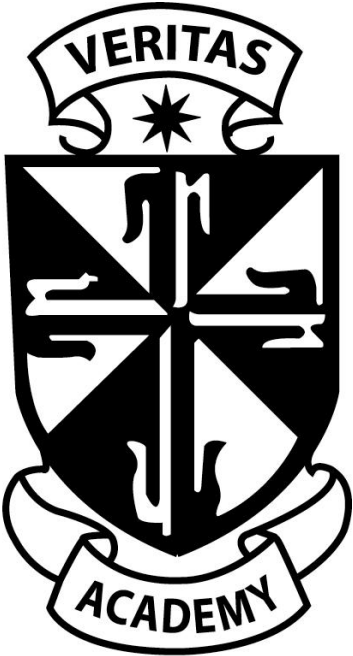


SHA Academic Advising Guide

2011-2012



SHA Academic Advising Guide

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COMING SOON:

STRATEGIES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STRUGGLING STUDENTS AND ADVANCED STUDENTS TO MEET THEIR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS...THIS WILL BE POSTED ON EDLINE WHEN COMPLETE.

**This guide is adapted from the *Planning for High School and Beyond: A Family Resource Guide* of the Whatcom County Public School District

SHA Courses and Graduation Requirements

All students must complete at least 100 hours of community services (grades 7-12) by graduation.

The following is a list of all courses offered at SHA in grades 9-12. All courses that are REQUIRED for graduation are in bold print.

LANGUAGE ARTS

English 9
English 10
English 11
English 12
Yearbook
Explorations in LA
Creative Writing

SOCIAL STUDIES

US History
Government
Economics
World History
Global Issues

SCIENCE

Physical Science
Biology
Chemistry**
Physics**
Anatomy & Physiology
Advanced Chemistry
Advanced Study in Science

RELIGION

Philosophies of God
Western Civilization
Religious Traditions
Hebrew Scriptures
Ethics
Death & Dying
Gospel Studies

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I
Geometry
Algebra II
Precalculus**
Financial Algebra**
Calculus**

FINE ARTS

Beginning Art**
Art in 2D**
Art in 3D**
Advanced Art**
Symphony Band**
Beginning Choir**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I**
Spanish II**
Spanish III
Spanish IV

TECHNOLOGY

Business Services**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education
Health
Strength Training

**Chemistry OR Physics is required plus one other science course

**Two years of foreign language is required for the Class of 2016 and beyond

**One year of math is required during the senior year

**One fine art credit is required

**20 hours of an online experience is required, which business services provides

Courses are available at the Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Center in vocational areas for 11th and 12th graders. Some of these courses qualify as a graduation requirements. Go to www.mpatc.com for a list of course offerings.

Advanced Placement (AP) and dual enrollment is available for any 9th-12th grader; however, the cost must be paid by the family. See Mrs. Thaler for options.

Grades 7 and 8

| | Student Responsibilities | Parent Support |
|--|--|--|
| Assessments | <p>MEAP: October 7th grade: Reading, Writing, Math 8th grade: Reading, Math, Science</p> <p>EXPLORE: November 8th grade only Identifies career potential and college readiness.</p> | <p>Ensure a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast.</p> <p>Discuss the importance of demonstrating your knowledge.</p> <p>Review MEAP and EXPLORE results in the spring.</p> |
| Academic Advising | <p>Goal setting for all 7th and 8th graders.</p> <p>Go over EXPLORE results in the spring and determine path to college readiness.</p> | <p>Help your child make reasonable and achievable goals.</p> |
| Educational Development Plan | <p>Create one in 7th grade with the help of Mrs. Thaler and a career development website.</p> <p>Modify your EDP in 8th grade. Use it to plan out future schedule.</p> | <p>Ask your child about their interests.</p> <p>Discuss scheduling classes in the spring, especially for 8th graders.</p> |
| Family Communication and Tips for Success | <p>Use a planner to keep track of assignments and assessments.</p> <p>Keep your locker neat.</p> <p>Use your Edline account to keep up with your grades.</p> | <p>Check to make sure your child is using the planner.</p> <p>Have a designated time and/or place for your child to do homework.</p> <p>Attend parent/teacher conferences.</p> <p>Check your Edline account to keep up with your child's grades.</p> |

Mrs. Thaler has a few tools that can be used if you need to motivate your student or keep them on track. Make an appointment with her to talk about these options.

