

New Manchester High School College and Career Center Important Dates / Information and Scholarships September 2020

Students and Parents,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! Each month, I will provide a newsletter that will be posted on our NMHS Website, (you would click on Departments, then College & Career Center, and once on that screen, look to your right, and click on scholarship newsletter). Newsletters contain <u>a lot</u> of important information, especially for seniors and juniors. The scholarship opportunities listed in the newsletters, are only those which come to me via my email. I will, however, provide several safe websites to be utilized for researching many other scholarship opportunities. Parents, please encourage your students to spend time on our NMHS Website looking at the newsletter, so that opportunities will not be missed.

Virtual PROBE FAIR 2020

Learn more about post-secondary options after high school. Probe is a resource to connect students with the right college to meet your individual needs and career goals. Probe will be offered through Zoom Webinars, at no cost to students, and registration for students to attend will open on Tuesday, September 15. (http://www.gaprobe.org)

Mini Fair 1 – Monday, October 5 – Wednesday, October 7, 2020

- Monday, Oct. 5 Kickoff College Panel Discussions (Q&A regarding college admissions using Zoom)
 College Panel 1: 5:00 – 5:45 pm
 College Panel 2: 6:00 – 7:45 pm (all times are eastern standard time)
- Tuesday, Oct. 6 Hear from six college representatives per session as they give a six-minute overview of their institution using Zoom. Live chat with representatives. Multiple sessions will be offered during each time slot.
 6x6 1st session: 5:00 5:45 pm
 6x6 3rd session: 6:00 6:45 pm
 6x6 3rd session: 7:00 7:45 pm (all times are eastern standard time)

 Wednesday, Oct. 7 - Hear from six college representatives per session as they give a six-minute overview of their institution using Zoom. Live chat with representatives. Multiple sessions will be offered during each time slot. 6x6 1st session: 5:00 – 5:45 pm 6x6 2nd session: 6:00 – 6:45 pm 6x6 3rd session: 7:00 – 7:45 pm (all times are eastern standard time)

Mini Fair 2 – Monday, November 2 – November 4, 2020

 Monday, Nov. 2 – Kickoff College Panel Discussions (Q&A regarding college admissions using Zoom)
 College Panel 1: 5:00 – 5:45 pm
 College Panel 2: 6:00 – 7:45 pm (all times are eastern standard time)

Tuesday, Nov. 3 – Hear from six college representatives per session as they give a six-minute overview of their institution using Zoom. Live chat with representatives. Multiple sessions will be offered during each time slot. 6x6 1st session: 5:00 – 5:45 pm 6x6 2nd session: 6:00 – 6:45 pm 6x6 3rd session: 7:00 – 7:45 pm (all times are eastern standard time)

 Wednesday, Nov. 4 - Hear from six college representatives per session as they give a six-minute overview of their institution using Zoom. Live chat with representatives. Multiple sessions will be offered during each time slot. 6x6 1st session: 5:00 – 5:45 pm 6x6 2nd session: 6:00 – 6:45 pm 6x6 3rd session: 7:00 – 7:45 pm

Check List for Seniors Graduating in 2021

- ✓ Verify that you are on track to graduate in May. (minimum of 23 credits: 4 credits of English, 4 credits of Math, 4 credits of Science, 4 credits of social studies, 1 credit of Health and Personal Fitness, 3-required electives from CTAE, Fine Arts, or Foreign Language courses, 3-additional courses (may be core or non-core electives)
- ✓ Take the SAT and the ACT (if available due to COVID-19), if you plan to apply to a four-year college/university.
- ✓ Take the Accuplacer Test, if you plan to attend a Technical College.
- ✓ Take the ASVAB in October, if you plan to go into one of the Military Branches.

- ✓ Begin applying to colleges that offer your major, and that you have a good chance to be accepted into. (<u>Do your research</u> by going to the college's website)
- ✓ Research scholarship opportunities, and <u>APPLY</u>! There is no such thing, as too many scholarships. The more you get, the less you pay!
- ✓ Apply for FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid) The window opens on October 1, 2020. Every college has a deadline for FAFSA. Go on a college's website to get the deadline. Colleges/Universities <u>will not look</u> at a student for any financial aid they might could offer, until the student fills out the FAFSA!
- ✓ Make your final decision about where you will be attending college next fall, 2021, and keep applying for scholarships. Go on the college's website and look under financial aid for possible scholarships or grants you might be eligible for.
- ✓ Order your Final Official Transcript to be sent to the college you will be attending in the fall, after we return to school from spring break.

