

New Glarus High School 17-18 Senior Newsletter

School Code: 501-635

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Counselors

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Welcome Back!

I hope that you had a great summer!

In this Senior Newsletter you will find information that will be helpful as you begin the college application process. Please take a few minutes to read it in its entirety to avoid any missed deadlines or other oversights. I look forward to working with you!

A Completed College Application: The 4 Parts

1. Online Application

UW Schools:

<https://apply.wisconsin.edu>

If you are applying to colleges outside of the UW System, go to that specific college's website and "apply online."

2. Application Fee

Submit online immediately following application.

*If you qualify for free/reduced lunch I can generally help you get your application fee waived. Stop in and see me and I will be more than happy to help.

3. ACT Scores

Log on to www.actstudent.org and click on "Send Your Scores." If you chose to have your scores sent when you originally signed up for the ACT, you do not need to worry about sending them now.

4. Transcripts

Request your transcripts through www.parchment.com. It is a simple process to create an account. Stop by if you have questions.

*I can also send any letters of recommendation electronically through Parchment. Make sure you let me know which ones you want sent to which colleges.

College Admissions Tests



SENIOR
NEWSLETTER
2017 - 2018

College Tests:
The UW System
Requires the
ACT or SAT

The UW System allows applicants to submit the results of either the ACT or SAT. **Any senior still in need of a specific ACT score for admission to a college should register for the October administration of the test.** Students may still be able to take the ACT in September if they complete a Standby Request by September 1.

If a student waits for the December testing date, the scores will not arrive on campus until January or February.

The basic student fee for the ACT is \$46.00. The ACT Plus Writing is \$62.50. Check the website www.actstudent.org and click on "Writing Test Option" to see if the colleges that you want to apply to require the writing test.

Additional information and registration materials for the ACT are available at www.actstudent.org. For more information about the SAT, visit www.collegeboard.org.



Know your test. Take a sample test

to help pace yourself and become familiar with the level of difficulty.

Check your ticket for your test option. ACT (No Writing) or ACT Plus Writing, reporting time (normally 7:50 a.m.) & the reporting location of your test center.

You must bring a printed copy of your ticket to the test center. You will not be admitted without it.

Make sure you have acceptable photo identification. You will not be admitted to test if your ID does not meet ACT's requirements.

Give your body what it needs. Get plenty of sleep the night before and make time for a well-balanced breakfast. Arrive early. Locate bathrooms and drinking fountains.

Dress comfortably. Some test centers are warmer or cooler on weekends than during the week. Consider dressing in lay-

ers, so you'll be comfortable no matter what the room conditions are.

Review your work. Make sure you've marked your answers clearly and completely and that your responses on the answer sheet correspond to the correct questions.

Be prepared for emergencies. Bring extra pencils, erasers, and batteries for your calculator just in case.

Pace yourself. Pay attention to how many sections you must complete and allot a reasonable amount of time for each section. If you get stuck, move on.

Answer the easy questions first. You can go back and answer the more difficult ones after you've gotten through the entire section. On difficult questions, eliminate as many incorrect answers as you can, then make an educated guess among those remaining.

Answer every question. You are not penalized for guessing.

Good luck!!

College Applications



The Fall 2018 undergraduate application for the University of Wisconsin System will be accessible beginning August 1. You may submit your fall 2018 application beginning September 1.

The application fee is \$60 for UW-Madison and \$50 for all other UW colleges. You will submit a payment for each campus to which you apply after you submit your online app.

A good goal is to have all applications completed by Halloween. The sooner you apply, the sooner you will hear back from the universities! It is important that you apply to college early as this is the only way to guarantee that your application will be considered. Individual campuses may not publish priority dates or deadlines for applications; rather, applications will be processed on a rolling basis and admissions will be closed when the university has admitted enough students to generate its freshman class. However, many UW campuses have deadlines of February 1, with some as early as December 1.

Universities consider the courses that you are currently enrolled in when making their decision to admit you into their school. **If you want to make changes to your senior schedule after you have applied to a university, you need to email their admissions department to inform them of your changes. And keep in mind - SENIOR YEAR GRADES MATTER!!**

If you intend to apply to colleges outside of the University of Wisconsin System, you will have to apply online through their website. If you need additional help with this, do not hesitate to stop in and see Mrs. Meoska.



“A good goal is to have all applications completed by Halloween. The sooner you apply, the sooner you will hear back from the universities!”

