of this process: researching and selecting an institution that offers you the best opportunity to achieve your goals. The experience is made more manageable if you use the resources available.

College Fairs

College fairs gives you an opportunity to visit with college admission representatives in a convenient setting. In the fall, the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) and College of DuPage, sponsor college fairs. In the spring, many high schools and college sponsor college fairs. Dates and times of these fairs will be listed in the student bulletin. If you attend these fairs, you will learn more about educational and career opportunities after high school. You also will have the opportunity to meet with admission representatives. You will learn of the dates and locations of these fairs through the daily bulletin. You may obtain details on how to prepare for them from your counselor.

College Visits

The college visit is one of the most helpful resources in your college planning. Not only does the visit enable you to see the physical setting and facilities of the college, but it allows you to visit with students and faculty. The best time for a visit to a college is when it is in session. If this is not possible, then schedule a summer visit. Juniors may take one college day and seniors are entitled to two excused college visit days. They must be taken before spring break.

Here are some tips on campus visits:

- ☐ Call the admissions office for an appointment and a campus tour.
- ☐ Visit a class.
- ☐ Have a meal on campus.
- ☐ If you plan to spend the night in the dorm, make arrangements through the admissions office or with a student you know at the college.
- ☐ Take a tour; check facilities, including dormitories.
- ☐ Talk to an admission counselor to discuss your chances for success.

Campus or Alumni Interview

The importance of a campus or alumni interview varies from college to college. Highly competitive schools, in general, consider this interview important. Your presence on the campus and your readiness to talk about yourself and your college plans are important indications of your serious interest in the college.

The interview is an opportunity for the college and you to get to know each other better. So take the interview seriously; but do not overrate its importance. Here are some suggestions for the interview:

1. Be on time for your appointment.
2. Dress nicely (coat and tie, or a dress is still an important means of impress during an interviewer).
3. Be well prepared. Read the college catalog prior to

your interview and prepare questions based on what you read.

4. Be positive. Answer questions to the best of your knowledge and ability. Do not be afraid to admit you do not know something.
5. Be ready to volunteer information--know your scores, class rank, recent grades. Offer information about current course work, participation in extracurricular activities and your goals and career objectives.
6. Be yourself--do not pretend to be something or someone you are not.
7. Relax!! Interviews are meant to be informative to both parties.

Visiting With College Reps

Each year numerous college representatives visit Willowbrook to talk with our students in our College and Career Center. The representative provides current, accurate information about the institution and the admission policies. He or she also is another contact for you with the admission office. The representative with whom you speak with at Willowbrook may be the same one who will process your application and participate in your admission decisions. The monthly schedule for visiting these representatives is available in the Counseling Office and can be viewed on Naviance. Visits are also announced in the bulletin or posted in many classrooms. Juniors and Seniors can sign-up for a visit on Naviance or see your counselor or secretary for a pass to visit with a representative.

Questions to Ask College Reps

1. What are the admission requirements?
2. May I have a copy of your school's current profile?
3. Do I have to choose a major for admission?
4. Can I change my major after I have been admitted or during the school year?
5. What if I am undecided about my major and career choice?
6. What courses are available in my area(s) of interest?
7. When should I apply?
8. What percentage of applicants are admitted?
9. When does the college notify students of admission?
10. Do you accept both the ACT and SAT as college admission exams?
11. Do I need to take an Achievement Test?
12. What is the average test score for incoming college freshmen?
13. What is the estimated annual total cost?
14. What are the sources in financial aid and scholarships?
15. How difficult is it to obtain on-campus housing?
16. What is the cost of housing?
17. How do I apply for housing? Is it a separate process from the admission application?
18. How many students live on campus?
19. What are the advantages of attending a community college?
20. If I attend a community college, will I be able to complete transferable prerequisites to my major field?

Naviance College Search

COLLEGE SEARCH STEPS USING NAVIANCE:

1. Login to your *Naviance* account <http://connection.naviance.com/willowbrook>
2. Choose "**COLLEGES**" Tab
 - ✦ Click "**SuperMatch**" College Search
 - Use orange tabs on the left to choose criteria to narrow college list
 - From your list of matches, click a **school to view information**.
 - Click "**More School Info**" to view the school profile for admission requirements, deadlines, financial aid, majors, etc.
 - Click "**School Stats**" to view application history for WBHS students.
3. Create a **list of prospective colleges**
 - ✦ Click "**Add to List**" next to the college name and college will appear in your "**Colleges I'm Thinking About**" section.



College Rep Visits in the College and Career Center

Sign up on Naviance

1. Click "COLLEGES" Tab
2. Click "View All Upcoming College Visits."
Click "register or sign-up" next to the college visit of your choice.

**On the day of the visit, a pass will be sent to your class for you to attend during the scheduled visit time. Check in with your teacher prior to attending. Teachers have the right to deny a visit.*

If you place a college(s) into the "College I'm Thinking About" section, an email will be sent to your zimbra account when/if the college rep is coming to WBHS.

You can also see your counselor or a Secretary for a pass. Check in with your teacher prior to attending. Teachers have the right to deny a visit.

College Selection Criteria

With thousands of colleges and universities from which to choose, your task can be challenging. However, if you take the time to think about some of the following considerations, the decision will be easier. Take your list of priorities to your school counselor who will help you choose several places where you can be successful and happy.

Academic Environment

When assessing the academic environment of the college or university, ask yourself the following questions:



- Will this college admit me?
- Have I satisfied the course or other academic requirements of the college?
- Are my test scores in the appropriate range for this school?
- Are the standards appropriate for my abilities and interests?
- What courses are required of all freshmen?
- When will I have the opportunity to study with full professors rather than graduate students?
- What are the typical class sizes both for first year students and upper class students?
- What is the availability of counseling or tutorial programs in the event that I experience academic difficulty?
- Where do graduates of this college attend graduate school?
- What kinds of professions and careers do they enter after graduation?

Majors

Most students change their majors at least once during their college careers. Some courses of study are not available at the high school level and other fields that seem unappealing to you now may become much more exciting as you become more involved. However, you probably have a general idea of at least two or three areas that interest you, and you may want to consider how strong those departments are at the colleges you are considering. Also of concern are the library and laboratory facilities or other special equipment required by your area of interest.

CHOOSING A MAJOR



Geographic Location

For some students, attending a college close to home is a priority while others choose to be far away. Perhaps as important as the distance from home is the type of college community.

- Do you yearn for a peaceful academic environment in a small, intellectual town?
- Do you prefer the stimulation and excitement of a large urban campus?
- Is there a particular part of the country where you have always wanted to live?
- Do you prefer a location where you have relatives or close friends?
- If coming home for holidays and long weekends is important, are distance, transportation costs and availability prohibitive?



Size of Campus

The following are generalizations, so if some of these areas are of concern, ask questions at the schools you are considering:

A large campus (15,000-50,000+ students) may offer a variety of academic opportunities including elaborate facilities and large libraries, as well as the stimulation of a large faculty, graduate students and undergraduates. However, housing may be more difficult to obtain, more courses may be taught by graduate students, lecture sessions may be very large, and opportunities for leadership in campus organizations may be diminished.

A medium-sized school (5,000-15,000 students) may offer fewer majors and more modest facilities than a large school, but also may offer greater opportunities to participate in the activities of your choice and to be integrated into a compatible crowd.

Small schools (under 5,000 students) usually offer smaller, more personal classes, earlier opportunities to take classes with well-known professors, and more chances for participation and leadership in campus activities. However, facilities may be limited and options for activities and diversity reduced.

College Selection Criteria

Housing and Dining Options

Some college students prefer the independence of having an apartment and being self-sufficient. For others, a large, coed residence hall with 100 students on each floor sounds like an ideal way to make new friends. Still others may prefer a smaller, single-sex residence hall with the chance to get to know a few people well. All of these options exist, many on the same campus.



On many campuses, sororities and fraternities provide much of the housing. While you may want to join a sorority or fraternity, also find out what housing exists for those who choose not to join, particularly at the junior or senior levels.

College is probably your first real opportunity to be "on your own" with more responsibility for your actions than you may have had in high school. College can provide a wonderful transition to independent adult living, so use the housing options available to make that transition in the best way for you.

Affordability

Calculate what it costs to attend your selected college for a year. Also calculate your college costs on a four-year basis. (Many students take four-and-one-half or five years to graduate; calculate the cost of the extra time.) Identify the ways to pay these costs. Examine the college's track record of providing scholarships, loans and other financial assistance. In addition, look at recent financial history (e.g., does the college raise fees annually, and if so, by how much?). Housing, food, books and the cost of participating in extra-curricular activities are part of the college expense as well. Also calculate the cost of travel to and from home. If the college offers scholarships, grants, loans or employment programs that can assist you in financing your education, learn the application deadlines and which programs are available to freshmen. Ask if the college assists with finding part-time work on campus or locally. Using the Net Price Calculator on the college/university's website will assist you with configuring how much it will cost you to attend that particular institution.

Student Life

Explore the atmosphere on the campus you are considering:

- *Is it liberal, conservative, homogeneous or diverse?*
- *Are you comfortable with this atmosphere as well as with the make-up of the student body?*
- *Do the students appear friendly and enthusiastic about their work?*
- *Can you observe how students and faculty relate to each other?*
- *Are you satisfied with the recreational facilities and social activities offered?*
- *Are sports facilities adequate to meet your interests?*
- *Are they available to all or just to athletes or team members?*
- *How does the social life operate?*
- *Are there sororities and fraternities, and if so, what part do they play in social life on campus? Are there social opportunities for those who choose not to join?*
- *Does the campus "clear out" on weekends?*
- *Are there special interest groups in areas that please you?*
- *Are activities like the newspaper, debate or the ceramic shop available to all students or just to those majoring in related areas?*
- *Can you find opportunities for political expression?*
- *Is the college affiliated with a religion, and if so, how strongly?*
- *Is that an affiliation with which you are comfortable?*
- *Is attendance at religious services required?*
- *Can you attend religious services of your preference easily?*
- *What type of academic advice is available? Some schools have a faculty advisement system. At others, the student must find a faculty mentor.*

You also may want to consider a single-sex college. In all considerations, determine if the campus atmosphere will be comfortable for you as a man or as a woman. The best advice regarding "student life" is to look for an intellectual and social climate that fits your sense of self — one in which you will feel comfortable and challenged.



Creating Your College List

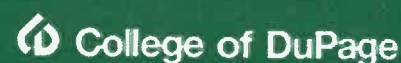
"Building a solid college list is a lot like building a house. Begin by construction a foundation: the colleges that you truly like and where you are likely to have a strong chance of admission. With those in place, you can build the structure of your list by choosing colleges that are a good match for your grades, test scores, and other characteristics, but which are not necessarily sure bets for admission. Finally, after you've cemented the foundation and built the walls, you can turn your attention to the roof—those colleges that may be just out of reach, or which are extremely selective. Remember this: A house built from the roof down is seldom stable."

