

Guidance Gazette



SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer school registration packets are available in the Guidance Office. You may also download the forms from the Fort Zumwalt North High home page @ nhs.fz.k12.mo.us.

Summer School Dates

Session 1: June 5—June 20

Session 2: June 22—July 11 (no class July 3-4)



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7 ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS TO BUILD BEFORE COLLEGE

Planning - Creating and following a schedule will help teens manage their time, which can help students be successful in college.

Managing Money - Students should understand the basics of managing money. That includes maintaining a budget and paying bills. They should also understand how student loans will affect their quality of life after graduation.

Studying - Look at what you are supposed to read, determine what is important, make a list of the things you are supposed to know and test yourself multiple times before an instructor tests you.

Staying Safe and Healthy - Research campus safety and build personal safety habits.

Apartment Hunting - Parents should explain how to hunt for an apartment and the responsibility that comes with signing a lease. Discuss details a teen may overlook, such as paying for utilities and how to get the security deposit back.

Cooking - This can be a way for teens to bond with other students and share cultures. Having a recipe of your favorite comfort food can make hard days at college easier. Discuss how to create a shopping list, stock a pantry, save money on food and learn basic cooking techniques.

Getting Around Town—Students with cars should know how to change a tire and get roadside assistance. All students should know their options for getting around town, such as public transportation, Zipcars, etc.

US News & World Report

HELPFUL WEBSITES

Finding a College for You:
www.collegeview.com
www.collegeboard.org
www.youniversitytv.com

Financial Aid and Scholarships:
www.StudentAid.gov
www.StLouisGraduates.org
www.StudentScholarships.org
www.finaid.org
www.fastweb.com
www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov
www.studentaid2.ed.gov

Federal Government:
www.fafsa.gov
www.bls.gov
www.ed.gov

State of Missouri:
www.dhe.mo.gov

ACT:
ACTstudent.org

Free ACT/SAT Prep websites:
www.number2.com
www.LearningExpressLibrary.com

Career Exploration:
www.missouriconnections.org
www.careerinfonet.org

*Are you looking for something to do this summer?
Explore the “Summer Opportunities” list under
Guidance on the FZN Website:
www.nhs.fz.k12.mo.us*

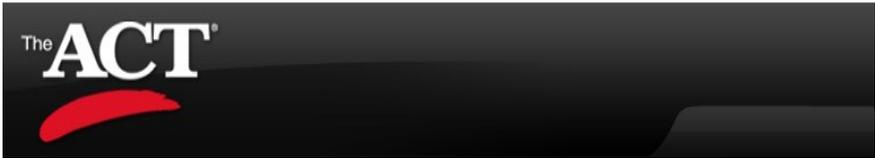


If you plan on playing NCAA Division I or II sports in college, you should have completed the NCAA Initial Eligibility form in the 2nd semester of your Junior year. If you have not yet completed this form, please do so ASAP. Go to www.eligibilitycenter.net.

NCAA now requires prospective athletes to supply ACT or SAT scores to the Clearinghouse directly from the testing agency (ACT or SAT). **Test scores shown on an official high school transcript will no longer be acceptable for NCAA purposes.**

To submit your ACT score directly to the NCAA, go to www.actstudent.org/scores. The ACT code for NCAA is 9999. The cost is \$12.

Additionally, all prospective student athletes intending to enroll in an NCAA Division I or II institution for the first time must complete the **NCAA Amateurism Certification questionnaire**. (Note: If you have already registered, you will need to use your PIN to go back and complete the questionnaire.)



ACT Registration Information

Register at www.actstudent.org (FZN High School Code: 262483)

You can create your own web account on ACT web site and make changes to your registration.

