

# The Counseling Connection

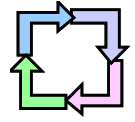
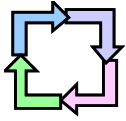
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**October 7, 2016**

This publication is also available online at

[www.rhnet.org/ccc](http://www.rhnet.org/ccc) - the website for the College & Career Center.

Watch for new issues of *The Counseling Connection* every month.



## COLLEGE FAIR

**The Western New York Consortium  
of Higher Education is Coming to R-H!**

**Wednesday, November 2, 2016**

**7:45 AM – 8:30 AM**

**in the R-H Cafeteria**

**Alfred University  
Bryant & Stratton College  
Buffalo State College  
Canisius College  
Daemen College  
D'Youville College  
Fredonia State University  
Hilbert College**

**Houghton College  
Medaille College  
Niagara Community College  
Niagara University  
St. Bonaventure University  
University at Buffalo  
Villa Maria College**

Students, please register online through Naviance Family Connection.

[www.rhnet.org/navianceshs](http://www.rhnet.org/navianceshs)

Print your confirmation page and ask your teacher to sign it-that will be your pass.

Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.



# COUNSELING CENTER UPDATE OCTOBER

## IMPORTANT DATES:

October 7	SAT Registration deadline for Nov. 5 exam
October 19	PSAT/NMSQT exam will be given to all juniors during the school day
October 22	ACT exam date
October 25	National Christian College Fair, Pearce Memorial Church 7-9 p.m.
October 28	Music College Fair, Eastman School of Music, 5-7 p.m.

## DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER RH SCHOOL COUNSELORS WILL BE...

**Sophomore counselors** will be going into classrooms this month to work with students through Naviance. Specifically, they will be focusing on College and Career readiness.

**Junior counselors** will be meeting with students regarding the upcoming PASAT/NMSQT that all Juniors will take on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Senior counselors** presented a lot of information to students in homeroom during the last weeks of September. This included much of what will be mailed home to parents/guardians in the upcoming weeks. The information included the “Senior Letter”, a transcript and other important Class of 2017 information. Senior counselors are meeting with seniors for their “Senior Interviews.” Every 12<sup>th</sup> grade student is responsible for scheduling this appointment with their school counselor. Please bring an updated copy of your résumé, along with a completed “Parent Brag Sheet” to this meeting. Having a current résumé is very important as counselors consult these for scholarship nominations. The “Parent Brag Sheet” assists counselors when writing letters of recommendation for students. Both Ms. Tabone and Mrs. Kinsman have begun processing college applications using Naviance Family Connection. Teachers will submit letters of recommendation on a student’s behalf using Naviance Family Connection as well. Please make sure you are accessing Naviance for College and Career information.

**Remember-** ANY request for a schedule change must now go to the grade level Achievement Team. The process for requesting a schedule change is as follows:

1. Student must completely fill out the pink form (available on-line or directly from the school counselor). The completed form must include a written explanation and signature from both the teacher and a parent/guardian.
2. The pink sheet must be given to the counselor who takes it to the next scheduled meeting of the Achievement Team.
3. The Achievement Team will review the request. (This may include conferencing with the student and/or parent/guardian at the meeting.)
4. A committee member will relay the final decision to the student, parent/guardian and teacher.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR NOVEMBER:

November 2	- Western NY College Fair in the SHS Cafeteria, 7:45-8:30 a.m.
November 5	SAT Exam
November 10	- MCC Instant Decision Day in the CCC - 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
November 14	- UNCF Empower Me Tour Field Trip – 8:30 – 2:00 (see next page for more information)
November 17	- SUNY Brockport Instant Decision Day in the CCC – 12:00 – 2:30 p.m.



**Monroe Community College  
Instant Decision Day  
Thursday, November 10, 2016  
8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
in the College & Career Center**

**Monroe Community College  
is offering seniors at Rush-Henrietta  
the opportunity to apply for admission and  
to receive an on-the-spot decision on their admission to MCC!**

You will meet individually with an admissions counselor from MCC  
and receive an acceptance decision instantly!

To participate in the Monroe Community College Instant Decision Day:

1. Submit a completed “Green Sheet” (transcript release form) to Mrs. Leatzaw in the Counseling Center by Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
Indicate on the green sheet that it is for Instant Decision Day.
2. Complete an application online at [www.monroecc.edu](http://www.monroecc.edu) by Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.
3. Make an appointment in the College & Career Center by Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.
4. Add Monroe Community College to your list of Colleges I’m Applying to in Naviance  
\*There is no application fee for MCC.

Important dates to remember:

**Fri, Nov. 4** Deadline to submit Green Sheet in the Counseling Center  
**Mon, Nov. 7** Deadline to submit online application to MCC  
**Wed, Nov. 9** Deadline to make appointments in the CCC  
**Thu, Nov. 10** MCC Instant Decision Day





The College at  
**BROCKPORT**  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

**Instant Decision Day**  
**Thursday, November 17, 2016**  
**12:00 – 2:30 p.m.**  
**College & Career Center**

Seniors, meet one-on-one with an admissions counselor from Brockport!  
Be reviewed on-the-spot and receive a conditional letter of acceptance!  
You'll also learn if you qualify for scholarships!

5. Complete the Common Application or the SUNY Application online.
6. Print out the pdf of your application and bring it with you to your appointment.
7. Submit a completed “Green Sheet” (transcript request form) to Mrs. Leatzaw in the Counseling Center no later than Thursday, October 29th. Indicate on the green sheet that it is for Instant Decision Day.
8. Add SUNY Brockport to your list of ‘Colleges I’m Applying To’ in Naviance Family Connection.
9. Make an appointment in the College & Career Center no later than Tuesday, November 15th.
10. The application fee must have been submitted online with your application.

