



Welcome to Senior Year

**It is time to continue  
preparing for the next step!**



# Senior College Planning Checklist

## Fall

- Take standardized tests (if applicable) (Re-)take the SAT/ACT, SAT. Or consider test-optional colleges.
- Apply early (or to UW-System) UW-System deadline for early action is November 1 (Decision by January 31)

## Winter

- Decide where you are going to attend in the fall
- Pay Enrollment Deposit if required
- Complete Housing Application
- Register and take placement test if needed
- Complete all your financial aid forms. Fill out the FAFSA and your home state's financial aid form (if there is one). Some colleges also require the CSS Profile or a college specific form. Most funds are first-come, first-served, so apply early. Don't forget about external scholarships!

# Senior College Planning Checklist

## Spring

- Hear back and decide on your college Get your regular-decision admissions decisions-and decide which colleges you'll attend.
- Request transcripts (UW Oshkosh for CAPP) and AP scores to be transferred to your college, so that you obtain credit.
- Complete Local Scholarship Application
- Register and take placement tests if needed
- Finalize financial aid and/or except the financial package from the college

## Summer

- June-Request Final Transcript from parchment.
- July-AP Scores become available. Follow up with College Board to ensure they have been sent to your school of choice.



## UW System Application

**UW Schools use the UW System Application**

<https://apply.wisconsin.edu/>

Since most institutions have application priority dates or deadlines after which applications may no longer be considered, it is generally to your advantage to apply as early as possible.

## Common Application

<https://www.commonapp.org>

**Private Schools in Wisconsin who use the Common Application**

[Beloit College](#) [Carroll University Supplement](#) [Lawrence University Supplement](#)  
[Marquette University Supplement](#) [Northland College](#) [Ripon College](#) [St. Norbert College](#)

# Resources to Help with Application Questions

- [UW Help](#)
- [Wisconsin Private Colleges](#)
- [Education Planner](#)



# LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

\*Letters written by community members, teachers, employers for scholarships and college applications

\*You should ask someone you have a relationship with

\*Provide them enough time and information to write a well-rounded and detailed letter

\*Letter of recommendation form will be required when you are asking a school staff member to write one.

\*Click here for [Letter of Recommendation Request Form](#)

# Writing Essays

- Some colleges will require to you to write an essay. Please see link below for ideas on how to construct an essay that best fits you!
- [COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING TIPS](#)
- [UW HELP-PREPARING YOUR ESSAY](#)

# HOW TO REQUEST A TRANSCRIPT

<https://www.parchment.com/>

- Go to the parchment website.
- Go to the “student” section and click on “register at parchment.com”
- Create a username and an account.
- You will need to have an email account to validate your information. Do NOT use your school email.



# HOW TO REQUEST YOUR ACT RESULTS

- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
- Go to ACT website
- Click on Send Test Scores
- Follow Directions
- Some universities still accept informal copies, however the majority want official copies of your scores.
- The UW System has stated that they are not requiring the ACT for admission purposes. There are options in the application to send your score if you feel it serves as a strength of yours. Some of the UW schools may want to access your results for scholarship and direct admit purposes. ***You will need to check with each institution to verify what their process is.***

# Upcoming College Fairs

**Wisconsin Education Fairs provide easy access to information about postsecondary options on a timely basis for all Wisconsin citizens, regardless of geographic location.**

**Please refer to website for registration directions.  
This WEF is free and open to the public.**

**<https://www.wefs.org/fair-schedule/>**

# SCHOLARSHIPS

- *Local Scholarship Information* for Freedom High School Seniors will be available during third quarter of this academic year.
- Scholarships for UW Colleges are also available. You will need to check on the school's website.
- [Freedom High School Scholarship Page](#)
- [UW System Information](#)
- [Wisconsin Private College Scholarship Information](#)
- [Wisconsin Technical College Information Page](#)
- Additional Scholarships May Be Available Through: Parents' Places of Employment, Veterans in Family, Insurance Carriers, Your Banks & Credit Unions, Various Associations, etc.

# FINANCIAL AID

## Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Offered later than in years past (December of this year)
- Grants and Loans based on Financial Need
- [Break down of steps and timeline](#)
- Will need family tax information and paperwork (i.e. W2's)
- How to fill out the [FAFSA FORM](#)
- [Understanding the Financial Aid Process \(Ripon College Video\)](#)
- [Student Aid Estimator](#)
- [Bucky's Pell Pathway and Bucky's Tuition Promise \(UW Madison\)](#)

# FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

[College Goal Wisconsin](#) is a national event that provides free information and assistance to families who are filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid.)

These events are held throughout various locations around the state. Some are virtual and some are in person. **FAFSA completion events will be held in January 2024 and dates will be published in early October**

Click on the link below for more information and to register:

**[COLLEGE GOAL LINK](#)**

# Complete Credit Check

Seniors should refer to their high school transcript to complete a credit check

- **Classes taken this year**
- **Updated GPA**
- **ACT Score**
- **Class Rank**
- **Credits Completed / Senior Credits**
- **Academic Credits / Senior Academic Credits**
- **Total Credits / Total Academic Credits**
- **AP Classes taken / scheduled**
- **CAPP Classes taken/scheduled**
- **“Start College Now” or “Early College Credit” Classes taken / scheduled**

# Checklist for Transcript Review

- Anything missing?
- Are there any incorrect grades or incompletes?
- Will graduation requirements be met? Check the graduation requirements for (Counselors check but backup is good.)
- Check College expectations
- Do you have a minimum of 17 academic credits?
- Maintaining good grades through senior year is a four year college expectation.
- Check with colleges before dropping a class.



# WORDS OF WISDOM

Learn to **ADVOCATE** for yourself

Advocate: (verb) to *push* for something.

Push by:

Attending informational meetings sponsored by your guidance office

Searching on-line for career and college information

Asking questions when taking campus tours or speaking with a college representative

Attaining letters of recommendation in a timely manner.

Provide the people who will be writing your letters with plenty of notice





# What NOT TO Do

## Do Not:

Wait until the last minute to apply for colleges/technical colleges

Ask for letter of reference at the last minute

**MAKE YOUR MOM DO ALL OF THIS FOR YOU!**



**BEST OF LUCK WITH THE APPLICATION  
PROCESS!**

**Please don't hesitate to stop in and see us with any  
questions! We are here to help you!**

**Mr. Harke & Mrs. Vander Loop**

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**(920) 788-7940 ext. 306**

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**You can also refer to our website for help with :  
questions~forms~updates ~information~helpful links**

**[FHS SCHOOL COUNSELING LINK](#)**