2017-2018 Test Dates (National)

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>	<u>(Late Fee Required)</u>
September 9, 2017	August 4, 2017	August 5-18, 2017
October 28, 2017	September 22, 2017	September 23-October 6, 2017
December 9, 2017	November 3, 2017	November 4-17, 2017
February 10, 2018*	January 12, 2018	January 13-19, 2018
April 14, 2018	March 9, 2018	March 10-23, 2018
June 9, 2018	May 4, 2018	May 5-18, 2018
July 14, 2018*	June 15, 2018	June 16-22, 2018

ACT FEES

- Basic Test Fee (no writing).....\$42.50*
- Basic Test Fee (with writing).....\$58.50*
- LATE REGISTRATION FEE.....\$27.5*
- (The total cost for late registration is \$70)*

FZN’s Test Center Code is 164420

FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Federal Student Aid has launched some exciting new tools to help students through the financial aid process:

StudentAid.gov is a new website that provides straightforward and easy-to-understand information about planning and paying for college. The site combines content and interactive tools from several Education Department websites. As a mobile-optimized website, StudentAid.gov is fully accessible on tablets and smartphones. This website features videos and infographics to help answer frequently asked questions about financial aid.

The full collection of videos can be found at www.YouTube.com/FederalStudentAid, and the full collection of infographics is at www.visual.ly/users/FederalStudentAid.

ACT PREP CLASSES

St. Charles Community College will offer an ACT preparatory course beginning July 17, 2017. This course will work to prepare students for the September 9 test. SCC has partnered with Cambridge Educational Services, who use the latest versions of the actual ACT tests to create this course. Students will study actual test questions as they develop skills and strategies for taking the ACT.

This course will take place on 7 Monday nights (6-9 pm) July 17 through August 28.

Cost is \$149 and the book must be purchased separately at the SCC bookstore.

To register on line:

www.stchas.edu/learnforlife

Or call 636-922-8233

You must register separately for the ACT test @ www.actstudent.org

COLLEGE FAIRS

St. Charles Community College

Thursday, Sept. 21

6:00pm - 7:30pm

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

Colleges encourage students to apply on-line. Some may waive the application fee if you apply online. After you have applied online, please stop by the Guidance Office to tell Mrs. Loesche where to send your transcript.

Colleges require your official high school transcript to be sent from your high school. A college cannot process your application without it.

NET PRICE CALCULATOR

All undergraduate institutions that award federal title IV financial aid are required to offer a **net price calculator** that provides students an estimated cost to attend their college.

When viewing college websites, go to **Admissions** and look for the **net price calculator**.

COLLEGE EXPLORATION

College & Military Visits

Colleges, universities and military representatives visited FZN this Fall and many will return for another visit during second semester. Seniors AND Juniors are welcome to attend the college visits during second semester. The schedule will be posted in the Guidance Office and on the FZ District website. Check with the Guidance Office for the most current updates. You must sign up in the Guidance Office to attend a college visit.

Are you trying to decide which college is right for you? Ask yourself these questions:

- Why do you want to go to college?
- How far away from home do you want to be?
- What size of school are you looking for?

- Do you want to be in a small town or big city?
- Do you have the grades/test scores to be admitted?
- What major are you interested in?
- Can you afford it?
- Do you want to play athletics?
- What activities are you interested in?

Answer these questions for **YOURSELF**, NOT based on what your friends are doing!



Check the DEADLINES on all applications!

FAFSA

WWW.FAFSA.GOV

You must complete and submit the FAFSA to apply for federal student aid for college or career school and for most state and institutional aid. The quickest way to apply is online using the FAFSA on the Web @ www.fafsa.gov.

Financial aid offices use information from the FAFSA to determine if you are eligible to receive federal student aid from grants, loans and work-study programs. States and schools also use the information from the FAFSA to determine if you qualify for additional aid. So be sure to fill out a FAFSA even if you think you won't qualify for federal aid.

You will be required to use a FSA ID to sign the FAFSA. To create a FSA ID, go to: www.fafsa.gov.