COLLEGE FAIRS:

UNCF®  
**emt**  
empower me tour  
ROCHESTER



CALLING ALL  
JUNIORS,  
SENIORS AND  
PARENTS!

HBCU  
Representatives on Hand  
On-site College Admissions  
Scholarships Awarded  
College Prep Workshops  
Paying for College

Click here to REGISTER  
or visit [www.RCSDK12.org](http://www.RCSDK12.org)

**EVERYTHING IS FREE - SPACE IS LIMITED**

Monday, November 14, 2016  
8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Rochester Riverside Convention Center  
123 E Main St., Rochester, NY

Founding Sponsor



National Sponsors



Local Sponsors





## FLCC to host SUNY Financial Aid Days

**On Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>  
from 9:45 until 12:30**

**Need help completing the FAFSA for the 2017-2018 academic year?  
Come to this hands-on filing workshop  
and let staff from the Financial Aid and One Stop Offices assist.**

**To register, go to:**

**[https://www.suny.edu/attend/events/event\\_registration.cfm?elid=1106&etyp=Student&etypid=1](https://www.suny.edu/attend/events/event_registration.cfm?elid=1106&etyp=Student&etypid=1)**

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid, also known as the FAFSA, is the application that students must complete to apply for federal student aid. Federal student aid includes Federal Pell Grants, federal student loans and work study opportunities. Two major changes to the FAFSA will take effect for the 2017-2018 school year. (The 2017-2018 school year runs from July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018.)

1. **The FAFSA will be available earlier** (October 1 of the previous school year instead of January 1 of the upcoming school year).

Currently, students cannot complete a FAFSA for the upcoming school year until January 1. For example, for the 2016–17 school year, an applicant cannot complete a FAFSA until Jan. 1, 2016. Beginning with the 2017–18 school year, applicants will be able to complete a FAFSA as early as October 1 of the previous year.

2. **The FAFSA will collect income information from an earlier tax year.**

The second major change also begins with the 2017–18 FAFSA cycle. Currently, in addition to other information, FAFSA applicants (and their parents, if applicable) must report the prior year's income information. For example, for the 2016–17 school year, applicants must report income information for 2015—the tax year before the beginning of the school year. Beginning with the 2017–18 FAFSA, students will report income information from two years prior, which in this case is 2015 income information—two tax years before the beginning of the school year.

### **Contact Information:**

Name: Susan Romano

Phone: (585)785-1276

Email: [aid@flcc.edu](mailto:aid@flcc.edu)

**TESTING INFORMATION:**

# 2016-17 SAT/PSAT/ACT Dates

## SAT

SAT Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
Nov. 5, 2016	Oct. 7, 2016	Oct. 25, 2016
Dec. 3, 2016	Nov. 3, 2016	Nov. 22, 2016
Jan. 21, 2017	Dec. 21, 2016	Jan. 10, 2017
Mar. 11, 2017*	Feb. 10, 2017	Feb. 28, 2017
May 6, 2017	Apr. 7, 2017	Apr. 25, 2017
June 3, 2017	May 9, 2017	May 24, 2017

\*SAT only, no Subject Tests given on this date.

Register online at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

The registration fee for the 2016-2017 SAT Reasoning Test is \$57.00.

The registration fee for the SAT Subject Tests is \$26.00.

The late registration fee is an additional \$28.00.

Scores are available about 3 weeks after the test is administered.

## PSAT

PSAT test date is **Wednesday, October 19, 2016.**

All juniors will be taking the PSAT during the school day. This provides students the opportunity to practice taking the exam in a controlled setting.

Counselors will provide PSAT information to students shortly after school starts.

The test will take place at **the Rush-Henrietta Senior High School.**

## ACT

ACT Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline
December 10, 2016	November 4, 2016	November 18, 2016
April 8, 2017	March 3, 2017	March 17, 2017
June 10, 2017	May 5, 2017	May 19, 2017

Register on-line at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).

The registration fee for the 2016-2017 ACT is \$39.50.

The fee for the ACT Plus Writing is \$56.50.

Late registration fee is \$25.00.

Scores are available 2 ½ - 8 weeks after test is administered.

## **\*\*Attention All Juniors\*\***

### **PSAT/NMSQT Information**

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a program cosponsored by the College Board and [National Merit Scholarship Corporation \(NMSC\)](#). It's a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT®. It also gives students in our junior class a chance to enter NMSC scholarship programs and gain access to college and career planning tools.

The PSAT/NMSQT measures:

- Evidence-based reading and writing
  - Reading test
  - Writing and language test
- Math

Students have developed these skills over many years, both in and out of school. This test does not require recall of specific facts from classes.



The most common reasons for taking the PSAT/NMSQT are to:

- Receive feedback regarding strengths and weaknesses on skills necessary for college study. Students can then focus preparation on those areas that could most benefit from additional study or practice.
- See how individual performance on an admissions test might compare with that of others applying to college.
- Enter the competition for scholarships from NMSC (grade 11).
- Help prepare for the SAT. Students can become familiar with the kinds of questions and the exact directions that will be on the SAT. The SAT is typically taken as early as the second semester of the junior year.