University System of Georgia WAIVES Test Score Requirement For Spring, Summer, and Fall 2021

Due to uncertainty about the scheduling of SAT/ACT testing during the COVID-19 pandemic, the University System of Georgia (USG) will waive test score requirements for Spring, Summer and Fall 2021 admission. This temporary adjustment will allow students to apply, without submitting ACT or SAT Scores. Students <u>MUST</u> meet all other admission requirements, and must meet adjusted minimum grade point average eligibility thresholds for admission to each USG sector. Students who have SAT/ACT scores may still submit them. <u>https://www.usg.edu/coronavirus/usg_waives_test_score-</u> requirement_for_spring_summer_fall

Scheduled SAT/ACT Test Dates (could be subject to change per COVID-19)

With Covid 19 still wreaking havoc on us, there is a great possibility that several seniors have still not taken an SAT/ACT. Testing dates for each test have been scheduled, and some of the test dates are as follows:

ACT – Sept. 12	SAT – Sept. 20
Sept. 13 (Sunday)	Oct. 3
Sept. 19	Nov. 7
Oct. 10	Dec. 5

Register for ACT Online at: <u>https://www.act.org</u>

Regular Cost: \$55.00 <u>with</u> writing: \$70.00 (fee waivers cover the entire cost, if a student meets eligibility)*

Register for SAT Online at: <u>https://www.collegeboard.org</u>

Regular Cost: \$49.50 <u>with</u> essay: \$64.50 (fee waivers cover the entire cost, if a student meets eligibility)*

*Email <u>Pam.Morris@dcssga.org</u>, to inquire about fee waivers, if you meet eligibility.

TYPES OF FINANCIAL Aid

- Grants Students do not pay back!
- Scholarships Students do not pay back, and may also stack them! The more you get, the less you pay!
- Work-Study Jobs Students have part-time jobs on campus, usually no more than 15-18 hours per week.
- Loans Students <u>do pay back</u>, whether they graduate from college or not!
- Aid for Military Family
- Aid for International Study

THE FAFSA PROCESS – Window opens October 1

The Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a vital document. It provides more than \$120 billion in grants, loans, and work-study funds each year to help pay for college or career school. To apply for this aid, you must complete the Free Application For Federal Student Aid form. Also, state governments and many colleges and career schools use your FAFSA information to award you their aid. <u>DID YOU KNOW</u>? Some schools won't consider you for merit scholarships (scholarships based on academic achievement or other talents, or skills), until you have submitted a FAFSA, so complete one even if you think you won't qualify for federal aid.

- www.fafgsa.gov. Your FSA ID The FSA ID is the username and password you create to log into the FAFSA website. Each student, and one parent of each dependent student, will need an FSA ID. Because you FSA ID is equivalent to your signature, parents and students each need to create their own FSA IDs using their own email address and phone number. Parents should not create an FSA ID for their child and vice versa. I recommend creating your FSA ID early – even before you're ready to complete the FAFSA Form, to avoid delays in the process.
- Your Social Security Number If you don't have access to it, and don't know where it is, ask your parent or legal guardian or get a new or replacement Social Security Card. (<u>https://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber</u>) from the Social Security Administration. If you are

not a U.S. citizen, but meet Federal Student Aid's basic eligibility requirements (<u>https://studentaid.ed.gov/eligibility/basic-criteria</u>), you will also need your Alien Registration number.

- 3. <u>Your driver's license number</u> If you do not have a driver's license, then don't worry about this step.
- 4. Federal tax information or tax returns You may be able to retrieve and transfer tax information into the form automatically using the Internal Revenue Service Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT).
- 5. Records of untaxed income.
- 6. Cash, savings, and checking account balances.
- 7. Investments other than the home in which you live.

DON'T HAVE ALL YOUR INFO READY YET? That's okay, you can start the FAFSA, save it, and come back later to finish it.