Your FSA ID is used to sign legally binding documents electronically. It has the same legal status as a written signature. Don't give your FSA ID to anyone. Sharing your FSA ID could put you at risk of identity theft. The FSA ID is a username and password that you must use to log into the FAFSA.

Starting with the Academic Year 2017-18, the traditional **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) submission date of January 1 will change to October 1**. In addition, families will be able to use tax information from the prior year.

The **January 1** start date made it difficult for families to get their tax information gathered in time to complete the application.

By moving the start date up three months to **October 1**, students will have more time to fill out this vital information, they'll have tax information at hand and families will have more time to evaluate the school's financial aid award package.

Academic Year 2017-2018: Submit your FAFSA beginning October 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018. Use income tax info from 2015.

SPRING IS A GREAT TIME FOR A COLLEGE VISIT!

How do I plan and schedule a college visit?

Spring is a great time to visit colleges. You will get a better idea of your “fit” if you visit a college when classes are in session and students are on campus. Timing of your visit is crucial if you’re to get an accurate impression of the school. For example, if you plan your trip around a homecoming weekend or holiday, you probably won’t witness the typical campus atmosphere.

Most colleges offer a variety of opportunities to visit campus. Some offer Open House events where students are invited to visit campus on a specific date. At a college open house, you are more likely to be able to meet representatives from the school’s organizations such as clubs, sororities, fraternities, student government, etc. College websites will post open house dates on their websites under *ADMISSIONS*. Additionally, there is a list of regional college open house events posted on the FZN Guidance website under *COLLEGE EVENTS*.

Colleges also offer individual personalized campus visits where students can get a campus tour, meet with an Admissions Representative and meet with professors and students from a particular department. Most colleges and universities have an online form on their website to complete for scheduling a campus visit. Other options include contacting the admissions office by phone or e-mail.



If you cannot find time to travel to visit a college, check their website to see if they offer a VIRTUAL tour. www.campustours.com allows you to virtually tour thousands of colleges from your computer.

What questions should I ask on a college visit? What information should I collect?

The purpose of visiting a college is to find out more information about the school. However, to find out the information you want, you may need to ask some questions. If you are stumped on which questions to prepare for the college admissions staff, here is a list to get you started:

- ◆ Verify admission requirements. Do they require or recommend the ACT Writing Test?
- ◆ Discuss your chances for success in certain programs.
- ◆ Find out how to apply.
- ◆ Request a viewbook and other literature
- ◆ Determine college costs
- ◆ Ask about financial aid opportunities including scholarships, as well as deadlines and forms required.
- ◆ Meet with faculty in the department of your intended major.
- ◆ Find out average class size and retention/graduation rates.
- ◆ Are any classes taught by grad students?
- ◆ Ask about academic requirements/offerings.
- ◆ Attend a class to get an idea of typical size, teaching style and academic atmosphere
- ◆ Ask about the job placement record for graduates in the field you might study.
- ◆ Identify career planning services for undergraduates.
- ◆ Tour the campus and check out the residence halls, dining options and library resources.
- ◆ Talk to students about the general academic environment and amount/kind of studying necessary for success.
- ◆ Find out what student activities are available (clubs, organizations, intramurals, etc.) and about campus life and social activities.
- ◆ Investigate transportation options (i.e. where will I go to buy shampoo and how will I get there?)

UPCOMING DATES

May 6	Deadline to register for the June ACT Test
May 28	Graduation
June 13	ACT Test (Not held at FZN on this date)
June 5—June 20	Summer School—Session 1
June 22—July 11	Summer School—Session 2 (no class July 3-4)
August 4	Deadline to register for September ACT

GUIDANCE STAFF

Nita McGill—Counselor (A—Fi)

Karen Wilson—Director & Counselor (Fl-La)

Amanda Peters—Counselor (Le—Ri)

Becky Sieve—Counselor (Ro—Z)

Becky Taylor—Crisis Counselor

Ann Woods—Registrar

Julee Loesche—Financial Aid Secretary

Karen Berich—Guidance Clerk