**All juniors will be taking the PSAT during the school day. This provides students the opportunity to practice taking the exam in a controlled setting. Counselors will provide PSAT information to students shortly after school starts.**

Once the exams are graded and the results are in, each student will receive their test results, their exam booklet and the answers. After reviewing their performance, students are able to focus on specific areas for growth. If students need help interpreting their exam scores, a counselor will be available to meet with them to review the results.

**PSAT test date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016**  
**During the School Day**  
**Place: Rush-Henrietta Senior High School**



## COLLEGE INFORMATION:

### College Visits to Rush-Henrietta

Representatives from the colleges listed below will visit the College & Career Center to meet students, share information and materials about their schools and answer questions. **All students are encouraged to attend. You must register in advance. Pre-registration is required. Register through Naviance Family Connection. Instructions are on the following page or go to the College & Career Center for assistance. This list changes daily. Watch the bulletin board outside the CCC and Naviance Family Connection for updates.**

College	Date	Time
SUNY Morrisville State College	Tue October 11, 2016	8:00 AM
SUNY Delhi	Tue October 11, 2016	2:00 PM
Roberts Wesleyan College	Wed October 12, 2016	8:00 AM
University at Buffalo The State University of New York	Wed October 12, 2016	11:30 AM
SUNY College at Brockport	Thu October 13, 2016	8:30 AM
Carnegie Mellon University	Mon October 17, 2016	8:30 AM
West Virginia University	Thu October 20, 2016	9:00 AM
SUNY College at Potsdam	Thu October 20, 2016	11:45 AM
SUNY College at Oneonta	Thu October 20, 2016	1:15 PM
King's College	Fri October 21, 2016	11:30 AM
St. John Fisher College	Mon October 24, 2016	9:00 AM
Albright College	Mon October 24, 2016	1:00 PM
Messiah College	Tue October 25, 2016	11:00 AM
Cazenovia College	Tue October 25, 2016	12:00 PM
Keuka College	Wed October 26, 2016	10:45 AM
Southeastern University	Wed October 26, 2016	1:15 PM
Alfred University	Thu October 27, 2016	10:00 AM
Finger Lakes Community College	Fri October 28, 2016	9:00 AM
The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art	Fri October 28, 2016	12:30 PM
WNY College Fair	Wed November 2, 2016	7:45 AM
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Thu November 3, 2016	8:30 AM
SUNY College at Cobleskill	Thu November 3, 2016	9:30 AM
Westminster College	Thu November 3, 2016	1:00 PM
Rochester Institute of Technology	Mon November 7, 2016	10:00 AM
Johnson State College	Wed November 9, 2016	1:00 PM
MCC Instant Decision Day	Thu November 10, 2016	8:00 AM
HBCU College Fair	Mon November 14, 2016	8:00 AM
Brockport Instant Decision Day	Thu November 17, 2016	12:00 PM

#### *How do I sign up?*

1. Check with your teacher prior to signing up for a visit.
2. Log onto Naviance Family Connection at [www.rhnet.org/navianceshs](http://www.rhnet.org/navianceshs)

## *How do I sign up - continued*

3. Select the 'Colleges' Tab.
  4. Under Upcoming college visits - Select 'view all upcoming college visits.'
  5. Choose the college visits you would like to attend.
  6. Select 'sign up,' then 'sign me up.'
  7. You will see a green confirmation box on the page when this is completed correctly.
  8. Print this confirmation page (CTRL P). This will be your pass out of class and into the visit.
  9. Make sure your teacher signs the confirmation page to allow you out of class.
  10. Bring the signed confirmation page (pass) with you to the visit.
- Attendance will be taken at the college presentations. Please be considerate of our college reps, and sign up only for meetings that you will definitely attend.
  - Remember, it is your responsibility to confirm with your teacher that you can miss class for a college visit. You are responsible for any missed work during that time period.
  - If a meeting is during lunch, you can bring lunch with you to the visit.

## *Why should I meet with College Reps?*

Every fall, representatives from college admission offices visit high schools around the country to present informational programs to prospective students, their parents, and counselors. During their visits, college reps **meet with interested students in small groups** to discuss topics like the academic programs, campus life, financial aid programs, and admission procedures of their college. They will also **answer students' questions**. With so much information already available to students on college websites, in college catalogs, and elsewhere, you may wonder why you should attend these in-person sessions. Below are **six reasons**:

1. Students have a chance—in their own hometown—to **meet face to face** with a representative from the college and to **ask specific questions**.
2. Students can **let the college know they are seriously interested**.
3. Since the reps are admission officers from the college, students have a unique opportunity to **make contact with a person who may be evaluating their application** in the future.
4. The meeting provides students with a **specific contact** at the college to whom they can send questions.
5. Sometimes reps, particularly ones from state universities, will give an early read on students' transcripts, test scores, course selections, and so on during their visits. This helps students **assess their fit** at that institution and figure out what they can do to **improve their chances** of getting in.
6. It's an opportunity for a counselor to **bring to a student's attention** a school that he/she thinks is a good fit but that the student may not have considered.

Another reason has to do with the somewhat controversial admissions practice of assessing **demonstrated interest**, in which admissions officers judge which students are most interested in attending their college, and admit applicants partially on that basis. This is one way to increase a college's yield (the number of students accepted by a school who actually enroll). Excerpted from <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/guidance/college/reps>

## **Military Visits**

Representatives from all branches of the **U.S. Military** visit the high school each month to talk with R-H students. They are located at tables outside the cafeteria during lunches. The Military Visit schedule is as follows:

U. S. Air Force	1st Tuesday
U. S. Army	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
U. S. Army National Guard	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday
U. S. Marines	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday
U. S. Navy	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday



**Success Starts With a Plan**  
**In a world of options, students need a road map to success.**

**Naviance Family Connection**

We are pleased to offer our students and families access to **Naviance Family Connection!** We are using this tool with students in grades 6-12 to assist in career development and college planning. This web-based program will complement the annual guidance reviews, series of career speakers, classroom presentations, on-line educational videos, and college information sessions counselors will continue to offer students.