PROCESSING THE FAFSA – Timeline, after you have submitted:

- You will receive an email within a few days, letting you know your FAFSA was processed.
- Your college or career school might request additional information from you. Make sure you respond by any deadlines.
- First-Time Applicants You will receive an aid offer from each college or career school you applied to and listed on your FAFSA, stating the amount of aid you could receive at the school.
- Review and compare your offers, and decide which school to attend based on the school's net cost and how well the school suits your needs.
- Receiving Financial Aid Formally accept the school's aid offer and remember, if you are offered student loans, borrow only as much as you really need.
- Your school will handle your aid. Ask the financial aid office when and how your aid will be paid out, what it will cover, and how much (if any) money will come directly to you once tuition and fees are paid.
- GET FREE ASSISTANCE AND ANSWERS: fafsa.gov or 1-800-433-3243

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Beldon Scholarship

Deadline: September 1, 2020

Award: Two winners will be selected to be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship each! A scholarship panel will review all applications, and hand-pick the most qualified candidates. We want you to tell us what it takes to be an aspiring business leader in this industry today. Eligibility: Must be seeking a degree in business, management, communications, marketing or related field. Have a minimum GPA of 3.5. Submit a 1,500-2,000 word essay entitled "Beldon Scholarship", must include full name and .edu email address in essay document. To Apply: <u>https://www.beldon.com/</u>

Art of Protest Grant for Black Students Deadline: September 15, 2020 Award: \$900.00 Winners will be announced on October 1, 2020

The Bellhops \$3,000.00 "Moving Forward" Scholarship Deadline: September 15, 2020 Requirements: download scholarship application and complete fields, 1,000-1,2500-word essay, official transcript. Go to: <u>scholarship@getbellhops.com</u>

Check out scholarships available through: Bold.org

Go Skills Scholarship Deadline: September 15, 2020 Award: \$2,000 will be awarded to 2 recipients Eligibility: Any female high school or college student, who wants to start her own business.

<u>Go to Unigo.com</u> – set-up a free account to get notifications about so many scholarship opportunities, such as:

Shout It Out Scholarship Deadline: September 30, 2020

Elevating Others Scholarship Deadline: September 1, 2020 Award: \$1,000 (awarded by Whitley Law Firm) Unigo.com/scholarships/high-school-seniors

Cameron Impact Scholarship Deadline: September 11, 2020 Award: 15 awards are given, totaling \$140,000.00

The Gates Scholarship

Deadline: Sept. 15, 2020

Award: Scholars will receive funding for the full cost of attendance that is not already covered by other financial aid and the expected family contribution, as determined by the FAFSA.

The Gates Scholarship is a highly selective, full scholarship for exceptional, Pell-eligible, minority, high school seniors. Starting in 2018 the scholarship will be awarded to 300 top student leaders each year with the intent of promoting their academic excellence through college graduation, and providing them the opportunity to reach their full potential. **BASIC Eligibility:**

- A high school senior
- From at least one of the following ethnicities: African-American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian & Pacific Islander American, and/or Hispanic American
- Pell-eligible
- US citizen, national, or permanent resident
- Minimum cumulative weighted GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- Must plan to enroll full-time, in a four-year degree program, at a US accredited, notfor-profit, private or public college or university.

For more information go to: <u>https://www.thegatesscholarship.org/scholarship</u>

Don't Text and Drive Scholarship Deadline: September 30, 2020 Award: \$1,000

WiseGeek Lifelong Lerners Scholarship Deadline: Oct. 31, 2020 Award: \$500 Eligibility: Students who've incurred or will incur debt paying for education. Must be a US Citizen or permanent legal resident. All GPA's and majors are encouraged to apply. https://www.wisegeek.com/scholarship.htm USHLI – Dr. Juan Andrade, Jr. Scholarship For Young Hispanic Leaders Deadline: Nov. 30, 2020 Award: Recipients will receive a non-renewable scholarship. \$1,000 for a 4-year institution or \$500 for a 2-year institution for undergraduate students. Eligibility: At least one parent must be of Hispanic Ancestry. Non US citizens are eligible to apply (DACA or Undocumented).

<u>Attention</u>: The scholarships listed in this newsletter are only those which I receive information about via emails throughout the month. I strongly recommend that students/parents research scholarship opportunities on your own as well. Parents, check with your places of employment, your churches, and other businesses that you support, for possible scholarship opportunities. The following websites are great, safe resources:

www.goingmerry.com – This is a new site, with lots of scholarship opportunities!

www.collegeboard.com, www.fastweb.com, www.blackexcel.com, www.minorityprofessionalnetwork.com, www.finaid.org, www.weirdscholarships.net,