1. Weekly report card: A method where teachers will give you a daily indication if behaviors or issues occur.
2. Academic contract: Used to help motivate your child in a particular area or subject.

Grade 9

| | Student Responsibilities | Parent Support |
|--|--|--|
| Assessments | <p>MEAP: October Only Social Studies test</p> <p>PSAT: October \$15 Practice for National Merit Scholarship, must sign up for it with Mrs. Thaler (Not many 9th graders have taken it in the past but we would like to increase this number.)</p> | <p>Ensure a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast.</p> <p>Discuss the importance of demonstrating your knowledge.</p> <p>Review MEAP and PSAT results in the spring.</p> <p>Support taking the PSAT</p> |
| Academic Advising | <p>Goal setting for all 9th graders.</p> <p>Discussion of GPA and transcripts.</p> | <p>Help your child make reasonable and achievable goals.</p> <p>Contact Mrs. Thaler with questions or concerns.</p> |
| Educational Development Plan | <p>Update EDP, as necessary.</p> <p>Continue to use career cruising website to do career and college exploration.</p> | <p>Review your child's schedule for next year; encourage challenging classes</p> |
| Family Communication and Tips for Success | <p>Join an academic team.</p> <p>Use a planner to keep track of assignments and assessments.</p> <p>Keep your locker neat.</p> <p>Use your Edline account to keep up with your grades.</p> <p>Make sure to keep pace with your recommended hours of community service.</p> | <p>Support involvement in academic teams.</p> <p>Check to make sure your child is using the planner.</p> <p>Have a designated time and/or place for your child to do homework.</p> <p>Attend parent/teacher conferences.</p> <p>Check your Edline account to keep up with your child's grades.</p> |

TIP: It's never too early to go visit colleges. If you are going on a summer trip to Ohio, for instance, research a few colleges that are one the way and drive through their campus. Go see what is out there!

Grade 10

| | Student Responsibilities | Parent Support |
|--|--|--|
| Assessments | <p>PLAN: November Tests college readiness</p> <p>PSAT: October \$15 Practice for National Merit Scholarship, must sign up for it with Mrs. Thaler</p> <p>Start preparing for ACT</p> | <p>Ensure a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast.</p> <p>Discuss the importance of demonstrating your knowledge.</p> <p>Support taking the PSAT.</p> <p>Help your child purchase an ACT prep book or attend an ACT prep class.</p> |
| Academic Advising | <p>Will go over PLAN and PSAT results in the spring and identify weaknesses to improve upon</p> <p>Discuss merit-based scholarships</p> <p>Leadership conferences—HOBY and MyLEAD are available</p> <p>Sign up to visit with college representatives</p> | <p>Review testing results with your child.</p> <p>Contact Mrs. Thaler with questions or concerns.</p> |
| Educational Development Plan | <p>Review and update your EDP</p> <p>Take challenging classes</p> <p>Investigate dual enrollment or AP possibilities</p> <p>Investigate taking classes at the tech center (MPATC)</p> | <p>Review your child's schedule for next year and encourage challenging classes</p> <p>Discuss the pros and cons of taking tech classes, AP or dual enrollment classes.</p> |
| Family Communication and Tips for Success | <p>Visit some colleges. It's never too early.</p> <p>Continue to keep pace with your community service hours.</p> <p>Join or continue to participate on academic teams.</p> | <p>Support involvement in academic teams.</p> <p>Discuss the financial aspect of college. Be sure your child knows what you intend to be your responsibility and their responsibility in paying for school.</p> |