Students will work with this program throughout the school year in classroom lessons provided by their school counselors. Parents are encouraged to sign on to Naviance Family Connection with their students to do some exploring on the site. Naviance Family Connection will be essential in exploring careers, majors, colleges, scholarships, and so much more.

Students and parents will be able to:

- Receive important news about college visits, college fair information, and events at the Ninth Grade Academy and Senior High School.
- Contact counselors directly by e-mail.
- Access scholarship applications, application websites, and college related links.
- Construct their activities résumé.
- Access a comprehensive college search engine.
- Explore career interest inventories, personality profiler, and learning style

How to get into your account:

Go to: [www.rhnet.org/navianceshs](http://www.rhnet.org/navianceshs)

Student's username and passwords are as follows:

User Name: Last Name + First Initial + Graduation Year

Password: studentID#

*Example: Jane Doe, Class of 2017*

*UserName: DoeJ17*

*Password: 123457*



All students and parents are encouraged to use this program as decisions are made regarding post-high school planning. Questions? Please contact Jeff Mangini at [jmangini@rhnet.org](mailto:jmangini@rhnet.org) or 359-5229.

# Write a Great College Admissions Essay



**Don't let the college admissions essay intimidate you.**

Remember, it's the part of your application that is fully under your control. Make it work to your advantage!

**Don't recycle essays.** Nothing will land your essay in the circular file faster than an obviously recycled or "near match" essay.

Be yourself. Choose a topic that is meaningful to you. Write in your own words. Write what you feel, not what you think the admissions committee wants to hear. "The essay is the

candidate's opportunity to explain to us who they are and why they are unique," says Charlotte Lazor, associate director of admission information systems for Wesleyan University.

**Don't overextend.** Don't take on too big of a topic, and don't adopt a preachy tone. College admission officers don't want to be lectured on rainforest destruction. Instead, tell them how you became interested in environmentalism.

**Be creative.** Try to come up with something different. Remember that the people reviewing your essay have read hundreds — if not thousands — of essays. Don't give them one more "The Teacher Who Influenced Me Most" or "Drinking and Driving is Bad" essay to wade through.

**Captivate your audience.** Your essay needs to be engaging and memorable. Try to draw the reader in with a quick, enticing introduction. You want to catch their interest and give them a reason to finish your essay.

**Accentuate the positive.** If you're writing about a traumatic experience, describe the negatives but don't dwell on them. Rather, explore how the experience changed you and what you took away from it.

**Leave time for drafting.** Write a first draft. Let it sit for a few days. Then review it carefully and look for weak or dull spots, as well as spelling and grammatical errors. Never let your first draft be your final draft.

**Revise, rewrite, reword.** Revision is the key to all good writing including college application essays. Hammer your draft into shape through various rewrites. Read each draft aloud. Your ears can pick up problems that your eyes may miss.

**Ask for input.** Teachers, counselors, friends, parents, siblings – ask people you respect for some candid feedback. "What do you think I'm trying to say?" "Does it sound confusing?" "Is it boring?" "Do I come across well?"

**Pursue perfection.** No essay needs to be error-free more than this one. Have your English teacher look it over. Quadruple-check the spelling. Type your essay carefully. Don't let careless mistakes get between you and the school of your dreams.

Excerpted from [www.fastweb.com/college-search/articles/93-write-a-great-college-admissions-essay](http://www.fastweb.com/college-search/articles/93-write-a-great-college-admissions-essay)



## Freaking Out About Applying to College Don't Do That

[www.guidancedirect.com](http://www.guidancedirect.com)

Peer pressure is an amazing thing.

There haven't been ten days of school in many states, but some seniors are already convinced everyone is ahead of them in the rush to college. "I'm all through with my applications" beams Jennifer. "I've narrowed my Early Decision colleges down to two" boasts another student. "I'm almost done with my first application" crows a third, "my essay is all that's left."

Seniors, it is September 18th. College doesn't start for 11 months. No college has closed admission, and one isn't likely to until November 30. After that, there will only be, oh, about 3000 other colleges to choose from. Many of them don't require test scores or essays, most don't let students apply Early Decision --and they totally rock. So there's time.

But enough about them. Let's talk about you.

When was the last time something good ever happened to your life when you took a snapshot of somebody else's life and assumed it was wonderful? Jennifer may be finished applying to college, but maybe that's because her mother was holding the car keys hostage until the apps were done. Does that make for great college essays --especially since essays due January 1st should be reviewed December 15th, just in case the first four months of senior year have changed you, the way you look at the world, or what you want to do with your life?

And your friend who's choosing an Early Decision school --does he understand this is like marriage? Sure, more ED students get admitted (by percentage) than students who wait --but if your one ED college accepts you, you have to go there. Done, Decided. Welcome to the Family. If your friend has doubts about both of these schools, maybe it isn't time to book the bachelor party just yet. Instead, he should find some other colleges that have the best qualities of both schools, apply to all of them as a regular applicant, and see what feels best eight months from now.