-Carolyn Z. Lawrence, AdmissionsAdvice.com

- ✦ **Do you know that less than 5% of US Schools admit under 50% of applicants?**
This means that there are 2500+ four-year colleges to choose from that admit more applicants than they reject!
- ✦ If you want to end up with lots of options, you should create a **balanced list with at least 2 Safety schools, perhaps 2 reach/dream schools, but mostly matches. REACH/DREAM SCHOOLS SHOULD NEVER CONSTITUTE MORE THAN HALF OF YOUR LIST!**
- ✦ Often, the decision about which colleges make it to your list will come down to values. You should challenge yourself to **consider schools that will be a good fit-academically, socially, and financially**; all colleges on the list should be ones that you would be happy to attend-whether they are your "safe bet" or "reach" colleges.
- ✦ Remember that colleges are not just looking at GPA, they are also looking at course selection (the number of years of math, science, foreign language, etc, the number of honors and AP classes taken, and other signs that the student has challenged himself/herself during high school.
- ✦ Selectivity is used to describe the level of difficulty of admission-not a mark of quality or fit. The college that is best for you may not be the place that is the hardest to get into.

SAFETY SCHOOL(S)	MATCH SCHOOLS	REACH/DREAM SCHOOL(S)
Your scores EXCEED the mid-range scores and GPA & the admission rate is 50% or more	<p>Your scores and GPA place you in the middle 50% range of students accepted & admission rate is more than 50%</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>OR</u></p> <p>Your scores and GPA exceed the middle 50% range & admission rate is less than 50%</p> <p>School where your chances of being accepted are better than your chances of being rejected. But, while PROBABLE; there is NO GUARANTEE of admission.</p>	<p>Your scores and GPA are below the middle 50% range of students accepted & where the admission rate is less than 50%</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>OR</u></p> <p>The school's admission rate is 20% or less. This might be a school you would like to attend but your chances of acceptance are a statistical reach and seem slim because no one's chances of admission at these schools are high.</p>

College of DuPage



Degrees granted by College of DuPage:

1. **The Associate in Arts degree (A.A.)** represents the first two years of study for students who plan to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree.
2. **The Associate in Science degree (A.S.)** represents the first two years of study for students who plan to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree.
3. **The Associate in Engineering Science degree (A.E.S.)** is intended for students who wish to prepare for transfer to a baccalaureate-granting school in the field of engineering.
4. **The Associate in Applied Science degree (A.A.S.)** represents the completion of study in a career and technical education program. Students earning this degree may seek employment following graduation or transfer to a baccalaureate-granting college or university that has articulation agreements with College of DuPage for these programs of study.
5. **The Associate in General Studies degree (A.G.S.)** is designed for students who desire to arrange a program of courses to meet their personal interests.
6. **The Associate in Fine Arts degree in Art (A.F.A.)** is intended for students who wish to prepare for transfer to a baccalaureate-granting school with a Bachelor in Fine Arts program.
7. **The Associate in Fine Arts degree in Music (A.F.A.)** is intended for students who wish to prepare for transfer to a baccalaureate-granting school with a Bachelor in Music program.
8. **The Associate in Arts in Teaching Secondary Mathematics (A.A.T.)** is intended for students who wish to prepare for transfer to a baccalaureate-granting school to complete all requirements for a bachelor's degree and teacher certification at the secondary level for mathematics.
9. **The Associate in Arts in Teaching Early Childhood Education (A.A.T.)** is intended for students who wish to prepare for transfer to a baccalaureate-granting school to complete all requirements for a bachelor's degree and the Type-04 Teacher Certification for Early Childhood Education.

Associate Degree Areas of Study:

Accounting
Air Conditioning (HVAC)
Anthropology
Architecture
Art
Automotive Service Technology
Baking and Pastry Arts
Biology
Biotechnology
Botany (Biology)
Business
Chemistry
Clinical Laboratory Science
Computer Information Systems
Computer & Networking Technology
Construction Management
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts
Dental Hygiene
Diagnostic Medical Imaging

Early Childhood Education & Care
Earth Science
Economics
Electro-Mechanical Technology
Electronics Technology
Engineering
Engineering Technology
English
Facility Management
Fashion Merchandising and Design
Fire Science
Geography
Graphic Design
Health Information Technology
Health Sciences
Clinical Laboratory Science
Medical Assistant
History
Horticulture
Hospitality Management

Human Services
Humanities
Integrated Engineering Technology
Interior Design
Languages
Library and Information Technology
Management
Manufacturing Technology
Marketing
Mass Communications
Mathematics
Motion Picture/Television
Music
Nursing (Pre-BSN)
Office Technology Information
Paralegal Studies
Philosophy
Photography
Physical Education
Physical Therapist Assistant
Physics
Political Science
Pre-Dentistry
Pre-Medicine
Pre-Pharmacy
Pre-Physical Therapy
Pre-Veterinary
Psychology
Radiography
Real Estate
Religious Studies
Respiratory Care
Restaurant Management
Social Science/Sociology
Sonography
Speech Communication
Speech Language Pathology
Assistant
Surgical Technology
Teacher Preparation
Theater
Travel, Tourism and Event Planning
Zoology (Biology)

TRANSFER PROGRAM:

College of DuPage graduates transfer to baccalaureate granting institutions across the country. COD has formal transfer agreements with the following college and universities:

Illinois Schools:

- Aurora University
- Benedictine University
- Bradley University
- Chicago State University
- Columbia Chicago
- Concordia University
- DePaul University
- DeVry University
- Dominican University
- Eastern Illinois University
- Elmhurst College
- Governors State University
- Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg
- Illinois Institute of Technology
- Illinois State University
- Kendall College
- Lewis University
- Loyola University
- National University of Health Science
- National Louis University
- North Central College
- Northeastern Illinois University
- Northern Illinois University
- Northwood University
- Robert Morris University
- Roosevelt University
- St. Xavier University
- Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
- Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
- Trinity Christian College
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Illinois at Springfield
- Western Illinois University

College of DuPage

OUT OF STATE:

- Iowa State University
- Michigan State University
- Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design
- Purdue University-Calumet
- Savannah College of Art & Design

For more information contact:

Jill Davis, Transfer Coordinator
Berg Instructional Center (BIC), Room 2810, (630) 942-2776

HONORS PROGRAM:

The College of DuPage (COD) Honors Program offers our students courses in an enriched learning environment. Classes provide for a learning experience that emphasizes critical and creative thinking and class discussion. An Honors notation appears on the transcripts of participating students. If transferring to a baccalaureate institution, that notation alerts those schools to the fact that you are willing to challenge yourself academically.

Criteria: high school cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale or ACT score of 25 or above.

3+1 Programs:

It is a smart way to earn your B.A. or B.S. College of DuPage has partnered with prominent universities to offer high-caliber degree programs at a greatly reduced cost.

- Take three years of classes at COD, with the fourth year taught by the partner universities on COD's campus.
- Partner universities are educational leaders in their respective program areas.
- Advanced classes are offered at significantly reduced tuition rate.
- Flexible programming - day, evening, weekend and online.

Benedictine University

B.A. in Management
B.S. in Nursing

Concordia University Chicago

B.A. in Visual Arts Administration
B.A. in Healthcare Management
B.A. in Sports and Recreation Management

Governors State University

B.S. in Nursing (Online) and Dual Degree Program

Lewis University

B.A. in Criminal/Social Justice
B.A. in Fire Service Administration
B.S. in Computer Science
Enhanced 2+2 B.A. in Education

Roosevelt University

B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism Management

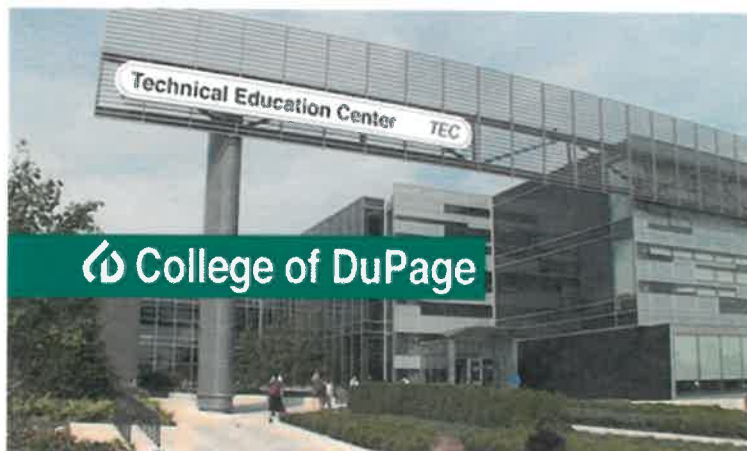
COD Pathways to Engineering at Illinois. *A pathway to guaranteed admission to the College of Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

This program will facilitate transfer, minimize duplication of instruction and build on community college and university learning experiences. To qualify, students must complete a specified list of equivalent courses at COD, maintaining a 3.3 GPA in these courses and a 3.2 cumulative GPA for all classes taken at COD. Students must also enroll full-time (12 or more semester hours).

Specific course requirements are outlined for intended majors in **13 programs:**

- Aerospace Engineering
- Agricultural and Biological Engineering
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Electrical Engineering
- Engineering Mechanics
- Engineering Physics
- General Engineering
- Industrial Engineering
- Materials Science
- Mechanical Engineering
- Nuclear, Plasma and Radiological Engineering

For more information: Contact Admissions & Outreach at admissions@cod.edu and (630)942-2380, or the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, College of Engineering, (217) 333-2280. You may also visit <http://pathway.engineering.illinois.edu/cod>



College of DuPage

C.O.D. Certificate Programs

Certificate courses of study are designed for students not pursuing an associate's degree but who are interested in taking technical or professional courses needed to enter a field of employment or to update current skills. Most courses taken in a certificate program may be applied to a degree in the same field of study. Students may engage in areas of study which emphasize:

- The arts and sciences, and offer the beginning of a baccalaureate-granting institution's curriculum
- Occupational-vocational degree and certificate programs designed to fulfill the employment requirements of the community

Continuing education and community service programs for individuals wishing to take one or more credit or non-credit courses on a part-time basis

- Developmental programs that meet the needs of students deficient in fundamental skills

Certificate Requirement:

Each candidate for a certificate shall:

- Satisfactorily complete all course requirements for the specific certificate.
 - Possess a minimum of 2.0 (C) average in the combined grade point average of all College of DuPage courses numbered 1000 and above on all courses.
 - Complete a minimum of one-half the applicable credits at College of DuPage.
 - Earn the final applicable credits at College of DuPage. § 5a. If the program requirement is 20 credits or more, earn the final 10 credits at College of DuPage. § 5b. If the program requirement is less than 20 credits, earn one-half the total required credits as the final applicable hours at College of DuPage.
 - File a petition for the certificate at least one semester before the anticipated completion date.
 - Satisfy all financial obligations and other specific requirements.
- Be in good standing at the time final credit for the certificate is earned.