Admissions Requirements

The UW-System uses a holistic admissions policy and provides a comprehensive, individualized review of applicants. Of primary consideration in the admissions decisions are academic factors: rigor and quality of high school course work, rank in class, grade point average (GPA), ACT/SAT scores, and trend in grades. Other factors that will be considered include, but are not limited to, student experiences, work experience, leadership qualities, motivation, community services, special talents, etc. Current admissions criteria can be found at www.uwhelp.wisconsin.edu.

UW Help (University of Wisconsin System's Higher Education Location Program) is a tremendous resource! Be sure to check it out! The toll-free HELP telephone number is 800.442.6459. Access HELP online at: uwhelp.wisconsin.edu.



Foreign Language Requirements

Two years of the same foreign language are required for admission to UW-Madison and strongly recommended at other UW System campuses. Many schools require foreign language either in high school OR in college in order to graduate. Campus-specific preparatory course requirements can be found at <https://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/prep-for-college/requirements/>.

Financial Aid



College Goal Wisconsin provides free information and assistance to families who are filling out the FAFSA.

FACT:
TO RECEIVE FEDERAL STUDENT AID, ALL MALES WHO ARE 18 YEARS OLD MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE SELECTIVE SERVICE.

Financial Aid Night will be held on **Monday, January 4, 2016** in the NGHS auditorium. A financial aid advisor from Edgewood College will explain the process of filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

The FAFSA form is now available October 1st and is based off of income tax information from 2016. The process has been simplified!

Nervous about filling out the FAFSA? No need to be! Wisconsin has "College Goal Wisconsin," an event that assists high school seniors and their families who are filling out the FAFSA. For more information, visit www.collegegoalwi.org.



Scholarships—\$\$\$ for College!

As I receive scholarship opportunities in the mail I post them on my website and I also email all seniors a description of the scholarship, qualifications, application requirements, deadlines, etc. Make sure you check your school email regularly!

Scholarships have a variety of criteria that applicants must meet. Students are responsible for deadlines and materials sent to scholarship agencies. If you need letters of recommendation, transcripts, or other materials from teachers, community persons, Mr. Eichelkraut, or me, **please request these materials well in advance of the deadline.** If you wait, the person may not be available or have time to assist you. Letters of recommendation may be used for many different scholarships, therefore keep a file of those letters for future use.

Be sure that you are searching for scholarships all throughout the school year! Below is a list of reputable scholarship searches. Never pay money for scholarship searches—they are scams!

www.fastweb.com

www.studentscholarships.org

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

Local scholarship applications will be due to me Tuesday, February 20, 2018 by 3:30--no exceptions. We will meet sometime in early November and I will explain the application process. Last year over \$65,000 of local money was awarded to seniors. Make sure that you take the time to apply!

Scholarships are free money.

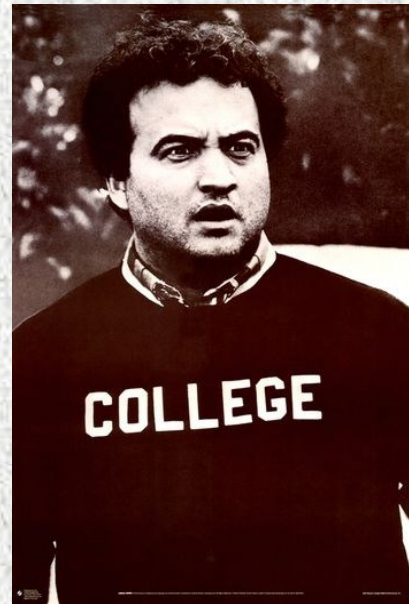
Apply Today



Why College?

College is the first step in pursuing a successful and fulfilling career. It's not only where you explore different career options, but also where you learn essential job skills.

According to the US Census Bureau, across different major fields of study, earning a bachelor's degree nearly doubles a person's income, and people with an associate's degree are half as likely to be unemployed as a high school graduate.



The Most Costly Education is the One Not Begun

- Every bit of education you get after high school increases your chances of earning a good salary. College graduates tend to earn more money than people who stop their education at the high school level. A college education is a great investment.
- The more education you obtain, the more likely it is that you will always have a job. In a world where 90 percent of the fastest growing jobs require postsecondary education, a college degree is becoming essential.
- Continuing education after high school is much more important for today's students than it was for their parents. Most good jobs today require more than a high school diploma. Employers want to hire people who know how to think critically and solve problems.
- Education beyond high school provides many opportunities for meeting new people, exploring new interests and experiencing success. Make the most of your life!

FACT

Studies show that the more math courses student take in high school, the more likely they are to graduate from college.