Grade 11

| | Student Responsibilities | Parent Support |
|--|---|--|
| Assessments | PSAT – mid-October \$15 Qualifies for National Merit Scholarship ACT – early March Required for college applications MME—early March Tests Michigan Merit Curriculum WorkKeys—early March Job skills assessment | Ensure a good night’s sleep and a healthy breakfast. Support preparation for the ACT well in advance of March. Students should be preparing little-by-little all year. Support retaking of the ACT, if needed. |
| Educational Development Plan | Review your EDP to ensure your 12 th grade year is on track for college-readiness. | Encourage challenging classes their senior year—colleges will check! |
| Career and College Exploration | Attend college fair at CMU (usually in September) Sign up to meet with college representatives Visit colleges in summer between 11 th and 12 th grade Research merit based scholarships | Attend the college fair with your child. Help your child come up with important questions to ask the college representatives. Take your child to campuses to visit; discuss aspects they like and dislike about each. Attend College Information Night |
| Family Communication and Tips for Success | Keep working on your community service hours! Create a resume of high school activities and achievements | Help child to create a resume |

STUDENT ATHLETES

Opportunities to participate in athletics are available at community colleges as well as at 4-year colleges. If a student is interested in participating in athletics at a Division I or Division II level, they must register with the NCAA. The NCAA clearinghouse serves to verify that a potential student athlete is eligible to compete at the collegiate level. These qualifications are separate from those academic requirements necessary for high school graduation or for admission to the college/university. Students must complete the NCAA Initial Eligibility form online at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. Further information is available at www.ncaa.org. Students should register with the clearinghouse their junior year of high school. Students must earn 16 core credits to be eligible for Division I, not all SHA courses count as core credits. See the SHA handbook for a listing of all classes that count as core credits.

Grade 12

| | Student Responsibilities | Parent Support |
|--|---|--|
| Assessments | Retake ACT or take the SAT, as needed | Encourage retaking the test, if necessary |
| College Exploration and Application | <p>Set up a folder that contains all your application materials</p> <p>Revise resume, if needed</p> <p>Visit colleges, if you have not done so already</p> <p>Ask for 2-3 letters of recommendation: Sept</p> <p>Request transcripts from Mrs. Thaler; request counselor form to be filled out by Mrs. Thaler when applications are sent</p> <p>Early action deadline: Around November 1st</p> <p>General action deadline: Depends on the school, try to get applications in no later than Thanksgiving</p> | <p>Remind your child of deadlines</p> <p>Help proofread applications, essays</p> <p>Attend College Information Night</p> <p>Discuss application fees and how many you will pay for (some are free if submitted online)</p> |
| Scholarships | <p>Local scholarships—Jan/Feb</p> <p>Merit scholarships—check with school</p> <p>Research state, national and online options</p> | Proofread your child’s scholarship applications. |
| Financial Aid | Submit FAFSA after January 1 | Collect previous year’s tax returns to help with financial questions |

TIP: This is a stressful year for parents and students. Stress can be alleviated by planning ahead and working together with the student, the parents and Mrs. Thaler. If you have questions, please feel free to make an appointment or call Mrs. Thaler to discuss your options.

Taking the ACT or SAT

For entrance into a 4-year college or university, students must take either the ACT or SAT during their junior or senior year. Colleges will take either score; however, some out-of state colleges will require an SAT score. Contact the college or university or Mrs. Thaler to determine which test is right for you.