Certificate Areas of Study

Accounting
Air Conditioning (HVAC)
Architecture
Automotive Service Technology
Computed Tomography
Computer Information Systems
Computer Internetworking Technologies
Cosmetology
Criminal Justice
Culinary Arts
Diagnostic Medical Imaging:
 Nuclear Medicine
 Radiography
 Sonography
Early Childhood Education and Care
Electronics Technology
Electro-Mechanical Technology
English
Facility Management
Fashion Merchandising and Design
Fire Science
Geography
Graphic Arts Technology
Graphic Design

Health Information Technology
Health Sciences
Horticulture
Hospitality Management
Human Services
Interior Design
Library and Information Technology
Long-Term Care Administration
Mammography
Management
Manufacturing Technology
Marketing
Motion Picture/Television
Nursing Assistant
Nursing - Practical Nursing
Office Technology Information
Photography
Physical Education
Paralegal Studies
Radiation Therapy
Real Estate
Surgical Technology
Travel, Tourism and Event Planning
Welding

College Comparison Worksheet

College Name			
Location -distance from home			
Size -enrollment -physical size of campus			
Environment -type of school (2 year, 4 year) -school setting (urban, rural) -location and size of nearest city -co-ed, male, female -religious affiliation			
Admission Requirements -deadline -required exams -average test scores, GPA, rank -notification			
Academics -major offered -special requirements -accreditation -student/faculty ratio -average class size			
College Expenses -tuition, room, board -estimated total budget -application fee, deposits			
Financial Aid -deadline -required forms -percentage receiving aid -scholarships			
Housing -residence hall requirement -food plan			
Facilities -academic Recreational -other			
Activities -clubs, organizations -Greek Life -athletics, intramurals -other			
Campus Visit -when -special opportunities			

College Application Planning Worksheet

Taking the time to plan during your junior year of high school will help you to be prepared for the college application process. There are more than 4,000 colleges and universities to choose from and many of them have different requirements to complete their application. Completing this worksheet will help get a better understanding of what is required for each college or university you are applying to. We recommend using both Naviance and the college/universities website to complete the information below. You do not know your Naviance log-in information, see your counselor.

Name _____ Major _____ *(undecided if not sure what major)*

Additional Resources:

Naviance- <https://connection.naviance.com/family-connection/auth/login/?hsid=willowbrook>
Common Application- www.commonapp.org

Name of College/ University	Do they accept the Common Application?	Letter of Rec.'s Required?	Test Scores Required? (ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Test)	High School Transcript needed?	# of Essay's Required?	Application Fee?	Application Deadline?	For me, this School is: Reach, Match, or Safety <i>*See reverse for full description of each</i>
Example: Bradley University	Yes	1 letter of rec. is required	ACT or SAT	Yes	Personal Statement or Essay	No Application Fee	Priority- Nov. 30 th Regular D.- Jan 31 st	<input type="checkbox"/> Reach <input type="checkbox"/> Match <input type="checkbox"/> Safety
								<input type="checkbox"/> Reach <input type="checkbox"/> Match <input type="checkbox"/> Safety
								<input type="checkbox"/> Reach <input type="checkbox"/> Match <input type="checkbox"/> Safety
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								<input type="checkbox"/> Reach <input type="checkbox"/> Match <input type="checkbox"/> Safety

ACT- www.actstudent.org
SAT- www.collegeboard.com
College Majors- www.mymajor.com

SELECTING COLLEGES/BUILDING A COLLEGE LIST

"Building a solid college list is a lot like building a house. Begin by construction a foundation: the colleges that you truly like and where you are likely to have a strong chance of admission. With those in place, you can build the structure of your list by choosing colleges that are a good match for your grades, test scores, and other characteristics, but which are not necessarily sure bets for admission. Finally, after you've cemented the foundation and built the walls, you can turn your attention to the roof—those colleges that may be just out of reach, or which are extremely selective. Remember this: A house built from the roof down is seldom stable."

-Carolyn Z. Lawrence, AdmissionsAdvice.com

- **Do you know that less than 5% of US Schools admit under 50% of applicants?**
 - *This means that there are 2500+ four-year colleges to choose from that admit more applicants than they reject!*
 - If you want to end up with lots of options, you should create a balanced list with at least 2 Safety schools, perhaps 2 reach/dream schools, but mostly matches.
- REACH/DREAM SCHOOLS SHOULD NEVER CONSTITUTE MORE THAN HALF OF YOUR LIST!**

MY SCORES: GPA _____ RANK _____ / _____ PSAT Total Score: _____ ACT Score (if applicable): _____

SAFETY SCHOOLS(S)		MATCH SCHOOLS		REACH/DREAM SCHOOLS(S)
✓ Your scores EXCEEDED the midrange scores and GPA & the admission rate is 50% or more		✓ Your scores and GPA place you in the middle 50% range of students accepted & admission rate is more than 50% <i>OR</i> ✓ Your scores and GPA exceed the middle 50% range & admission rate is less than 50%	✓ Your scores and GPA are below the middle 50% range of students accepted & where the admission rate is less than 50% <i>OR</i> ✓ The school's admission rate is 20% or less. This might be a school you would like to attend but your chances of acceptance are a statistical reach and seem slim because no one's chances of admission at these schools are high.	
1)	1)	1)	1)	1)
2)	2)	2)	2)	2)
	3)			
	4)			
	5)			

**You can find admission rate and average GPA & Test Score information on Naviance or on the school's website.*

EXAMPLE 1:
Willy Warrior
GPA: 3.3/4.0
SAT: 1070-1290

Safety: WIU, SIUC
Match: Elmhurst, UIC
Reach: U of IL, IL Wesleyan

EXAMPLE 2:
Joe College
GPA: 4.3/4.0
SAT: 1280-1490

Safety: ISU, DePaul
Match: U of IL, Wheaton College
Reach: U of C, Stanford

EXAMPLE 3:
Michael Universi
GPA: 2.3/4.0
SAT: 950-1025

Safety: COD
Match: EIU, SIUC
Reach: UIC, DeVry

College Athletics: NCAA Eligibility

ONE OPPORTUNITY. LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES.

If you want to play sports at an NCAA Division I or II school, start by registering for a Certification Account with the NCAA Eligibility Center at eligibilitycenter.org. If you want to play Division III sports or you aren't sure where you want to compete, start by creating a Profile Page at eligibilitycenter.org.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

To play sports at a Division I or II school, you must graduate from high school, complete 16 NCAA-approved core courses, earn a minimum GPA and earn an ACT or SAT score that matches your core-course GPA.

CORE COURSES

Only courses that appear on your high school's list of NCAA core courses will count toward the 16 core-course requirement; visit eligibilitycenter.org/courselist for a full list of your high school's approved core courses. Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:

DIVISION I

Complete 10 NCAA core courses, including seven in English, math or natural/physical science, before your seventh semester.

ENGLISH	MATH (Algebra I or higher)	NATURAL/ PHYSICAL SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)	ADDITIONAL (English, math or natural/physical science)	SOCIAL SCIENCE	ADDITIONAL COURSES (Any area listed to the left, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)
4 years	3 years	2 years	1 year	2 years	4 years

DIVISION II

ENGLISH	MATH (Algebra I or higher)	NATURAL/ PHYSICAL SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)	ADDITIONAL (English, math or natural/physical science)	SOCIAL SCIENCE	ADDITIONAL COURSES (Any area listed to the left, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)
3 years	2 years	2 years	3 years	2 years	4 years

GRADE-POINT AVERAGE

The NCAA Eligibility Center calculates your grade-point average based only on the grades you earn in NCAA-approved core courses.

- DI requires a minimum 2.3 GPA.
- DII requires a minimum 2.2 GPA.

SLIDING SCALE

Divisions I and II use sliding scales to match test scores and GPAs to determine eligibility. The sliding scale balances your test score with your GPA. If you have a low test score, you need a higher GPA to be eligible. Find more information about test scores at ncaa.org/test-scores.

TEST SCORES

You may take the SAT or ACT an unlimited number of times before you enroll full time in college. Every time you register for the SAT or ACT, use the NCAA Eligibility Center code 9999 to send your scores directly to us from the testing agency. We accept official scores only from the ACT or SAT, and won't use scores shown on your high school transcript. If you take either test more than once, the best subscore from different tests are used to give you the best possible score.

College Athletics: NCAA Eligibility Continued

HIGH SCHOOL TIMELINE

9TH GRADE



- *Start planning now!* Take the right courses and earn the best grades possible.

- Find your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses at eligibilitycenter.org/counselist.
- Sign up for a free Profile Page at eligibilitycenter.org for information on NCAA requirements.

10TH GRADE

REGISTER



- If you fall behind academically, ask your counselor for help finding approved courses you can take.

- Register for a Profile Page or Certification Account with the NCAA Eligibility Center at eligibilitycenter.org.
- Monitor your Eligibility Center account for next steps.
- At the end of the year, ask your counselor at each high school or program you attended to upload your official transcript to your NCAA Eligibility Center account.

11TH GRADE



- Check with your counselor to make sure you are on track to complete the required number of NCAA-approved courses and graduate on time with your class.

- Take the ACT or SAT and submit your scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center using code 9999.
- Ensure your sports participation information is correct in your Eligibility Center account.
- At the end of the year, ask your counselor at each high school or program you attended to upload your official transcript to your NCAA Eligibility Center account.

12TH GRADE



- Complete your final NCAA-approved core courses as you prepare for graduation.

- Take the ACT or SAT again, if necessary, and submit your scores to the NCAA Eligibility Center using code 9999.
- Request your final amateurism certification beginning April 1 (fall enrollees) or Oct. 1 (winter/spring enrollees) in your NCAA Eligibility Center account at eligibilitycenter.org.
- After you graduate, ask your counselor to upload your final official transcript with proof of graduation to your NCAA Eligibility Center account.
- *Reminder:* Only students on an NCAA Division I or II school's institutional request list will receive a certification.

How to plan your high school courses to meet the 16 core-course requirement:

$$4 \times 4 = 16$$

9TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional

4 CORE COURSES

10TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional

4 CORE COURSES

11TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional

4 CORE COURSES

12TH GRADE

- (1) English
- (1) Math
- (1) Science
- (1) Social Science and/or additional

4 CORE COURSES

For more information: ncaa.org/playcollegesports | eligibilitycenter.org

Search Frequently Asked Questions: ncaa.org/studentfaq

Follow us: @NCAAECE

@playcollegesports

@ncaaec

Standardized Tests

Most colleges and universities require results of standardized college entrance exams to be submitted as part of the application process. Schools also ask prospective students to take placement tests to determine their level of proficiency in various subjects. In addition, some schools grant college credit and/or placement to students obtaining high scores on certain exams. Standardized national tests are summarized below:

PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test)

This is a practice test for the SAT and the first step in qualifying for the National Merit Scholarship Program. This is not a college admissions test, however, it helps sophomores and juniors estimate their ability to do college level work, guides them in making their college plans and familiarizes them with timed multiple-choice tests. Students receive three scores: verbal, math, and writing as well as a fourth titled the "Selection Index" (SI). The SI is used exclusively for the National Merit competition for Juniors only. This is an optional tests that students can chose to take and is offered in October at WBHS. WBHS offers a prep class through EX-CEL EDGE that Juniors can chose to take if interested. Information about the prep class will be mailed home to students in the summer prior to junior year.

SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test)

The SAT is a standardized, three hour objective exam that measures how well the student has developed verbal and mathematical skills necessary for college work. This test is administered to students during their junior year as part of the state testing requirement for graduation. This exam may be required from many colleges/universities for admission and is the preferred exam for admission by most East and West Coast colleges and universities and many highly selective schools. An optional writing section is available which is required or recommended by certain colleges for admission. This test should be taken in the spring of a student's junior year. Students can register for an additional national exam by visiting collegeboard.org. Handouts are available in the counseling office.

SAT Subject Tests

These one hour tests are taken to demonstrate to colleges a student's mastery of specific subjects. Many highly selective colleges use the Subject Tests for admission and course placement. Tests given in US History, World History, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English Literature, Mathematics Level I, Mathematics Level II, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Spanish. **You should take a specific SAT subject test as soon after completing the course as is possible.** The SAT subject tests are usually offered on the same days as the SAT, but there are exceptions-**check carefully.** For more information, go to www.collegeboard.org.

ACT (American College Testing)

The ACT is a standardized exams that contains four 35-60 minute tests in the academic areas of English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science Reasoning. This exam is used by colleges/universities for admission. Most colleges/Universities that require a standardized exam for admission, will use either the SAT or ACT for admission. Students can register for a National ACT Exam by visiting www.actstudent.org. Handouts are available in the College & Career Center or the Counseling Office. **Willowbrook is not a test center for the ACT.**

AP Tests (Advanced Placement)

These are three-four hour high school examinations given in May based on college level work. Participants are enrolled in an Advanced Placement course in the high school to prepare for these tests. The scores are used for college placement, credit or advanced standing.

CLEP (College-Level Examination Program)

CLEP provides students of any age with the opportunity to demonstrate college-level achievement through a program of exams covering material taught in courses that you may generally take in your first two years of college. By passing a CLEP exam, you can earn 3 to 12 college credits. More than 2,900 colleges grant credit, advanced standing or both for CLEP exams. The 90-minute exams, which cost \$80 each, are administered at 1,800 test centers. CLEP offers 33 exams in five subject areas. Make sure to check with colleges of interest to find out their policy on CELP.

TOEFL (Tests of English as a Foreign Language)

The TOEFL, administered by the College Board, provides an alternative test for students who have been speaking English for less than five years. This test is used to evaluate the English proficiency of these students. Highly selective colleges may require students to submit SAT scores for mathematics component along with the TOEFL.

What is the **DIFFERENCE** between the **ACT** and **SAT**?

If you plan to go to college, you should take the SAT and/or ACT.
You may find that you score better on one type of test than the other.

	ACT	SAT
Length	3 hours, 25 minutes (including the 30 minute optional Writing Test)	3 hours, 45 minutes
Sections	4 test sections (5 with the optional Writing Test): English Math Reading Science Writing (Optional)	3 Sections: (4 with the optional Essay) Reading Math Writing & Language Essay (optional)
Reading (ACT) Critical Reading (SAT)	4 Reading Comprehension passages, 10 questions per passage	Reading Comprehension passages and questions, and sentence completion questions
Science	Science (analysis, interpretation, evaluation, basic content, and problem solving)	Science not included
Math	Arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and trigonometry	Arithmetic, geometry, algebra, and algebra II
Essay	Last section of the test (optional); 30 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not included in composite score • Topic of importance to high school students • Address counterarguments 	No Essay
Scoring	Total composite score of 1-36 (based on average of 4 tests) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 scores of 1-36 for each test • Score of 0-12 for the optional Essay 	Total score out of 1600 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 scores of 200-800 for each section
Wrong Answer Penalty	No wrong answer penalty	No wrong answer penalty
Tests Contact Information	www.actstudent.org	www.collegeboard.org
Sending Score History	You decide which score is sent	Your decide which score is sent

Source: http://www.kaptest.com/College/ACT/Learn-About-the-ACT/CQ_act_satact.html

Which test should I take?

The **ACT** may be a better test for you if:

- You did great on the EXPLORE and PLAN or had a PSAT or SAT score inconsistent with your academic performance in school.
- Your vocabulary is not as strong as your reading. You read well and relatively quickly and the ACT is comprised of three parts verbal-English, Reading, and Science
- You are great at writing papers, but haven't had formal grammar instruction. The English portion of the ACT is more a test of punctuation and sentence and paragraph structure.
- You prefer to write essays that are argumentative, persuading with ideas even if you lack perfect recall of facts and figures. Or you prefer to answer questions that ask about everyday issues in your life or school.
- You fear you will choke under pressure. The ACT effectively has "score choice" where you indicate which schools you want to receive which score. On the SAT, all scores will be part of your score report.
- You are more academic than "test savvy." The ACT seems to most people to be more curriculum-based and thus more straightforward.
- All of your friends are doing it. You dread telling people what your scores are, imagining that they are immediately making judgments about how you "stack up."

The **SAT** may be a better test for you if:

- You did great on the PSAT.
- You have a killer vocabulary. You know "didactic," "sedulous" and other esoteric words (including esoteric) and want to use that comparative advantage.
- You can ace grammar. In addition to the essay section, the Writing section of the SAT tests the deviation between standard written English and the way we actually speak the language.
- You find it easier to write essays that use illustrative examples rather than argument.
- Whether or not you're academic, you consider yourself quick-thinking. At some level, the math section of the SAT is based on reasoning. The reading section is about seeing things the same way as the test-makers. The official name is, after all, the "SAT Reasoning Test." The hardest math questions on the SAT are not about advanced content or formulas that you may have forgotten.
- You are high-energy or impulsive to the point of being impatient. Comprised of nine sections and an essay, the SAT is 20 minutes longer than the ACT, which is comprised of four long sections followed by an essay. But there are more starts and stops on the SAT—which makes it feel as though it's moving along faster than the ACT.
- All of your friends are doing it. For many folks, the SAT is a rite of passage and is the common yardstick people use, for better or worse, in comparing their scores to the scores of their friends, parents and siblings.

Source: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=7495614>

SAT—ACT Comparisons

This conversion chart was created through collaboration between the College Board and ACT and published in August, 2008. The writing section of both tests stand alone and are not considered in this conversion. For the SAT score, add the critical reasoning and the math sub scores together.

SAT Writing Score and ACT English/Writing Score Concordance Table

SAT to	ACT	SAT to	ACT	ACT to	SAT	ACT to	SAT
1600	36	1050-1080	23	36	1600	23	1070
1540-1590	35	1020-1040	22	35	1560	22	1030
1490-1530	34	980-1010	21	34	1510	21	990
1440-1480	33	940-970	20	33	1460	20	950
1400-1430	32	900-930	19	32	1420	19	910
1360-1390	31	860-890	18	31	1380	18	870
1330-1350	30	820-850	17	30	1340	17	830
1290-1320	29	770-810	16	29	1300	16	790
1250-1280	28	720-760	15	28	1260	15	740
1210-1240	27	670-710	14	27	1220	14	690
1170-1200	26	620-660	13	26	1190	13	640
1130-1160	25	560-610	12	25	1150	12	590
1090-1120	24	510-550	11	24	1110	11	530

SAT Writing Score	ACT Writing	SAT Writing
800	36	800
800	35	800
770-790	34	770
730-760	33	740
710-720	32	720
690-700	31	690
660-680	30	670
640-650	29	650
620-630	28	630
610	27	610
590-600	26	590
570-580	25	570
550-560	24	550
530-540	23	530
510-520	22	510
480-500	21	490
470	20	470
450-460	19	450
430-440	18	430
410-420	17	420
390-400	16	400
380	15	380
360-370	14	360
340-350	13	340
320-330	12	330
330-310	11	310

SAT College Readiness Benchmark Scores

SAT College Readiness Benchmark scores are used to consider a student as college and career ready when their SAT section scores meet both the Math and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing benchmarks. College readiness is a continuum—students scoring below the SAT benchmarks can still be successful in college, especially with additional preparation and perseverance. Students with an SAT Math sections core that meets or exceeds the benchmark have a 75 percent chance of earning at least a C in first-semester, credit bearing college courses in algebra, statistics, pre-calculus, or calculus. Students with an evidence-Based Reading and Writing sections score that meets or exceeds the benchmark have a 75 percent chance of earning at least a C in first-semester, credit bearing college courses in history, literature, social sciences, or writing classes. of expectations.

	Red <i>Below by 1 year of academic growth</i>	Yellow <i>Within 1 year academic growth</i>	Green <i>Meets or Exceeds</i>
Reading	8-19	20-28	28-38
Writing and Language	8-18	19-28	29-38
Math	8-20.5	21-29.5	30-38

ERW Benchmark=480

Math Benchmark=530



ACT & SAT TESTING DATES

SAT EXAM

TEST DATE

December 4, 2021

March 12, 2022

April 13, 2022 (School-wide Testing Day)

May 7, 2022

June 4, 2022

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

November 4, 2021

February 11, 2022

Students will register at school

April 8, 2022

May 5, 2022

Register online at www.collegeboard.org



ACT EXAM

TEST DATE

December 11, 2021

February 12, 2022

April 2, 2022

June 11, 2022

July 16, 2022

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

November 5, 2021

January 7, 2022

February 25, 2022

May 6, 2022

June 17, 2022

Register online at www.actstudent.org

College Application Process

1. Complete an application from a specific college.

The application form is the initial, but not the only step in applying to college. Requested on the application is biographical information, questions concerning your extracurricular activities, work experience, future plans, your Social Security Number, the Willowbrook High School Code (144232) and an application fee, if applicable. It is important that you be honest, thorough, concise, neat and attentive to directions. The majority of colleges prefer on-line applications. You can begin applying after September 1 of senior year.

2. Write an essay, if required.

Some colleges (especially private and highly selective ones) will ask you to write personal essays which they will read for content, organization, ability to answer the question, grammar and spelling. Since the college wants the application to reflect you, your interests and values, how you write, and how you think, completing your application will require a great deal of time and energy. You will want to "put your best foot forward" without being boastful. You may want to make a rough draft before putting your essay on the application and keep a copy for other applications. If you will use one essay for different colleges, remember to *change the school name*. If you have questions about the quality of your essay, ask your English teacher or visit the Writing Center.

3. Ask for recommendations, as required.

Some colleges will require that one or two of your teachers and your counselor write a recommendation concerning you. It is important that you:

- Select a teacher who knows you well and will write a positive recommendation about you.
- Discuss the recommendation with the teacher several weeks before it is due. Provide them with a Teacher Recommendation form along with a student resume/brag sheet.
- Submit a recommendation through Naviance and complete the waiver. A recommendation will have more credibility if you have signed the waiver of right to see the recommendation.
- Give your counselor the appropriate secondary school report and plan to meet with him or her in order to coordinate respective parts of the application.