As for our applicant who needs to finish her essays, she is probably stuck on her essays. If so, it's likely she is trying to write them Tuesday night at 10, after a full day of school, band practice, homework, and a dinner that involves microwaved pasta, no lettuce, and little family time. If this describes your friend, here is her antidote --no essays on Tuesday. Carve a two-hour block out of Saturday or Sunday (or both), work on your applications then --and only then --and forget about them during the week. That way, you get to study and learn, work on the homecoming float, have a great senior year, and write great college essays to boot. Plus, your applications will be done by Thanksgiving, so you can spend Christmas break with your family, not with your computer.

The root of all bad living lies in thinking someone else has it better than you --it can make you feel trapped, confused, and unworthy. Funny thing is, that isn't because of pressure a peer is putting on you; that's because of pressure you're putting on yourself.

It's time to deflate. Be happy Jennifer's mom is off her back, tell the bridegroom ED doesn't have to be, and make sure your pal with the essays gets a real meal next Tuesday. You'll be happier, they'll be happier, and you may find your first college application will be easier to complete than you thought.

## *Statement Of Students' Rights And Responsibilities In The College Admissions Process*

An outgrowth of the Statement of Principles of Good Practice, the Students' Rights Statement makes clear to entering college students those "rights" which are only alluded to by the Principles of Good Practice. It also spells out the responsibilities students have in the admission process.

### **WHEN YOU APPLY TO COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES YOU HAVE RIGHTS**

#### **Before You Apply:**

- \* You have the right to receive factual and comprehensive information from colleges and universities about their admission, financial costs aid opportunities, practices and packaging policies, and housing policies. If you consider applying under an early admission, early action decision plan, you have a right to complete information from the college about its processes and policies.

#### **When You Are Offered Admission:**

- \* You have the right to wait to respond to an offer of admission and/or financial aid until May 1.
- \* Colleges that request commitments to offers of admission and/or financial assistance prior to May 1 must clearly offer you the opportunity to request (in writing) an extension until May 1. They must grant you this extension and your request may not jeopardize your status for admission and/or financial aid. (This right does not apply to candidates admitted under an early decision program.)

#### **If You Are Placed on a Wait List or Alternate List:**

- \* The letter that notifies you of that placement should provide a history that describes the number of students on the wait list, the number offered admission, and the availability of financial aid and housing.
- \* Colleges may require neither a deposit nor a written commitment as a condition of remaining on a wait list.
- \* Colleges are expected to notify you of the resolution of your wait list status by August 1 at the latest.

### **WHEN YOU APPLY TO COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES YOU HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Before You Apply:**

- \* You have a responsibility to research, and to understand and comply with the policies and procedures of each college or university regarding application fees, financial aid, scholarships, and housing. You should also be sure that you understand the policies of each college or university regarding deposits that you may be required to make before you enroll.

#### **As You Apply:**

- \* You must complete all materials that are required for application and submit your application on or before the published deadlines. You should be the sole author of your applications.
- \* You should seek the assistance of your high school counselor early and throughout the application period. Follow the process recommended by your high school for filing college applications.
- \* It is your responsibility to arrange, if appropriate, for visits to and/or interviews at colleges of your choice.

#### **After You Receive Your Admission Decisions:**

- \* You must notify each college or university that accepts you whether you are accepting or rejecting its offer. You should make these notifications as soon as you have made a final decision as to the college that you wish to attend, but no later than May 1. It is understood that May 1 will be the postmark date.
- \* You may confirm your intention to enroll and, if required, submit a deposit to only one college or university. The exception to this arises if you are put on a wait list by a college or university and are later admitted to that institution. You may accept the offer and send a deposit. However, you must immediately notify a college or university at which you previously indicated your intention to enroll.
- \* If you are accepted under an early decision plan, you must promptly withdraw the applications submitted to other colleges and universities and make no additional applications. If you are an early decision candidate and are seeking financial aid, you need not withdraw other applications until you have received notification about financial aid.

*If you think that your rights have been denied, you should contact the college or university immediately to request additional information or the extension of a reply date. In addition, you should ask your counselor to notify the president of the state or regional affiliate of the National Association for College Admission Counseling. If you need further assistance, send a copy of any correspondence you have had with the college or university and a copy of your letter of admission to: NACAC, 1631 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314*

## RIT and U of R –REGISTRATION & CLASS DATES

<u>REGISTRATION:</u>	<u>RIT</u>	<u>CLASSES RUN:</u>
Opens at RIT <b>April 25</b> , 2016	<b>2016 FALL</b>	<b>August 22 – December 9</b>
Opens at RIT <b>November 14</b> , 2016	<b>2017 SPRING</b>	<b>January 23 – May 12</b>
Opens at RIT <b>TBD</b>	<b>2017 SUMMER</b>	<b>May 30 – August 4</b> (10 wk) <b>May 30 – June 30</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> 5 wk) <b>July 3 – August 4</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> 5 wk)

<u>REGISTRATION</u>	<u>U of R</u>	<u>CLASSES RUN:</u>
Deadline is <b>July 31</b> , 2016	<b>2016 FALL</b>	<b>August 31 – December 13</b>
Deadline is <b>December 16</b> , 2016	<b>2017 SPRING</b>	<b>January 18 – May 3</b>
Deadline is <b>April 22</b> , 2016	<b>2017 SUMMER</b>	<b>May 22 – August 11</b> (12 wk) <b>May 22 – June 16</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> 4 wk) <b>May 22 – June 30</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> 6 wk)
Deadline is <b>May 27</b> , 2016		<b>July 3 – July 28</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> 4 wk) <b>July 3 – August 11</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> 6 wk)
Deadline is <b>TBD</b>	<b>Rochester Scholars Session <u>A</u> 2017 TBD</b> <b>Rochester Scholars Session <u>B</u> 2017 TBD</b>	

### To view class schedules and availability for RIT:

<https://infocenter.rit.edu/>  
Go under *Public...*

**> TO SEARCH BY KEYWORD:**

- Select *SIS Class Search*
- Select *Term*
- Complete *Additional Search Criteria*, typing in *Course Title Keyword* (Ethics, Psychology, Writing, etc...)