SAT

ACT

| <p>What's the test like?</p> | <p>Critical reading section: formerly known as the verbal section, this includes both short and long reading passages. Analogies have been eliminated, but sentence-completion and passage-based reading questions remain.</p> <p>Math: two 25-minute sections and 1 20-minute section. Problems include number operations, algebra and functions, geometry, statistics, probability and data analysis.</p> <p>Writing: 35-minute multiple choice section and a 25-minute student written essay.</p> <p>Subject area tests may be required by some schools.</p> <p>Scoring: Math 200-800, critical reading (200-800), writing (200-800). There are penalties for wrong answers.</p> | <p>English: 75 questions in 45 minutes – measures standard English and rhetorical skills.</p> <p>Math: 60 questions in 60 minutes – calculator use permitted. Measures math skills through trigonometry.</p> <p>Reading: 40 questions in 35 minutes – measures reading comprehension.</p> <p>Science: 40 questions in 35 minutes – measures the interpretation, analysis, evaluation, reasoning and problem solving skills necessary in science.</p> <p>Writing: 1 prompt with 30 minutes of writing time.</p> <p>Scoring: 1-36</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|--|------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| <p>How do I prepare?</p> | <p>Practice materials available: www.collegeboard.com www.testprephelp.com www.kaplan.com SAT preparation books</p> | <p>Practice materials available : www.actstudent.org www.testprephelp.com www.kaplan.com ACT preparation books Summer ACT prep class at SHA</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>When is it offered?</p> | <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Test Date</u></th> <th><u>Registration Deadline</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Nov. 5, 2011</td> <td>October 7, 2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec. 3, 2011</td> <td>November 8, 2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jan. 28, 2012</td> <td>December 30, 2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td>March 10, 2012</td> <td>February 10, 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 5, 2012</td> <td>April 6, 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>June 2, 2012</td> <td>May 8, 2012</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | <u>Test Date</u> | <u>Registration Deadline</u> | Nov. 5, 2011 | October 7, 2011 | Dec. 3, 2011 | November 8, 2011 | Jan. 28, 2012 | December 30, 2011 | March 10, 2012 | February 10, 2012 | May 5, 2012 | April 6, 2012 | June 2, 2012 | May 8, 2012 | <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Test Date</u></th> <th><u>Registration Deadline</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sept. 10, 2011</td> <td>August 12, 2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oct. 22, 2011</td> <td>September 16, 2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec. 10, 2011</td> <td>November 4, 2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 11, 2012</td> <td>January 13, 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>April 14, 2012</td> <td>March 9, 2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>June 9, 2012</td> <td>May 4, 2012</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | <u>Test Date</u> | <u>Registration Deadline</u> | Sept. 10, 2011 | August 12, 2011 | Oct. 22, 2011 | September 16, 2011 | Dec. 10, 2011 | November 4, 2011 | Feb. 11, 2012 | January 13, 2012 | April 14, 2012 | March 9, 2012 | June 9, 2012 | May 4, 2012 |
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| March 10, 2012 | February 10, 2012 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| May 5, 2012 | April 6, 2012 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| June 2, 2012 | May 8, 2012 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| April 14, 2012 | March 9, 2012 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| June 9, 2012 | May 4, 2012 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>How do I register?</p> | <p>Online at www.collegeboard.com</p> | <p>Online at www.act.org</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Cost</p> | <p>Reasoning test—Approximately \$50 SAT subject tests –Approximately \$25</p> | <p>Cost is free their junior year if they take it at school. Taken outside of school--approximately \$40</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Where do I take the test?</p> | <p>Students select the test site when they register. CMU is a possible test site.</p> | <p>At school in March of junior year. If retakes are necessary, students select the test site when they register. CMU is a possible test site.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>How does my school know my score?</p> | <p>You should request that your scores are sent to school when you register. SHA SCHOOL CODE: 232690</p> | <p>Scores will automatically come their junior year. If a retake is necessary, you should request that scores are sent to your school.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Requirements for Acceptance

Requirements for each school are different, but below are some general guidelines.

Be sure to check with individual schools for their specific requirements

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Community Colleges Ex: Mid Michigan Community College, Grand Rapids Community College</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open-access schools (anyone can attend) • Generally require a high school diploma or GED • Community colleges grant associate degrees that can be transferred to other colleges/universities. They also provide technical training and certification. |
| <p>Smaller, Private Schools Ex: Alma, Aquinas, Hope</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally, these schools require a college preparatory curriculum, but have no specific requirements • The average GPA for the incoming freshmen class of 2011 at Hope was 3.7 and most students had an ACT score of 24-29. |
| <p>Less-Competitive Public Ex: CMU, GVSU, WMU</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally, these schools do not have any specific curriculum or score requirements other than high school graduation requirements <p>They will take into consideration: Rigor of curriculum, GPA, ACT scores, grade point trend, class rank</p> |
| <p>More-Competitive Public Ex: U of M, MSU</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minimum coursework includes 4 years of English, 2 years of foreign language, 4 years of math, 3 years of science, 3 years of social studies and assorted elective courses. • The average GPA for the incoming freshmen class of 2010 at U of M was 3.8. <p>They take into consideration: Grades, rigor of curriculum, ACT scores, extracurricular achievements, leadership, special skills/talents, unique personal background, recommendations</p> |
| <p>Ivy-League Universities Ex: Yale, Harvard, Penn</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 99% of freshmen class of 2010 had an ACT score of 27-36 (most had a score of 31-35.) • Most schools will require: Two essays, letters of recommendation, rigorous curriculum, an interview, 2 SAT subject area tests <p>Recommended coursework: 4 years of English, 4 years of math, 4 years of science, 3 years of social studies, 4 years of the same foreign language</p> |

What are the deadlines to apply?