4. Submit your application online, pay fee, and request transcripts

Submit your application and all the completed parts of your application (essay, letters of rec, completed application or counselor signature page) to each college/university. Be sure to pay the application fee. If you are on free or reduced lunch, please see your counselor for a fee waiver. Request your transcripts on Naviance. It is best that all applications be submitted by November 1st. To be safe, check all application deadline dates.

5. Make sure Standardized Test Scores have been sent

Your Willowbrook transcript includes your test scores. Some schools will accept the ACT score on your transcript as official, while some may not. To be sure you have an official ACT score on file, we recommend you send your best ACT score directly from ACT. You can do this by going to www.actstudent.org and clicking on send scores. There will be a fee to send your score to each institution. You may also want to do this if you took the ACT on additional testing dates.

6. Wait for responses and begin completing Financial Aid paperwork

Once the colleges have your application and components, you will wait for a response. Admission responses can take anywhere from 2 weeks to 2-3 months. Just be patient. While you are waiting, you can begin completing your financial aid paperwork and applying for scholarships.

7. Continue to keep up grades in all your senior year classes

Many colleges expect you to maintain a similar GPA that you applied with. They also expect you to continue to take challenging courses throughout the entire school year. If you are considering dropping a course during your senior year, the counseling department will require you to contact the colleges and universities you have applied and been admitted to and question if you can drop the course to determine if it will impact your admission. This is the student's responsibility to check before dropping a course. There have been instances where students who have been admitted are denied admission for their GPA dropping dramatically or by dropping a required course for admission.

Naviance & The College Application Process

1. Complete Application Online (If you are applying via Common Application: You will need to create an account through Common App website and sync with Naviance...review separate Common App page).

2. Request Transcripts on Naviance

- Click on "**Colleges I'm Thinking About**" to view your list
- Move College(s) to application list by Checking box and clicking "**Move to Application List**"
- Choose the **Application Type** (Regular Decision, Early Decision, Early Action).
- Click **Request Transcript: Allow 3 Business Days for processing of transcripts**

(Ex:Deadline=Nov.1, Request on or before Oct. 30).

3. Request Letter(s) of Recommendation* (if applicable)

- 1). Speak to Teacher/Counselor and **ASK** if they are willing to write a letter of recommendation for you.
- 2) **Provide** them with a **Counselor or Teacher Recommendation Form** (forms located in the Counseling Office and on school website) & **copy of your student resume/brag sheet**.

GIVE AT LEAST A 2 WEEK NOTICE

- 3). **Request Letter on Naviance** after speaking to teacher/counselor in person


- Click on "**Colleges I'm Applying to**"
- Find box titled, "**Teacher Recommendation**" and Click **Add/Cancel Requests**. Select name of teacher/counselor and submit request. Write in box specific schools, due dates and additional information.

*Common App School **REQUIRE** a Counselor Recommendation

4. Send official ACT/SAT scores*

- ACT Website: www.actstudent.org
- SAT Website: www.collegeboard.org

5. Track Application components on Naviance

- View "**Colleges I'm Applying to**" to see when/if transcript(s), letters of rec, etc. have been sent
- For schools that use the Common Application, you **MUST** answer the question, "**Applying via Common App**" for each college and update your info. Click on "**unknown**" and select "**yes**" if you are using the common app or "**no**" if you are not. If Applying via Common App, please refer to the separate **Common App page**.
- When you receive a decision from the college, Return to the **Colleges I'm Applying to** section and click the  under **Actions** to update your **Status** (Accepted, Waitlisted, etc.)

Quick College Application Checklist:

- ☐ Complete Application & Essay/ Personal Statement (if applicable)
- ☐ Submit fee or Fee Waiver
- ☐ Letter(s) of Rec (if applicable)
- ☐ Counselor Verification Form (if applicable)
- ☐ Transcripts

FAQ's

How do I know if I need Letters of Recommendation?

-Click on College and review "**Admissions**" tab to determine application requirements (essay, letter(s) of rec, etc.)

How do I know if the school I'm applying to accepts Common App?

-You will see next to the college name a box titled "**Delivery Type**." If there is a **CA** in the box, the college accepts the Common Application. Review the Common Application Naviance handout for directions on how to complete your application.

Can I request a transcript to be sent in the mail or can I get a hard copy?

-Yes, you can see the Registrar located in the Guidance Office. The cost is \$3.00 per transcript. **Transcripts requested on Naviance are FREE.**

The Common Application

THE COMMON APPLICATION

For Undergraduate College Admission

1. Create a Common

App Account on website:

www.commonapp.org

- Add Colleges to your account by going to "Search for Colleges."
- Complete FERPA Waiver which allows you to waive or not waive your right to view letters of rec.
- Complete application(s)

2. Link Common App with Naviance by logging into your Naviance Account

- Log onto your Naviance account <http://connection.naviance.com/willowbrook>
- Go to the COLLEGES Tab and Click on "Colleges I'm Applying To"
- Complete the Common App Matching Screen at the top of the page

3. Request Transcripts on Naviance

- Click on "Colleges I'm Applying To"
- Choose the **Application Type** (Regular Decision, Early Decision, Early Action)
- Click **Request Transcript**
- Next to the College by which you are applying via common app, answer the question **Applying via Common App** for each college and update your info.
- Your transcript will be sent with your Counselor Recommendation Form which is **REQUIRED** when Using Common App.

4. Teacher/Counselor* Recommendations on Naviance

- Locate the **Teacher Recommendations** section (*Request Letter on Naviance after speaking to Teacher/counselor in person and providing them with Resume and Recommendation Form*)
- Find box titled, "Teacher Recommendation" and Click **Add/Cancel Requests**.
- Select name of teacher/counselor and submit request. Write in box specific schools, due dates and additional information.
- Allow at least **2 weeks** processing time for each request so be aware of college deadlines. It is your responsibility to inform and follow-up with the teacher and/or counselor regarding the submission of your request.

***PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST ASK YOUR COUNSELOR FOR A RECOMMENDATION AS IT IS REQUIRED TO SEND YOUR TRANSCRIPT**

5. Send official ACT/SAT scores (*PSAE ACT scores, taken Junior Year at School in April, are included on your official transcript)

- ACT Website: www.actstudent.org
- SAT Website: www.collegeboard.org

6. When you receive a decision from the college, Return to the Colleges I'm Applying to section and click the under **Actions** to update your **Status** (Accepted, Waitlisted, etc.)

Quick Common Application Checklist:

- ☐ Create Common App Account & Add Schools
- ☐ Complete Application & Essay/Personal Statement (if applicable)
- ☐ Link Naviance Account with Common App Account Submit fee or Fee Waiver for each school
- ☐ Letter(s) of Rec (if applicable)
- ☐ Counselor Recommendation **REQUIRED**
- ☐ Transcripts (send with Counselor Rec form)
- ☐ SAT/ACT scores



Financial Aid

Types of Financial Aid

- ✦ **Grants** are typically based on financial need and **don't need to be repaid.**
- ✦ **Scholarships** may be awarded based on academics, special achievements or involvement in school or community activities; financial need is sometimes a factor. It is known as **gift aid**, and **does not need to be repaid.**
- ✦ **Loans** are a significant part of most aid packages. The loan must be repaid, most often not until after graduation. Interest rates are usually lower than other types of loans. The repayment period varies from two to three years up to thirty years.
- ✦ **Work-study** refers to part-time jobs on campus; funding is provided through the federal work-study program or institutional funds.

Federal Aid Programs

Federal Pell Grants: Monetary gifts to qualified undergraduate students. Eligibility based on financial need. Grants up to \$5,550. The maximum can change each award year and depends on program funding. There is no repayment.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG): A monetary gift rewarded to undergraduate students. Eligibility based on financial need, first preference given to Pell eligible applicants. Grants up to \$4,000. Due to limited funding, most awards are less than the maximum allowed. There is no repayment.

Federal Work-Study (FWS): Allows students to work part-time to earn money for college expenses. The school coordinates the job. Eligibility based on financial need. Earnings are at least minimum wage but may be more. Limited to amount awarded. There is no repayment.

Federal Perkins Loan: 5% fixed interest loan where the school acts as the lender. Principal and interest charges are deferred while enrolled at least half-time. Eligibility based on financial need. Loans up to \$5,500 annually for undergraduates. Repayment begins nine months after the student graduates, falls below half-time enrollment or leaves school.

Federal Stafford Loans (Subsidized and Unsubsidized): Annually adjusted variable interest rate. Eligibility for the subsidized Stafford is based on financial need and features deferment of principal and interest charges while enrolled at least half-time. As an addi-

tional alternative, the unsubsidized Stafford is for independent students, and dependent students who do not qualify for the maximum subsidized version. Eligibility for the unsubsidized Stafford is not based on financial need. Repayment of principal begins six months after graduating, leaving school, or whenever enrollment drops below half-time. The government pays interest for the subsidized version until repayment begins. The borrower pays all interest charges for the unsubsidized version, which may be deferred and capitalized (at an extra cost to the borrower).

Federal PLUS (Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students): Annually adjusted variable rate interest loan, available to parents. Eligibility determined by school, but not based on financial need. Borrower must have good credit history. They may borrow up to the difference between school costs minus estimated financial assistance. Repayment begins within sixty days after the loan is fully disbursed.

*Interest rates and other information are subject to change. Check with financial aid offices

Financial Aid Forms and Paperwork

FAFSA (FREE Application for Federal Student Aid) You can access the online application at **www.fafsa.ed.gov**. The FAFSA cannot be filed prior to October 1 of a student's senior year in high school but should be completed and mailed by November 15. If you have additional questions, you can contact the Student Aid Hotline at the U.S. Department of Education at **1(800) 4FED-AID**.

CSS Profile (College Board's College Scholarship Service) Used by selective, private institutions the CSS Profile utilizes institutional methodology which differs somewhat from the calculation performed by the federal government. The CSS Profile collects more specific data than the FAFSA and sends it to colleges. Since there is a cost for this service, students should check directly with the college to be sure the CSS Profile is required. Families can complete this form early in the senior year and should do so at **www.collegeboard.com**.

Institutional Forms

Some schools ask students to complete an individual financial aid document from their own financial aid office. Such forms are typically mailed to accepted students or may be included in the application packet.