**\* IMPORTANT \***

- Must have at least 2 search criteria fields completed AFTER selecting *Term*
- *Location* & *Campus* must have *Rochester Institute of Tech* or *RIT Online* selected (this can count as 1 of the 2 needed)

**> TO SEARCH BY SUBJECT:**

- Select *SIS Course Catalog Search*
- Select *subject code* OR select area of study from *Academic Group* drop down at top of page

**> TO SEARCH BY SUMMER SESSION:**

- Under "*Additional Search Criteria*", go to *Session*
- Select needed Session (Ex: *Five Week – First*, *Five Week – Second*)

**\* PLEASE NOTE:**

- Most of the courses you select will be under Liberal Arts or Sciences & should be a level 100 or 200
- Be sure to confirm there are NO PREREQUISITES or RESTRICTIONS for the course(s) you are interested in taking
- Be sure to confirm Open / Closed status for the course(s) you are interested in taking
- Refer to the **Quarter to Semester Subject Guide** for additional help with course coding, found under *Public*

### To view class schedules and availability for U of R:

[www.rochester.edu/registrar](http://www.rochester.edu/registrar)

- Select *CDCS (Courses)*
- Select *Year /Term* (Fall, Spring, Summer)
- Select *Arts, Sciences and Engineering* under *School*
- Select any *Subject* that you are interested in to view class titles & times –OR- use the *Description Keywords*

**\*PLEASE NOTE**

- Be sure to confirm there are NO PREREQUISITES or RESTRICTIONS for the course(s) you are interested in taking
- Be sure to confirm Open / Closed status for the course(s) you are interested in taking

*Updated 8/2016*

## Student-Athletes Planning to Play a Sport in College:

You must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at <http://eligibilitycenter.org>

Every college-bound student athlete who will be attending an NCAA Division I or II institution for the first time must be certified by the eligibility center. You should register for the eligibility center at the beginning of your junior year in high school. See your counselor for details. The **2016-17 Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete** is available at:

<http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA17.pdf>



### *CAREER INFORMATION:*



# Exploring

Exploring is a program that gives high school students a chance to check out a career they're interested in. It's a career-education program that allows students to learn more about a particular career through hands-on activities led by people in the working world. Exploring 'Posts' are groups of students from all over the county who are interested in the same career. They are hosted by area businesses to explore that career in depth. Posts are offered in over 100 different fields from ambulance services to zoology. Many new Exploring Posts open during the fall, including those listed below. Check in the College & Career Center, on the CCC webpage at [www.rhnet.org/cc](http://www.rhnet.org/cc) or the Exploring website at [www.rochesterexploring.org](http://www.rochesterexploring.org) for details and future Post openings! For more information, contact Keith Gomez at:

241-8558 or

email [Keith.Gomez@scouting.org](mailto:Keith.Gomez@scouting.org).

You can also see all of the current posts at: [http://www.swcexploring.org/?page\\_id=453](http://www.swcexploring.org/?page_id=453)

### **The following Posts have ongoing registration:**

Greece Police, Empire Beauty, Hope for Pets, Palmers Market, Rochester Makerspace, Geva Theater , Brighton Police, New York Wine & Culinary Center, Finger Lakes Ambulance, Pittsford Ambulance, Penfield Ambulance, Perinton Ambulance, Society of Women Engineers, GMR Associates, Brockport Police, Monroe County Sheriff, American Institute of Architects, Chili Ambulance, Arc & Flame Optimax, Penfield Fire, Rochester Police, Mock Trail





## FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION:

### How Colleges Determine Merit Scholarships By LYNN O'SHAUGHNESSY

How do colleges and universities decide who will get their merit scholarships? Grade point averages, standardized test scores, and the strength of your high school curriculum often play a significant role. However, there are other factors, particularly at private schools, that can play a supporting role in determining which students pocket awards.



Teenagers who receive merit awards are happy to receive the money, but they often don't know what it took to earn them. That's why I was happy to stumble across the blueprint for the merit awards that the University of Rochester dispensed to its latest crop of freshmen.

Jonathan Burdick, the undergraduate dean of admissions and financial aid, decided to take a look after the 2011-12 class was formed to see what factors had mattered in merit award decisions. Even better, Burdick assigned a dollar value to these factors.

