



# College Information Newsletter

## Ashland High School

### Fall 2019



### AHS COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER

The AHS College and Career Center (CCC), located in the Library, is a great place to find college and career resources. It is essential students thoroughly investigate all of their educational options. In selecting a school or program, a student should be prepared to make a mature and realistic choice, based on their academic goals and financial resources. A valuable guide available in the CCC is the AHS College Handbook, which is revised each year to give students the most up-to-date information on the process of pursuing post high school education. The handbook is also located on the AHS website under Counseling Services/Post High School Education/AHS College Handbook.

### COUNSELOR ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2019-2020

All AHS students, except freshmen, are assigned an academic counselor based on their last name. **Diane Berry is the counselor for students with last names A-He; Kalli Walker is the counselor for students Hi-Me; and Jeff Roscher is the counselor for students Mi-Z.** Seniors can email their counselor to schedule an appointment.

### Financial Aid Information Night September 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:00 pm in the IVC

AHS Counseling Office staff will discuss the basics of financial aid and go over the procedure for completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), the financial aid form required by most U.S. schools, and which qualifies students for the Federal Pell Grant, Oregon Opportunity Grant, Oregon Promise, and government loans. The 2020-21 FAFSA ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) goes live on October 1<sup>st</sup>, and will use 2018 tax information. The CSS Profile, an additional financial aid form used by many private schools will also be introduced.

### ASPIRE!

Students: Are you uncertain about your plans for the future? Need help finding a college or career path that suits you? Stop by the College and Career Center and talk to Jen Marsden, the ASPIRE coordinator. ASPIRE mentors help students identify career, education, financial aid and scholarship opportunities. Whether students are looking at attending a four-year college or university, a community college, or a training program, an ASPIRE mentor can help you get there.

### COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT

On Wednesday, **October 2<sup>nd</sup>** from **6:30-8:00 pm**, seniors and their parents/guardians are invited to a college information session in the IVC. AHS Counseling Office staff will discuss and answer questions about how to apply to community and 4-year public/private colleges, financial aid, scholarships, and many other aspects of the road to higher education. The information will be specifically relevant to seniors, but other interested students and families are welcome to attend.

### COLLEGE VISITS

Throughout the school year, college admissions officers visit AHS to talk with students about their respective schools. If a visit is during class, students should get pre-approval from the teacher. College visits, times and locations are listed in the daily announcements and posted in the College and Career Center (CCC). **Visits are held in the CCC** unless otherwise announced. Currently, the following visits are scheduled:

College	Date	Time
Occidental College	9/19/19	11:55 am - 12:40 pm
Whitman College	9/30/19	11:15 am - 12:00 pm
Northern Arizona University	10/1/18	11:55 am - 12:40 pm
OSU - Cascades Campus	10/1/19	1:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Lewis and Clark College	10/1/19	2:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Pacific Northwest College of Art	10/2/19	11:15 am - 11:55 am
University of California-Irvine	10/2/19	1:15 pm - 2:00 pm
Oregon Institute of Technology	10/8/19	11:30 am - 12:40 pm
University of Oregon	10/14/19	9:00 am - 9:35 am
University of Portland	10/16/19	9:00 am - 9:45 am
Pacific University	10/18/19	11:27 am - 11:55 am
Oregon State University	10/22/19	12:40 pm - 1:20 pm
Linfield College	10/29/19	2:15 pm - 3:00 pm
Portland State University	11/6/19	1:25 pm - 2:40 pm
PSU Admissions on the Spot	11/7/19	2:15 pm - 4:00 pm

The **PNACAC College Fair**, with representatives from over 50 colleges, will be held at SOU on the morning of **Monday, October 1st**. All juniors will have the opportunity to attend. This is not an organized activity for seniors (as they went last year), but they may choose to attend with parental permission. See [www.pnacac.org](http://www.pnacac.org) for more information.

### COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Every college has information about its admissions process on its website. The majority of applications are completed online and many private schools use the Common Application ([www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)). Be aware of application deadlines; the public California universities are early - November 30<sup>th</sup>. Schools that have Early Action and Early Decision options can have deadlines as early as October 15.

## OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGES

There are 17 community colleges in Oregon, which offer an extensive array of professional training programs in fields such as Mechanics, Electronics, Culinary Arts, Massage Therapy, Dental Hygiene, Physical Therapy and many others. Students can get the skills they need in a year or two to enter the job market. Students can also complete general education credits at a community college, receive a two-year A.A or A.S degree and then have the option to transfer to a four-year university to complete a bachelor's degree.