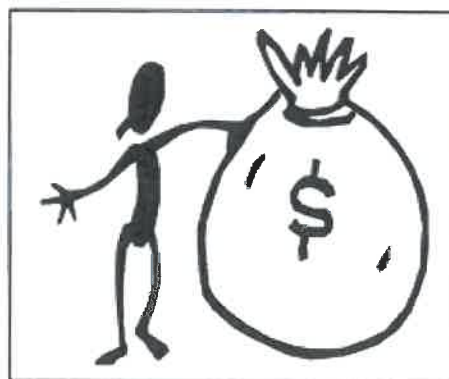
Financial Aid Continued

Tips for Financial Aid

1. File a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon as you can after January 1 of your senior year. If your tax information is not available, use estimated data. You will be asked to verify information later in the year.
2. Less federal and state monies are available for loans and grants. File as early as possible before the money runs out.
3. In late 1992, Congress changed the financial aid process, therefore, materials or knowledge you have about the process may be out-dated. Call the financial aid offices of the schools to which you are applying to receive current information.
4. The financial aid office of the colleges to which you are applying are your best sources of help and information. Do not hesitate to call them. After your FAFSA has been processed, make an appointment with a financial aid officer to discuss the results.
5. Every student filing a FAFSA will qualify for a low interest federal loan of up to \$3,500 regardless of financial need.
6. Before you submit your FAFSA, check your figures carefully, especially your social security number. It is very difficult and time consuming to make changes after the form has been processed. The FAFSA may be filed electronically at fafsa.ed.gov. You can send your information to 10 colleges on the on-line FAFSA form.
7. Do not be afraid to list a college which might be over your budget. The more expensive the school, the more need you have, and thus, the more federal and state monies you will qualify for.
8. Every college bound student should file a FAFSA regardless of whether you will qualify for any funds. New formulas for calculating financial need will enable more middle income families to qualify.
9. Colleges may contact you and request that you complete an additional supplementary form (CSS PROFILE) to determine the distribution of monies available through the college.

Financial Aid Questions for Colleges

- ✦ *What kind of financial assistance does the college offer? Need-based, merit based, or both?*
- ✦ *Can the college provide an early estimate of what our financial aid award might be?*
- ✦ *When are the financial aid applications due? What forms are needed to apply?*
- ✦ *When will we be notified about the amount of assistance we can expect?*
- ✦ *Is there a commitment for financial assistance beyond the first year?*
- ✦ *How and when do we apply for financial aid after the first year?*
- ✦ *What if we don't qualify for need-based aid? Are there alternative financing options available?*
- ✦ *Does the institution have an appeal process to review special circumstances?*
- ✦ *Can we apply financial aid toward an off-campus study program, either in the US or another country?*
- ✦ *Are there any payment options available (such as monthly or quarterly)?*



Local Scholarship Summaries

The Willowbrook Counseling Department posts scholarship information on the school website, student bulletin, announcements and in the College & Career Center as it arrives. Most paper copies of the posted scholarships are available in the College & Career Center or Counseling Office and website links are posted as available. Below you will find summaries of the typical local scholarships we receive on a yearly basis. Please review the list and highlight any you are interested in and qualify for. Please note that there is no guarantee that these scholarships will be available to students in the future. Most of these scholarship will be available after January of senior year. We also encourage you to research additional national scholarship websites, which are located on page 44.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN SCHOLARSHIP: Each year the American Association of University Women Lombard-Villa Park Branch awards a Willowbrook college-bound senior girl a scholarship. The amount varies each year. Academics and extra-curricular activities are considered. Preference is given to a girl majoring in a field not normally associated with women.

AMERICAN HELLENIC ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP: The Hellenic Association offers several scholarships to college-bound seniors of Greek ancestry.

AXA ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP: AXA understands how challenging the road to college can be, so they have provided a scholarship opportunity for high school seniors. Visit www.axa-achievement.com to learn more about this scholarship.

COCA-COLA SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIP: The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation annually awards approximately 250 scholarships ranging from \$1600-\$2000 to college-bound seniors. You must have a 3.0 GPA and be very active in school and community activities. .

COLLEGE OF DUPAGE – ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP: Each year a full tuition scholarship is given to the top ranking Willowbrook senior attending the College of DuPage upon graduation. If you are in the top 15% of the senior class after seven semesters and have an ACT score of 23 or higher, you may apply for this Academic Excellence scholarship. The highest-ranking senior who has applied by the scholarship deadline will receive this award. You must apply to be eligible.

COMMUNITY WOMEN'S CLUB OF VILLA PARK

SCHOLARSHIP: The Community Women's Club of Villa Park annually awards several scholarships of approximately \$500 each to Willowbrook seniors who plan on attending any college or vocational school. You must be a Villa Park resident, and both boys and girls may apply. The objective is to help the student who has a definite goal but may not be eligible for those awards requiring high academic grades.

DENNIS DOYLE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:

Dennis believed each person must be passionate to compete each day to achieve their goals. "When there is an obstacle in your way you must face that obstacle and work tirelessly to defeat it." For those that had the opportunity to know Coach Doyle, he truly was a Warrior in every sense of the word. To honor Coach Dennis Doyle and continue his legacy, a scholarship will be awarded to a senior in hopes of helping them achieve their goals and pursue their dream of attending a 2-year or 4-year college/university.

DUPAGE DISTRICT 88 COUNCIL, LOCAL 571 SCHOLARSHIP:

The DuPage High School 88 Teachers Council would like to offer two individual scholarships. The two students must be in good standing, have a 3.5 GPA, and plan to study education and/or a career in service for the community.

ELMHURST EVENING LIONS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP:

The Elmhurst Evening Lions Club offers two scholarships to college-bound seniors who have demonstrated community service and school involvement. You must be an Elmhurst resident to apply.

ELMHURST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL GUILD SCHOLARSHIP:

The Elmhurst Memorial Hospital Guild is awarding a scholarship to a graduating senior who has volunteered at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital and plans to study for a health related career.

EMILIO PEREZ FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP: The family of Emilio Perez has vowed to honor Emilio and keep his memory alive by providing several scholarships to seniors at Willowbrook High School. Any student in need of money to help pay for college can pick up an application in the Guidance Office.

HORATIO ALGER ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP: The Horatio Alger Association Scholarship Programs provide financial assistance to students who have financial need and have exhibited integrity and perseverance in overcoming personal adversity.

Local Scholarship Summaries Continued

ILLINOIS SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS:

The Illinois Sheriff's Association annually awards scholarships statewide to deserving seniors. Ability, character, and financial need are considered. Applicants must attend a vocational school or college full time in the fall. Applications are available in the guidance office during second semester.

JOINT CIVIC COMMITTEE OF ITALIAN AMERICANS SCHOLARSHIP: The Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans annually award several scholarships to college-bound senior girls of Italian ancestry.

KOCH / DISTRICT 88 SCHOLARSHIP: The \$1500 David Koch Scholarship is awarded annually to a Willowbrook college-bound senior. You must have a minimum 2.75 GPA. A winner is chosen based on character, leadership, citizenship, and service to school and community.

LAUREN KIEFER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP: The Lauren Kiefer Memorial Foundation will provide assistance to individuals who:

- ✦ Possess an optimistic outlook, a zest for life, and an effervescent personality
- ✦ Leads and takes part in extra-curricular activities
- ✦ Takes part in co-curricular activities
- ✦ Shows kindness and compassion to others and helps without being asked
- ✦ Shows pride in being part of the Willowbrook community
- ✦ Must have a 3.0 grade point average or higher

LOMBARD KIWANIS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP: The Lombard Kiwanis Club Scholarship offers several scholarships to seniors who live in Lombard. The main criterion is active involvement in school and community activities.

LOMBARD LIONS (DR. RAYMOND JURGENSEN)

SCHOLARSHIP: The Lombard Lions Club will be awarding the \$1000 Dr. Raymond Jurgensen Scholarship to a college-bound Willowbrook senior who lives in Lombard. Preference will be given to those students going into Special Education or a "Helping" Career.

LOMBARD ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP: The Lombard Rotary Club will be awarding five scholarships (\$1000) and one scholarship (\$1500) to college-bound seniors who reside in Lombard. One will definitely be given to a Willowbrook senior. In addition, they will be awarding two scholarships two (\$500) to Lombard seniors pursuing a vocational/technical career. You must be a Lombard resident and be in the top 50% of the senior class. Financial need is a factor but not required. The applicant's parent must not be a member of Lombard Rotary.

ORV WILKEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: To be eligible, the student must have demonstrated the following characteristics believed to have embodied a true Willowbrook Warrior:

- ✦ Involvement in extra-curricular activities
- ✦ Consistently showing respect for their peers and adults
- ✦ Possessing an optimistic outlook on life

Mr. Wilkin coached and taught Physical Education for many years at Willowbrook High School and died suddenly in the fall of 2002.

VILLA PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SCHOLARSHIP:

The Villa Park Chamber of Commerce annually awards a \$500 scholarship to a Willowbrook senior. Any senior, who is going on to a vocational school, COD or a four-year college is eligible. You must be a Villa Park resident to apply.

VILLA PARK EDUCATION ASSOCIATION/PTA

SCHOLARSHIP: The Villa Park Education Association/PTA annually awards a \$1000 scholarship to a Willowbrook college-bound senior who is a graduate of Jackson Middle School or Jefferson Middle School. Preference will be given to those preparing for positions in the field of education. Applicants will be judged on financial need, academic ability and extra-curricular activities

VILLA PARK ROTARY DISTRICT 6440 SCHOLARSHIP:

Rotary District 6440 awards approximately eighteen scholarships (\$1500) to seniors who, upon graduation, will be going into a vocational area, which requires less than a four-year degree. Our local Villa Park Rotary can recommend two students for consideration. Two letters of recommendation are required.

WILLOWBROOK PARENT ORGANIZATION (WPO)

SCHOLARSHIP- The WPO is a group of parents and Willowbrook staff members committed to the success of the students at Willowbrook High School. This year the WPO will be providing several " of the well-rounded student. We will be considering candidates that show involvement in school and in community/leadership roles. The committee will award scholarships based on living the "Warrior Code" Be Respectful, Responsible and Engaged.

Free National Scholarship Search Sites

Naviance

connection.naviance.com/willowbrook

On the Naviance Family Connection homepage, there is a direct link with the FAFSA website. Under the "College" tab, there is a section titled "College Research." Click on the subtitle, "college resources" Here you will find a financial aid section, which will list several links to various website with financial aid topics. These topics include how to find a scholarship, getting a student loan, or how to create a financial aid profile.

Fastweb

<http://www.fastweb.com>

Recommended by over 15,500 high schools and 3,500 colleges, FastWeb is the nation's largest, most accurate, and most frequently updated scholarship database online.

- ✦ Free Scholarship Search
- ✦ Personalized Scholarship Matching
- ✦ Side-by-side College Comparison
- ✦ Financial Aid and Student Loan Tips
- ✦ Part-Time Jobs and Internships Search

College Board Scholarship Search

http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp

This online tool will help you locate scholarships, internships, grants, and loans that match your education level, talents, and background. Complete the brief questionnaire and Scholarship Search will find potential opportunities from their database of more than **2,300** sources of college funding, **totaling nearly \$3 BILLION** in available aid! College Board's database and printed handbook are broadly relevant—you won't find scholarships here that are intended for use at just one institution. And because of The College Board's role as the organization behind the SAT, AP exams, etc., they have rigorous standards for the scholarships they include in their database, including only those scholarships with a documented history from a well-established sponsor.

Wiredscholar

http://www.collegeanswer.com/paying/scholarship_search/pay_scholarship_search.jsp

Your search will provide access to an award database that contains more than **2.8 million scholarships worth over 16 billion dollars**, and is expanded and updated daily. Their search combines superior search technology with highly accurate scholarship information to provide students and parents with a customized list of scholarship leads.