I found the merit aid breakdown fascinating. While all schools will have their own criteria, this list will give you some sense of what matters beyond the obvious. Here's how Rochester's merit awards played out during the past admissions cycle:

- **\$3,000:** The school typically rewarded candidates who reached out to it with an extra \$3,000. These were teenagers who had serious conversations with the admissions and financial aid office. Schools like to feel wanted, and reaching out to them with meaningful conversations can help.
  - **\$2,000:** That's what teens who weren't New Yorkers received. Sixty two percent of the freshmen class hails from somewhere else. While Burdick didn't check, he suspects that students who lived farther away received an even fatter amount of money.
- Why would students benefit from being from distant states? Because colleges crave geographic diversity. They want to be able to brag that they have students from all 50 states or close to it.
- **\$62:** Each "A" on a teen's transcript generated \$62 worth of merit aid.
  - **\$400:** Teenagers received roughly \$400 for each tough course that they took. Courses that would qualify included Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and honors.
  - **\$1,800:** A student got this much more if the school considered his or her recommendations excellent.
  - **\$115:** Each 10-point improvement in the SAT above the average for Rochester freshmen garnered an extra \$115. The average SAT score was 2040.
  - **\$400:** Observing deadlines matter. Students got an extra \$400 for completing the application on time, as well as making sure mid-year grades were sent.
  - **\$1.89:** You got this much less every time a student was admitted with the same major. This clearly favored students with less popular majors such as philosophy and hurt students interested in such big majors as psychology, political science, and economics.
  - **\$1,700:** That's how much the typical freshmen received in merit money if his or her parents completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The school imposes a progressive tax on its merit awards. On average, \$4 less in income boosts the merit award by one cent.

# Federal Student Aid FAFSA

Completing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA<sup>SM</sup>)*  
is the first step toward getting federal aid for college.

[www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)

More than \$150 billion in grants, loans, and *work-study* funds are provided each year, but you have to complete the FAFSA to see if you can get any of that money.

To apply for federal student aid, you need to complete the *FAFSA* or *Free Application for Federal Student Aid*. Completing and submitting the FAFSA is free and easier than ever, and it gives you access to the largest source of financial aid. Go to [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).

**For students planning to apply for financial aid for the 2016-17 academic year, (this year's senior class), the FAFSA should be completed as soon as possible after January 1, 2017.**

**Remember, the FAFSA is FREE!**

**If you accidentally go to [www.fafsa.com](http://www.fafsa.com), the site will look official but it is a scam and will ask you for payment! Get more information regarding financial aid at <http://studentaid.ed.gov>.**



The CSS/FINANCIAL AID PROFILE is a supplemental financial aid form required by some private colleges to determine your Expected Family Contribution. Some colleges require this in addition to the FAFSA. It is a fully online service that helps colleges and organizations award their private student aid funds. The CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE 2016-2017 Student Guide is available and can be accessed by going to <http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>. Some local schools requiring the CSS/FINANCIAL AID PROFILE are Cornell University, Nazareth College, Syracuse University and the University of Rochester. Be sure to check if the schools to which you are applying require the PROFILE. The list of schools is available at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org). The fee is \$25 for the application and \$16 for each additional school report. Once registered, the application can be completed and submitted immediately or at a later time. Contact information: 305-829-9793 or [help@cssprofile.org](mailto:help@cssprofile.org).

Additional websites are available to help you with financial aid. Go to the College & Career Center web page at [www.rhnet.org/ccc](http://www.rhnet.org/ccc); click on 'Helpful Links'; then click on 'Financial Aid.'

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

Executive Cheryl Dinolfo Presents the Sixth Annual

# Intergenerational Fall Clean-Up

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016

KICKOFF at 9:00 a.m.

MONROE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL  
(435 East Henrietta Road, Rochester 14620)

### *Calling volunteers age 14 and older!*

Please join us to help make a difference for Monroe County's older adults. We will be raking and sweeping the properties of seniors in our communities who could use a helping hand this fall season. County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo will kick off the event at 9:00AM (registration at 8:30am). We will provide refreshments, instructions, supplies, and everything needed for the day. Sign language interpreters will be on-site at the kickoff.

- Submit forms for community service credits to the County Event Supervisor
- The event is rain or shine, so plan accordingly
- Transportation to and from the homes is the responsibility of the volunteer.

*Please join us for a rewarding day of fall clean-up!*

For more information, contact Christina:

[ChristinaCoury@MonroeCounty.gov](mailto:ChristinaCoury@MonroeCounty.gov)