It depends on the school; however, seniors should keep Thanksgiving in mind as a general rule to get their applications in.

Some schools offer an early action deadline which is usually November 1st.

If students apply for early action, acceptance rates tend to be higher and are generally non-binding. Students usually receive a decision by mid-December. Some schools have a single-choice early action decision where students agree to only apply early action to that school.

College Search – Finding a School That Fits

GATHER INFORMATION

| | |
|--|--|
| Programs and majors | Location (distance from home, urban, suburban) |
| Student life and housing programs | Career possibilities (job placement, research) |
| Costs and financial aid programs | Special interests (athletics, music, drama, art, etc.) |
| Access to student services (support for students with disabilities, counseling, academic advising) | |

COLLEGE FAIRS

One-stop-shop type events where several colleges gather in one place to showcase their programs. CMU hosts one, usually in September.

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES VISIT HIGH SCHOOLS

During the school year, admission representatives visit SHA to meet with prospective students. Reps usually come in during lunch and students eat while information is given about the school and questions are answered. Any high school student is welcome to sign up and attend. The sign-up sheet is on Mrs. Thaler's door and notices of representative visits are put in the daily announcements.

Some larger or out-of-state schools may have regional visits in large areas such as Grand Rapids or Detroit. Mrs. Thaler gets information on these in the mail. She will pass on dates to those who are interested in the respective schools.

CAMPUS VISIT

It is never too early to start visiting campuses to get a feel for what a student is looking for. They can be arranged through the admissions office of the college. Almost every school hosts an open house where a large number of students can visit the campus at once and take tours.

WHAT TO RESEARCH ON A VISIT

Admissions requirements—do you qualify?

Tour the facilities of the program you are interested in, meet with faculty members.

Attend a class to get an idea of typical size, teaching style and academic rigor.

Ask about the placement record for graduates in the field you might study.

Talk to students about general academic environment and the study commitment necessary for success.

Total costs and financial aid/scholarships?

Tour the campus (check out the dorms, dining hall, library, recreational facilities, etc.)

Student activities (clubs, organizations, intramurals, etc.)

What is the campus residence life (dorms, apartments, fraternities/sororities)?

Applying to College

GET THE APPLICATION

Both 2-year and 4-year college applications are available at college websites. Some schools use the Common Application which can be used for multiple applications. The average application fee is around \$35 but some schools waive the application fee if done online.

COMPLETE THE APPLICATION

Tips: Follow the directions carefully. Write neatly if on a printed application. If it is an online application, make sure to use full sentences and not “text speak.” Create a professional email address if you do not have one already. Use your full, legal name for all applications.

ESSAYS

Some schools require a personal statement or essay. Schools will accept statements even if they are not required; if necessary to explain circumstances that may have affected your education (see below).

TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts are official records of the courses taken, standardized test scores, credits earned and grades received throughout high school. All semester grades for courses required for graduation will be used to calculate GPA. To receive a paper copy of your transcript, see Mrs. Thaler. Most schools will have an online transcript request through a company called Parchment. Go to parchment.com to create an account in order to request transcripts electronically. There may be a fee for some schools.

TESTS

Check the college websites to determine which tests are required and what deadlines to expect. Remember to send SAT or ACT scores directly to the colleges you are considering.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Although it seems obvious, it is important to ask for a recommendation. Most schools have online recommendation forms that get sent electronically and it is critical to ask the recommender first so they are not surprised with a request. Present a resume or list of accomplishments and activities to the person you are asking so they have a guide from which to work. Give the writer plenty of time to write your letter and if it needs to be mailed, give them an addressed, stamped envelope.