Scholarship Resource Network Express

<http://72.3.140.137/index.cfm>

Scholarship Resource Network Express contains a database of over **8,000 programs** with a distribution level of over **150,000 awards** for undergraduate and postgraduate students worth a total of more than **\$35 million!**

Hispanic Scholarship Fund

www.hsf.net

As the nation's largest provider of college financial aid to Latino students, the Hispanic Scholarship Fund offers a diverse range of scholarship programs, including **Gates Millennium Scholars**. There are a number of general requirements that must be met to qualify for any scholarship awarded by or through Hispanic Scholarship Fund. Some specialized scholarships also have additional requirements.

General Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

In order to qualify for an HSF scholarship, each applicant must meet all of the following requirements:

- ✦ Have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale
- ✦ Be a U.S. citizen OR legal permanent resident with a valid permanent resident card or passport stamped I-551
- ✦ Be pursuing, or plan to pursue, your first undergraduate or graduate degree
- ✦ Plan to apply for federal financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- ✦ Plan to enroll full-time as an undergraduate or graduate student at a U.S. accredited institution in the U.S., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, or Guam in the upcoming academic year.

Additional Eligibility Requirements (for some scholarships):

Some additional restrictions or requirements may apply to specific scholarship programs administered by HSF. Please check carefully the program guidelines for each scholarship to which you plan to apply.

Questbridge

www.questbridge.org

QuestBridge enables talented students from low-income backgrounds to attend 35 of the best schools in the country. Through their programs, they support thousands of low-income students from their junior year of high school until their college graduation. Completely free.

What they offer:

- ✦ Full four-year scholarships with no loans covering tuition, housing, food, books, and travel
- ✦ Access to 35 of the top colleges in the country
- ✦ A completely free application designed to highlight the unique experiences of low-income students to maximize your chances for admission and financial aid results
- ✦ A network of talented students from similar backgrounds who will be your friends and mentors as you adjust to college life
- ✦ Quest for Excellence Awards including new laptop computers or funding for college visits

Resume/Brag Sheet & Letters of Recommendation

Resume/Brag Sheet

Students will need to create a Resume/Brag Sheet in order to obtain letters of recommendation and to use for some college & scholarship applications. In addition, a resume can be required for jobs, internships, apprenticeships, etc.

Students should start gathering all the information that they will need to complete their resume prior to senior year. This will help speed up the college application process as it will be required when requesting letters of recommendation. It is very important to complete your resume so that those writing your letter of recommendation can write a more individualized and comprehensive letter.

What should my resume include:

This is all the information that may not be listed on a student's transcript including:

- ✦ Clubs & Activities
- ✦ Sports
- ✦ Awards
- ✦ Honors Societies
- ✦ Volunteer Work
- ✦ Employment
- ✦ etc.

Letters of Recommendation

Many colleges will require or recommendation that students provide letters of recommendation.

"They are important to admissions officers because they provide contextual interpretation of your academic performance. Writers share critical insight into your work habits and learning style as well as your ability to respond to challenges and setbacks. They can help explain irregularities in your academic program and/or performance and shed light into key factors that define your learning environment."

Letter of Recommendation Tips:

1. Choose teachers who know what you can do: These are the teachers who push you and don't let you settle for "good enough"—the folks who are more likely to be invested in your long-term success. Contrary to popular belief, your most insightful supporter may not be the teacher regarded as the most popular. Generally speaking, at least one of your recommenders should be someone who is familiar with your critical thinking and communication skills.

2. Give your counselor and teachers the courtesy of time: Your recommenders need time to think about and prepare the letter so **DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!**

3. Talk with your recommenders about why college is important to you: Share your dreams and ambitions. Reflect on your strengths and weaknesses. If there are factors beyond your control that have influenced your ability to perform as you would have liked, make sure your recommenders are sufficiently informed so they can help you tell your "story." Give them the necessary information and insight so they can write well-balanced letters on your behalf.

4. Provide a Resume/Brag Sheet: While your teachers know you well from your work in their respective classrooms, they may not have the benefit of the big picture that defines you.

5. Provide a list of your application deadlines and the appropriate forms: When you ask someone to write on your behalf, you will be able to waive your right of access to that letter. Do it. Your recommenders need to be able to provide complete and balanced perspectives without having to worry about how you or your parents will react to what they have written.

(Usnew.com by Peter Van Buskirk)

RESUME BUILDER FEATURE IN NAVIANCE

Naviance has a feature that will allow you to input your information (work, clubs, activities, etc) and it will create the resume for you.

1. Log in to your Naviance Account
2. Click the "About Me" tab
3. Click the "Resume" link
4. Enter all relevant information: clubs, sports, activities, awards, jobs, volunteer work, etc.
5. Once all of your information is entered, Click "Customize your printable resume"
6. Click "Create a New Print Format" and select what you want to include. This page will also allow you to switch around the order on your resume.
7. Click "Continue and save"
8. To view, click on your saved format

College Essay

3 Steps to a Great College Essay

You, in 500 Words or Less

The college application essay is a chance to open your personality, charm, talents, vision, and spirit to the admissions committee. It's a chance to show you can think deeply and write clearly about your thoughts.

Step 1 : Prewriting

To begin, you must first collect and organize potential ideas for your essay's focus. Since all essay questions are attempts to learn about you, begin with yourself.

- ✦ **Brainstorm:** Make a list of your strengths and outstanding characteristics. Focus on strengths of personality, not things you've done. For example, you are responsible (not an "Eagle Scout") or committed (not "played basketball").
- ✦ **Create a Self-Outline:** Now, next to each trait, list five or six pieces of evidence from your life—things you've been or done—that prove your point.
- ✦ **Find Patterns and Connections** in material you've brainstormed: Group similar ideas and events together.

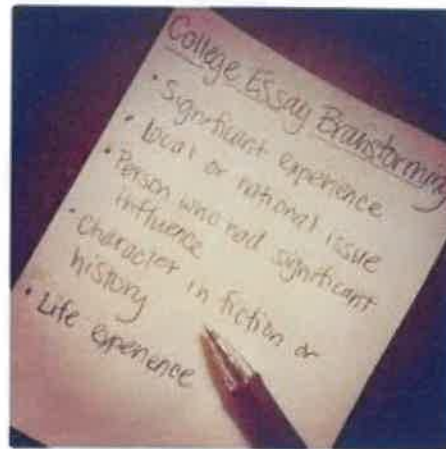
Step 2 : Drafting

- ✦ The introduction gives your reader an idea of your essay's content.
- ✦ The body presents evidence supporting your main idea. Use narration and incident to substantiate.
- ✦ A conclusion includes a few lines to nail down the meaning of the events and incidents you've described.

Step 3 : Editing

When you have a good draft, it's time to make final improvements to your draft, find and correct any errors, and get someone else to give you feedback.

- ✦ **Let It Cool** by taking a break from your work and come back to it in a few days. Does your main idea come across clearly?
- ✦ **Feedback Time** -Have someone you like and is truthful read your essay. Ask them to tell you what they think you're trying to convey. Did they get it right?
- ✦ **Edit Down** Your language should be simple, direct, and clear.



DO's and DON'T'S

Do's

- ✦ Have a single point or thesis. The reader must be able to easily identify your main idea and follow it from beginning to end.
- ✦ Don't try to be too comprehensive. Make your essay thoughtful and concise (to the point).
- ✦ Develop your main idea with vivid and specific facts, events, quotations, examples, and reasons. There's a big difference between simply stating a point of view and letting an idea unfold in the details.
- ✦ Avoid clichéd, generic, and predictable writing by using vivid and specific details.

Don'ts

- ✦ Don't tell them what you think they want to hear
- ✦ Don't write a resume
- ✦ Brevity: don't Use 50 words when five will do
- ✦ Don't forget to proofread

Article: The College Application Essay, by Sarah Myers McGinty. Source: collegeboard.com

MILITARY

Enlistment in one of the branches of the Armed Forces--the Army, Navy, Air Force, National Guard and Coast Guard--are options to be considered by all students. The information and activities which follow will help you decide if you will want to seriously consider the military.



Enlistment Options

A variety of enlistment options, each involving different combinations of active and reserve duty are available. Most active duty programs range from 3 to 6 years, with 3 and 4-year enlistments the most common.

Selection depends on the individual's general and technical aptitudes, personal preference, and the needs of the service.

Delayed Entry Program: High school students who decide they definitely wish to enlist into a branch of the military should investigate the advantages of enlistment up to one year before reporting for duty.

Military Academies:

U.S. Air Force Academy
Coast Guard Academy
Naval Academy at Annapolis
Army Academy West Point

Federal Service Academies provide a 4-year college program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree. Free room and board, tuition, medical care, and a monthly allowance are provided. Graduates receive regular commissions and have a 5-year active duty obligation.

Applications to the Service Academies should start at the end of the junior year. Admission is very competitive and based on a strong high school academic record, leadership activities, college entrance exams, and recommendations from teachers or school officials. The first step is to request a nomination to an Academy from your representative or senator.

ROTC: The Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) trains students in about 500 Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force units at participating colleges and universities. Trainees take 2 and 5 hours of military instruction a week in addition to regular college courses.

Students in the last 2 years of an ROTC program and all those on ROTC scholarships receive a monthly allowance while attending school and additional pay for summer training. After graduation they serve as officers on active duty for a stipulated period of time.

College graduates can earn a commission in the Armed Forces through Officer Candidate School Programs in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and National Guard.

ROTC Scholarships:

The scholarship pays for college tuition, textbooks, fees and other academic expenses. Students also receive a tax free subsistence allowance of up to \$1000 each school year. The scholarships apply to any university which has an ROTC program. Competition for these scholarships is very high. Ninety percent of the recipients rank in the top 25% of their class and have high ACT or SAT scores. Leadership potential (extracurricular activities) is also an important factor. Application procedures should start at the end of the junior year or early in senior year.

General Enlistment Qualifications:

Although specific enlistment requirements for each service or enlistment option within a particular service may vary, all branches have certain general qualifications. Enlistees may be either single or married, but they must be between the ages of 17 and 35. All branches prefer high school graduation or its equivalent and require it for certain enlistment options. Both a written examination (Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery) and a physical examination are required.

Military Life and Working Conditions:

Military life is more disciplined and regimented than civilian life. There are uniforms and grooming requirements. Certain military formalities, such as saluting superior officers, and special military laws must be followed.

Hours and working conditions vary substantially in the wide range of jobs found in military service. Most military personnel usually work 8 hour days, 5 or 5 1/2 days a week. Some assignments, however, require night and weekend work, or require persons to be on call at all hours. Some jobs are dangerous, but persons with such assignments normally receive additional compensation.

ASVAB— Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery

The ASVAB is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. It is administered annually to more than one million military applicants, high school, and post-secondary students.