Tuition is often significantly less at a community college than at a four-year university or private vocational school. Community colleges offer open enrollment, meaning there are no admissions requirements. Students going to a community college **do not** need to take the ACT or SAT.

In 2015, our state launched the Oregon Promise program, offering high school graduates and GED recipients the opportunity to have the majority of their community college tuition covered by federal and state grants. To qualify, students must graduate from an Oregon high school with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher, have been an Oregon resident for at least 12 months prior to enrolling in community college, complete the FAFSA or ORSAA, and begin community college within six months of high school graduation or GED completion. Learn more about the Oregon Promise at [www.oregonpromise.org](http://www.oregonpromise.org).

## OREGON PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

All of Oregon's public universities send representatives to AHS during the school year. Each university also holds preview days on their campuses. Be sure to check each school's priority dates for application and scholarship deadlines. Each Oregon public university has its own online application. Students applying to private schools, can also apply to OSU and UO using the online Common Application.

Admissions requirements for Oregon's public universities include English (4 years), Math through Algebra 2 (3 years), Science (3 years), Social Studies (2 years), and Foreign Language (2 years); students must receive a C- or better in all of these classes. SAT/ACT scores are required. OIT, OSU, PSU, SOU, UO require a minimum GPA of 3.0; EOU and WOU require a minimum GPA of 2.75. Universities may conduct more comprehensive reviews of applicants who don't meet the required courses, grades or GPA for admission.

## OREGON COLLEGE APPLICATION WEEK

The goal of **Oregon College Application Week (CAW)** is to provide an opportunity for all Oregon seniors to work on college, financial aid and scholarship applications. **November 19-22**, AHS will host a number of workshops for students to explore post high school educational options and apply to college. **There will be a big push during CAW to get seniors looking at community colleges to submit their school and Oregon Promise applications.** Computer labs will be open during and after school so seniors can get assistance applying to the schools of their choice. More information at [www.oregongoestocollege.org](http://www.oregongoestocollege.org).

## COLLEGE ENTRANCE TESTS

Information on the ACT and SAT is available in the College and Career Center. Registration is done online. The SAT website is [www.sat.org](http://www.sat.org); the ACT website is [www.act.org](http://www.act.org). The AHS code is 380025. Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch are eligible for fee waivers for the ACT and SAT. These waivers also allow students to apply to colleges for free. See Karyn Barats in the Counseling Office to receive a fee waiver.

SAT			
Test Date	Deadline	Late	Location
October 5	September 6	September 17	AHS
November 2	October 3	October 15	AHS
December 7	November 8	November 19	AHS
March 14	February 14	February 25	AHS
May 2	April 3	April 14	AHS
June 6	May 8	May 19	AHS

SAT fee is \$49.50 and SAT plus essay is \$64.50. Late registration is an additional \$30.00. The SAT subject test fee is \$26.00 for basic registration, plus \$22.00 per subject test. The language with listening test is an additional \$26.00.

ACT			
Test Date	Deadline	Late	Location
October 26	September 20	October 4	Medford
December 14	November 8	November 22	AHS
February 8	January 10	January 17	AHS
April 4	February 28	March 13	AHS
June 13	May 8	May 22	Eugene
July 18	June 19	June 26	Klamath Falls

ACT fee is \$52.00 and ACT plus writing is \$68.00. Late registration is an additional \$30.00.

## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Some colleges require students to submit letters of recommendation from teachers/counselors. AHS asks students to fill out our letter of recommendation request forms, which can be found on the AHS website under Counseling Services/Forms. The completed forms can then be given/emailed to those from whom students would like to request a recommendation letter.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship opportunities are available throughout the year. The OSAC (Oregon Office of Student Access and Completion) scholarship application offers over 400 scholarships, including several specifically for Jackson County and AHS students. Students can begin this online application November 1<sup>st</sup> at [www.oregonstudentaid.gov](http://www.oregonstudentaid.gov). AHS local scholarships appear on the AHS website in early December. Check the scholarship bulletin board in the Counseling Office and the AHS website under Counseling Services/Post High School Education/Scholarships for more information about available scholarships. AHS Counseling Office staff will host a **Scholarship Information Night** on Wednesday, **December 4<sup>th</sup>** from 6:30-8:00 pm in the IVC.

~ Provided by the AHS College and Career Center ~