Campus Visits



Bucky Badger

Reading a Book

Photo by Jeff Miller

UW-Madison,

University Communications

"Be sure to check out the dorms, showers, bathrooms, etc. This will be your home for the next 4+ years—make sure that it suits you!"

There is no better way to discover all that a college has to offer than to go to the campus and spend the day taking it all in. Students and parents can

learn many things about a campus in a very short time.

Most campuses schedule days for students and families to visit the campus, tour the facilities and meet with representatives of academic departments. It is best to visit when faculty and students are available so avoiding holidays/breaks is ideal.

Be sure to check out the dorms, showers, bathrooms, student center, etc. This will be your home for the next 4+ years—make sure that it suits you!

After your visit, while the experience is still fresh in your mind, evaluate the essential components and make a list of "pros and cons."

For a listing of campus tours and preview days, visit <https://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/prep-for-college/campus-tours-visits/> Other campuses encourage you to set up your own visitation day.

Many colleges and universities send representatives to NGHS to visit with potential applicants during lunch time. These representatives provide information about their schools, programs, extracurricular opportunities and financial aid processes and availability. Be sure to check your email for upcoming visits.

On-Campus Housing

UW System Institutions automatically furnish housing information and contracts to each applicant admitted. Each campus requires a housing deposit or prepayment to reserve the student's space. **Open every piece of mail that the college sends you so you don't miss deadlines/deposits/etc.** For more information about living on campus, visit <https://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/post-admission/housing/>

UW >
HELP

Letters of Recommendation

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Some colleges and scholarships will ask you to submit letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, or other adults that know you well. To make the best possible choice among the people who can vouch for your abilities, consider the following: How long has this person known you? Has she/he seen you progress? Does she/he like you? Is she/he a good, descriptive writer? Don't just pick the teacher who has given you the highest grade—select someone that has seen you fail, struggle, work hard and persevere, someone who can speak to your work ethic.

Here are some rules to follow:

1. Timing

Contact the individual you have in mind at least three weeks before you need the letter. Keep in mind that teachers are bombarded with requests to write letters of recommendation so they need ample time to be able to write you a quality one.

2. Be Prepared

To assist your recommender and improve the strength and detail of the letter, take the time to completely and thoughtfully fill out the Accomplishments Resume. You can find this in the Senior Resources Google Doc Folder that I have shared with you. Make a copy and edit away!

3. Thank You Notes

Once you have a letter of recommendation, you have one final task--a thoughtful and considerate thank-you note. Your note should recognize the time and effort your recommenders put forth on your behalf and you should offer to keep them updated on your progress. A thank-you note can go a long way in earning their good will should you need to request another letter or a revision of the present one. And, of course, it is just good manners.

Check out the Letters of Rec folder for more info.

Recent Grad's Advice to Underclassmen

- Be active in the community and in school. Join as many extracurricular activities as possible and immerse yourself in it. You will learn great life skills and it looks great on applications.
- Give yourself a lot of time to apply to college—don't wait until the last minute.
- Apply to any college you may possibly be interested in. It is always nice to have back-ups available.
- Apply to scholarships early on. Do not procrastinate—they require a lot of thought and time.
- Try to stay focused the second half of senior year.
- Take classes that will help you prepare for the degree that you choose.
- Keep it classy and enjoy the time because it goes by fast!

Technical Colleges



Admissions Requirements: With the exception of a few select programs, students who fulfill the graduation requirements at New Glarus High School will be eligible for admission to technical colleges. Be sure to check if the program you want to apply to has any unique admissions requirements.

Applying to a Technical College

1. Online Application

Wisconsin Technical Colleges
www.wistechcolleges.org

2. Application Fee

Submit online immediately following application, or send a check with your paper application. The fee is around \$30-\$35.

*If you qualify for free/reduced lunch I can help you get your application fee waived. Stop and see me for assistance.

3. Test Scores

The ACT is now accepted at Madison College, although other technical colleges may require a different admissions test—usually the COMPASS, TABE, or ASSET. You will need to go to the campus and take the test there. If you need help scheduling it, you can stop and see me anytime.

4. Transcripts

Request your transcripts through www.parchment.com. It is a simple process to create an account.

"Most of the fastest growing occupations (two-thirds) require technical education (associate degree or less)."



Madison College (MATC) madisoncollege.edu

Applications for high demand programs are due the 3rd Monday in October to Madison College. Madison College offers a number of opportunities for interested seniors and their parents to learn about the various programs that they have. For information about these events as well as campus tours and application details visit <https://madisoncollege.edu/visit>.