Military Continued

Earnings and Allowances: In addition to basic pay, military personnel receive free room and board (or living allowance), medical and dental care, a military clothing allowance, military supermarket and department store shopping privileges, recreational facilities, 30 days of paid vacation a year, and travel opportunities.

The pay grades and scales for enlisted personnel and commissioned officers can be obtained from a military recruiter.



Other benefits include:

- ✦ **Veteran's benefits:** The Veteran's Administration (VA) provides numerous benefits to those who have served in the Armed Forces. Veterans are given care in a VA hospital for service-connected disabilities; those with other medical problems can be given care if they are unable to pay the cost of hospitalization elsewhere. Veterans are eligible for certain loans including home loans.
- ✦ **Retirement:** Military personnel are eligible for retirement benefits after 20 years of service.
- ✦ **Educational benefits:** In addition to on-duty training, military personnel may choose from a variety of education programs. Most military installations have a tuition assistance program for personnel who wish to take courses during off-duty hours.

Veterans who participated in the Veterans' Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) may receive educational benefits. Under this program, Armed Forces personnel may elect to save up to \$100 a month for a maximum of \$2700 towards their future education. The Government will put in \$2 for every \$1 contributed by the service member to a maximum of \$5400. With additional bonuses an enlistee may have up to \$15,200 (after 2 years) for use in future educational plans. Upon separation from active duty the fund can be used to finance education at any VA approved institution. VA approved schools include vocational, correspondence, business, technical, flight training schools, community and junior colleges and universities. The U.S. Military provides training and work experience in a variety of military careers. Members of the Armed Forces work in almost all occupations that are available to civilians in addition to occupations that are specific to the mili-

tary. Service men and women serve on active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, or in the Reserve components of these branches, and the Air National Guard and Army National Guard. (The Coast Guard, which is included in this profile, is part of the Department of Homeland Security.)

Duties: The military distinguishes between enlisted and officer careers. Enlisted personnel make up about 83 percent of the Armed Forces and carry out the fundamental operations of the military. Officers make up the remaining 17 percent and are leaders of the military, supervising and managing activities in every occupational specialty in the military.

Enlisted personnel typically do the following:

- Participate in combat operations
- Operate, maintain, and repair equipment
- Serve as technicians and specialists in a variety of fields
- Serve as front-line supervisors of junior enlisted personnel

Officers typically do the following:

- Lead troops in ground combat operations
- Serve as supervisors and managers of enlisted personnel
- Operate and control aircraft, ships, or armored vehicles
- Serve as professionals for the military in medical, legal, engineering, and other fields

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition, Military Careers, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/military/military-careers.htm> (visited October 26, 2012).

Occupations in the Military: The range of occupations in the Armed Forces is almost as wide as in civilian life. Jobs include clerical and administrative work, skilled construction trades, electrical and electronic occupations, auto repair, and hundreds of other specialties requiring varied amounts of education and training. Each year the Armed Forces gives hundreds of thousands of men and women basic and advanced training that can be used in both military and civilian careers.

Although many people make the Armed Forces a career, some plan to use the skills and training obtained in the military for civilian jobs. A discussion of the relation of each military job category to civilian occupations can be found in the Occupational Outlook Handbook and the Military File.



Apprenticeship Information

How to Become an Apprentice

What is an Apprentice?

An apprentice is a paid worker who is enrolled in a special training program administered by an employer in partnership with a labor organization or trade association. Most apprentices work in trades related to construction.



An apprenticeship is the best route to a career in a skilled trade. Such careers offer excellent wages and benefits. They also provide a sense of accomplishment, as the results of your work are there for all to see.

Many job opportunities – During the next 10 years, the number of construction-related jobs in Illinois is expected to grow at a healthy pace. The greatest growth is projected to be in the specialty trades industry for occupations such as electricians, painters and plumbers.

Time spent in training – Most apprenticeships take three to five years to complete. A typical program includes 2,000 hours of on-the-job training, and a minimum of 144 hours per year of related classroom instruction.

Wages paid to apprentices – Wages vary widely by trade, with beginning apprentices typically earning from 30 to 70 percent of the journey worker's wage for the given trade. Pay is gradually increased over the length of the apprenticeship until training is completed, and the apprentice graduates to full journey worker status.

Apprenticeship qualifications vary by trade, but most require:

- A high school diploma or General Equivalency Diploma (GED)
- Your own transportation
- Ability to work with your hands



Many trades also require:

- Above-average math skills
- Completion of courses such as chemistry, drafting, industrial arts, English, algebra and geometry
- Ability to work at elevated heights

Trades Offering Apprenticeships

Boilermaker: Works with boilers and vats
Bricklayer: Builds with brick, cinder block or concrete block

Cabinetmaker: Builds cabinets and furniture using woodworking machines and tools

Carpenter: Works at a variety of building tasks using hand and power tools

Cement Mason: Lays and finishes concrete using hand and power tools

Construction Driver: Hauls and unloads material and equipment to and from construction job sites.

Drywall Finisher: Prepares drywall surfaces for painting and papering

Electrician: Installs and maintains electrical wiring and apparatus

Floor Coverer (Resilient): Installs hardwood flooring, soft tile, linoleum, and carpeting

Glazier: Works with all types of glass and glass substitutes

Insulator: Installs insulation to protect against heat and cold

Millwright: Installs escalators and other conveyor systems, generators and electrical turbines

Operating Engineer: Operates heavy equipment like bulldozers, power shovels, graders and derricks

Ornamental Ironworker: Installs decorative ironwork

Painter/Decorator: Applies paint and paper to outdoor and indoor walls

Patternmaker: Makes metal foundry patterns, core boxes and match plates

Pipefitter: Installs and repairs low- and high-pressure pipe systems

Plasterer: Applies plaster to interior walls and ceilings

Plumber: Installs and maintains pipe and water systems

Precision Metalworker: Designs and makes special tools for mass production

Roofer: Installs and repairs a variety of roof surfaces

Sheet Metalworker: Works with sheet metal products such as ventilation units

Sprinkler Fitter: Installs fire-protection systems

Structural Ironworker: Assembles, installs and maintains iron and sheet structures

Terrazzo/Tile Layer: Installs terrazzo and tile to floors, walls and ceilings

Tuckpointer: Erects scaffolding, shoring and braces, and seals outside surfaces

Most apprenticeship programs require the following documents:

- Your high school diploma or GED certificate
- The names and addresses of the high schools or vocational schools you attended
- A copy of your birth certificate
- The names, addresses and telephone numbers of two or three persons who have agreed to serve as personal references
- If you are a veteran, your Certificate of Release or Discharge from active duty (Form DD-214)

Your local AIC Representative can provide a list of each program's documentation and requirements.



Where to apply
LOMBARD OFFICE
837 S. Westmore Ave.
(630) 495-4345

Equal Opportunity Employment

Apprenticeships provide equal employment opportunity. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. To be selected, you must meet the qualifications of the particular trade or program to which you are applying.

IDES is an equal opportunity employer and complies with all state and federal nondiscrimination laws in the administration of its programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Contact the office manager of the IDES office nearest you or the IDES Equal Opportunity Officer at (312) 793-9290 or TTY: (888) 340-1007.

Modified From: <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/Custom/Library/publications/Brochures/apprenticeshipInformation.pdf>

Additional Apprenticeship Information

How long does an apprenticeship last?

Depending on the trade, an apprenticeship lasts from one to six years. A Certificate of Completion of Apprenticeship is issued when the apprentice completes the training.

Apprentices train in every major industry. Some additional resources are included below:

U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training

211 South Court Street Room 150
Rockford, IL 61101
(815) 987-4253

Apprenticeship Local 150 Operating Engineers

19800 West Arsenal Road
Wilmington, IL 60481-8256
Phone: 815-722-3201
Fax: 815-423-5749
<http://www.asiplocal150.org>

Bridge, Structural & Reinforcing Iron Workers Local Union No. 1

7740 Industrial Drive
Forest Park, IL 60130
Phone: 708-366-8181
Fax: 708-366-4827
<http://www.iwlocal1.com>

Chicago and Northeast Illinois District Council of Carpenters

12 E. Erie
Chicago, IL 60611
Phone: 312-787-3076
Fax: 312-787-4913
<http://www.unioncarpenters.org/>

Chicago Area Painting & Decorating Joint Apprenticeship and Training

1101 N. Taft Ave.
Berkeley, IL 60163
Phone: 708-449-5285
<http://www.jatc-dftc.org/>

Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters

1091 Davis Road
Elgin, IL 60123
847-931-1840
<http://www.carpentersunion.org/>

Chicago Roofers Joint Apprenticeship & Training Program

7045 Joliet Road
Indian Head Park, Illinois 60525
Phone: 708-246-4488
Fax: 708-246-5908
<http://www.chicagoroofters.com/>

Communications Joint Apprenticeship & TRNG Trust

***Education center for IBEW Local Union 134**
6201 W. 115th Street
Alsip, IL 60803
Phone: 708-371-0609
www.ejatt.com

Great Lakes Area Boiler-Makers Apprenticeship Program

5666 West 95th Street
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-636-6656
bnap.com

IBEW Local Union 134 600 West Washington Boulevard

Chicago, IL 60661
Phone: 312-454-1340
Fax: 312-454-1528
<http://www.ibew.org/>

Sprinkler Fitters Local Union 281 Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee

11900 South Laramie Ave
Alsip, IL 60803
Phone: 708-597-1800
Fax: 708-597-1894
<http://www.sprinklerfitterchicago.org/>

Websites

College Information

Naviance

<http://connection.naviance.com/willowbrook>

College confidential

www.collegeconfidential.com

Colleges That Change Lives

www.ctcl.com

Common Application

www.commonapp.org

Historically Black Colleges

www.blackhighereducation.com

IACAC Higher Education Station

www.iacac.org

NCAA

www.ncaa.org

Peterson's Guide

www.petersons.com

Princeton Review

www.princetonreview.com

U.S. Department of Education

www.ed.gov/pubs

U.S. News & World Report

www.usnews.com

Campus Tours - Virtual Tours

www.campustours.com

Testing

ACT

www.actstudent.org

College Board (AP, SAT, SAT Subject Test, CLEP)

www.collegeboard.org

National Center for Fair & Open Testing

Fairtest.org

-Lists schools that do NOT require test scores for admission

Financial Aid and Scholarships

CSS Profile

www.collegeboard.com

Federal Student Aid FAFSA

www.fafsa.ed.gov

Student Loans

www.estudentloan.com

The Financial Aid Information Page

www.finaid.org

College Countdown

www.collegecountdown.com/promotions/managing-college-cost-welcome.html

See Scholarship Section for List of Scholarship Websites

Career Resources & Interest Surveys

Naviance

<http://connection.naviance.com/willowbrook>

Information on Technical Schools

www.technicalschools.org

Occupational Outlook Handbook

www.bls.gov/oco/home.htm

Military

ASVAB

www.asvabprogram.com

Air Force

www.airforce.com

Army

www.army.mil

Coast Guard

www.uscg.mil

Marines

www.usmc.mil

Navy

www.navy.mil