SUBMIT THE APPLICATION

Important additional factors – Colleges will consider everything, including grades, test scores, personal background, special interests and talents, involvement in activities, and more. Are you...

- Taking more academic classes than required?
- Showing an improvement in grades?
- Taking challenging courses during your senior year?
- Participating in school or community activities?
- Overcoming a disability or other hardship?
- Showing a special athletic or artistic talent?
- Taking an active leadership role

Financial Aid

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

Financial aid is available to qualified students enrolled in eligible programs at participating schools. This aid covers school expenses including tuition and fees, room and board, books, supplies, and transportation. Most of this aid is need-based and is provided in the form of grants (which are gifts), loans (need to be repaid), or work-study.

WHO GETS FINANCIAL AID?

The basic eligibility requirements are:

- Demonstrate financial need
- Be a U.S. citizen
- Have a valid social security number
- Qualified to obtain a postsecondary education by earning a high school diploma
- Fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form

HOW AND WHERE DO I APPLY?

There is one form you need to complete: FAFSA. However, some selective colleges require additional forms. The FAFSA is available:

- Online at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Call 1-800-4-FED-AID

WHO COMPLETES THE FAFSA?

All families are encouraged to complete the FAFSA – regardless of income. Many colleges require students to submit a FAFSA to be considered for any type of scholarship or financial help, regardless of income. Both parents and students need to complete certain sections of the

form. Step-by-step help is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov

Individual help is available from the college the student is interested in. A student usually does not need to be attending these colleges to receive assistance from the financial aid office.

Make sure to list the colleges the student is interested in so that they receive your information.

WHEN IS THE FAFSA DUE?

During the fall of your senior year, apply for your FAFSA pin number at www.pin.ed.gov. Both students and parents need to apply for a separate PIN – you’ll need these PIN numbers to sign your FAFSA electronically and to access your information. The FAFSA must be filed every year of college.

Submit the FAFSA January 1 or as soon as possible for priority consideration. This requires that you estimate your income because you won’t have received your year-end income and tax information. While you have until June 30 to submit your FAFSA, funding may be limited. Check your college’s priority deadline.

IMPORTANT:

To receive any form of federal financial aid, male students must have proof they registered with the Selective Service. They must register within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Register online at www.sss.gov

Financial Fundamentals

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I SUBMIT THE FAFSA?

- Students will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) within a few weeks of submitting their FAFSA. This SAR will also be sent automatically to the colleges you have chosen on the FAFSA. Colleges use this information to prepare the student's financial aid package.
- You will receive SARs from each school you apply to and list on your FAFSA. You can then use this information to help you make a decision, if finances are a major factor.

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

1. **Student and parent contributions** (savings, cash, etc.)
2. **Grants** – Do not need to be repaid. Grants are often based on need and come from both the state and federal government and from the college institutions.
3. **Scholarships** – Do not need to be repaid. Scholarships may be based on need, special talent, academic achievement, intended major, or community service. They can be from local, institutional or national sources.
4. **Loans** – Must be repaid by the student and/or parent.
5. **Work-Study** – Students may work on campus, with a specific number of hours, usually in areas related to their program of study.

MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Schools offer reduced tuition simply based on a student's GPA and ACT scores. Students should research schools to find out what particular colleges offer. Some schools will give the reduced price if certain criteria are met; CMU, for example, has a scholarship competition.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

In January, students should start looking at local scholarships that come to Mrs. Thaler's office. There will be a binder with all available scholarships listed and the requirements and deadlines for each. Most are due around March.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Visit www.michigan.gov/osg for information on scholarships and grants offered through the State of Michigan. The Michigan Tuition Grant is worth \$1500 to those in financial need and put a private Michigan college or university as their #1 school on their FAFSA and subsequently attend a private school.

INTERNET

Sites like www.fastweb.com or www.finaid.org provide resources for online scholarships.

OUT-OF-STATE TUITION

Tuition for out-of-state schools are much higher, however the Midwest Student Exchange offers discounts for out-of-state tuition. Visit <http://www.mhec.org/MidwestStudentExchangeProgram> to see if a school you're interested participates.

Some schools also have a "legacy" award if a parent or grandparent graduated from that school, the student can get in-state tuition rates.