(585) 753-6953

**And come to the CCC to sign up!**

SPONSORED BY: THE COUNTY OF MONROE •



CHERYL DINOLFO

## ***VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:***

- **Red Cross Student Volunteer Directory** is your online resource for volunteer opportunities. Here you can find over 70 ways to help others in the community by contributing your valuable talents and skills as a youth volunteer. By browsing or searching the comprehensive database, you can find a volunteer position that is just right for you. The directory lists volunteer opportunities at non-profit agencies throughout the Rochester area. Visit [www.redcross.org/ny/rochester](http://www.redcross.org/ny/rochester) and select 'Volunteer.'
- **ARC of Monroe County** is looking for **My Time Providers** (formerly Special Sitters). A **My Time Provider** is someone who is at least 14 years old who will receive special training to be an in-home care provider to families with a child who is developmentally disabled. A student who is interested in becoming a provider will undergo 20 hours of training that includes instruction in developmental disabilities, care providing, First Aid, CPR, and in the special sensitivities required to handle the disabled child and his/her family. Working as a Special Sitter is an excellent career exploration opportunity for students interested in special education, medicine, health, or therapy. It's also a chance to earn money while gaining valuable experience in human services. If you have questions or would like to hear more about the program, call Laura Jane Truesdell, Coordinator of the ARC My Time Providers Program at 271-0660, ext. 1352.
- **CP Rochester:** Volunteers are needed to work with both adults and children with developmental disabilities and physical challenges. Programs needing volunteers include: Visual Arts and Recreational Horseback Riding on Saturdays, Bowling on Wednesdays, Pre-school Swimming Monday-Thursday and several one-time events. For more information, contact Tina Bennett, Volunteer Coordinator at 334-6000 ext. 1321 or email: [t\\_bennett@cprochester.org](mailto:t_bennett@cprochester.org)
- **Ronald McDonald House - House at Westmoreland**, 333 Westmoreland Dr. Whether it's cooking meals, cleaning and preparing rooms for families, helping in the office, or driving our van, the time you give makes it possible for our families to be with their children during a very difficult time. Special Events volunteers help us raise funds critical to keeping our doors open for families when they need us most. If you are an individual looking for an ongoing opportunity, or part of a group looking for a one-time project, there's a place for you at the Ronald McDonald House. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old or accompanied by an adult. Visit <http://ronaldshouse.com/volunteers>
- **TIES - Together Including Every Student** is a program that promotes the participation of children/young adults with developmental disabilities in extracurricular and community activities with support from trained student volunteers. After volunteers attend a 45-minute training session, they could be paired with participants to join activities together. The commitment is based on your schedule – it could be once a month or a couple of times a month or more infrequently. More information and application forms are available in the College & Career Center. If you have any questions, contact Elena Camerieri at 385-9609 or email Elena at: [erlmv@rochester.rr.com](mailto:erlmv@rochester.rr.com).
- **Volunteer Match** is a site where you can type in your zip code and find local organizations looking for volunteers. [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org).
- **Strong Memorial Hospital – Friends of Strong.** Call 275-2420 for information.
- **Highland Hospital.** Call 341-6759 for information.
- **Rochester General Hospital.** Call 922-2927. This hospital also has a special program created specifically for students interested in pursuing a medical career, with an emphasis on nursing.
- **Monroe Community Hospital.** Call 760-6151 for information.



# Scholarships 2016-17

To apply for Nomination Scholarships: go to the College and Career Center to self nominate.

To apply for General Scholarships: get applications in the College and Career Center, on Naviance, or at [www.rhnet.org/ccc](http://www.rhnet.org/ccc).

Scholarship Name	Eligibility Criteria	Award	Grade Eligibility	Scholarship Type	General Deadline	Nomination Deadline
Horatio Alger National Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-U.S. citizen planning to enter college in the U.S. no later than the fall of 2017.</li> <li>-strong commitment to pursue and complete a bachelor's degree at an accredited non-profit public or private institution in the U.S.</li> <li>-applicants may start their studies at a two-year institution and then transfer to a four-year institution</li> <li>-critical financial need (\$55,000 or less adjusted gross income per family required)</li> <li>-involvement in co-curricular and community activities</li> <li>-demonstrates integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity</li> <li>-minimum GPA of 2.0</li> <li>-online applications only at <a href="http://www.scholars.horatioalger.org">www.scholars.horatioalger.org</a></li> </ul>	\$7,000 to \$25,000	High School Seniors	General	10/25/2016	
Horatio Alger New York Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-planning to enter college no later than the fall following 2016 high school graduation</li> <li>-strong commitment to pursuing and completing a bachelor's degree at an accredited non-profit public or private institution in the U.S.</li> <li>-applicants may start their studies at a two-year institution and then transfer to a four-year institution</li> <li>-critical financial need (\$55,000 or less adjusted gross income per family required)</li> <li>-involvement in co-curricular and community activities</li> <li>-demonstrated integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity</li> <li>-minimum GPA of 2.0</li> <li>-online applications only at <a href="http://www.horatioalger.org/scholarships">www.horatioalger.org/scholarships</a></li> </ul>	\$7,000	High School Seniors	General	10/25/2016	

Scholarship Name	Eligibility Criteria	Award	Grade Eligibility	Scholarship Type	General Deadline	Nomination Deadline
Sons of the American Revolution George & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-U. S. citizens or legal aliens</li> <li>-currently attending public, parochial, or private high schools (including accredited home schools)</li> <li>-the contest is for an original researched and proven topic written in English</li> <li>Go to: <a href="http://www.sar.org">www.sar.org</a>, click on tab "Youth Education/SARCAAH" under that "Knight Essay Contest" and under that "Essay Contacts". For more information, please see Ms. Curry.</li> </ul>	Prizes range from a \$500 savings bond locally, to \$5,000 at the national level	Grades 10, 11, 12	General	12/31/2016	
The Moose "Heart of the Community" Scholarship Program	<p>Applicant must be: a student of the class of 2018, have a father, mother, step-parent, grandparent or legal guardian who is a current member of the Moose, have a GPA of 3.0 or higher, must have participated in In-School/extra-curricular activities, must have letter or email from student's supervising adult regarding out-of-school activities, must volunteer on behalf of a fraternal unit of the Moose to be verified by Moose Legion Secretary.</p>		Juniors	General	6/30/2017	
WACE National Co-op Scholarship Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-high school GPA of at least 3.5 (B+)</li> <li>-planning to participate in college cooperative education at one of the eleven WACE Partner Colleges and Universities: Clarkson University, Drexel University, Johnson &amp; Wales University, Merrimack College, Rochester Institute of Technology, SUNY Oswego, University of Cincinnati, University of Massachusetts Lowell, University of Toledo, Wentworth Institute of Technology.</li> <li>-applications can be found in the CCC or can be submitted online at <a href="http://www.waceinc.org">www.waceinc.org</a></li> </ul>	\$6,000 per year renewable for up to \$24,000 or \$30,000 depending on the school	High School Seniors	General	2/15/2017	