

**LCL COLLEGE PLANNING
NIGHT**

JEREMIAH
29:11

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

OVERVIEW

Options after
High School

Finding the
right college

College
applications &
Timeline

Financial aid
and
scholarships

Four Year College

Two Year College (UW-Waukesha)

Technical College (WCTC)

Military Service (or ROTC in college)

GAP Year

Employment

OPTIONS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

**COLLEGE:
FINDING THE
RIGHT FIT**

Geographic Location, Size, Cost of Attendance,
Private vs public, Christian, Athletics, Military, etc.

Junior Meetings

On-Campus Visits

College Fairs

**Conversations with Family, LCL Alumni,
Friends**

COLLEGE FAIRS

FALL 2018

1) Wisconsin Education Fair (Midwest Colleges)

September 18 at Arrowhead HS. Held in evening.

2) NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling)

September 30 at the Wisconsin Center. Sunday afternoon, 3:00-6:00pm.

3) NACCAP (North American Coalition for Christian Admissions)

October 8 at Elmbrook church, Brookfield. Held in evening.

These dates are from fall 2018, but will be held at a similar time in late 2019

COLLEGE VISITS: GENERAL GUIDELINE

- Visit every school you are seriously interested in (i.e. don't buy a home sight unseen)
 - Contact Admissions to set up a visit in advance
 - Meet with faculty in field of study, financial aid office, and attend classes
 - Come prepared with list of questions
- Open houses or large group visits vs. individual visits
- Revisit when you narrow down list
 - Overnight visit?

COLLEGE VISIT QUESTIONS

- Tuition, room & board, fees (Cost of Attendance)
- Are freshman required to live on campus, allowed to have cars, etc?
- Scholarships guaranteed for all four years or maintain what GPA?
- Reapply for admission into certain major programs (direct admit as freshman)
- Retention rate

Bring a list of questions you want to ask Admissions, Financial Aid, and Professors in Field of Study

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

- The Common Application (www.commonapp.org) or College's Institutional Application
 - Create account (*email address used only for applications*)
- Types of Applications
 - Early Decision – Binding; Can only apply ED to one school; Cannot compare financial aid award packages, but student can appeal if financial aid package is not enough
 - Early Action – Nonbinding; early response but do not have to commit
 - Regular Decision – Nonbinding
- Applications often open around August 1st
- Earliest deadline normally November 1st

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS, CONT

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Letters of Recommendation, total number depends on the school
 - Letters from core subject teacher(s), unless applying for specific fine arts program or athletic scholarship
 - Request 4-6 weeks in advance and give specific due date
- Essay(s). STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY!!
 - No grammar or punctuation mistakes
- High School Resume: Include Activities, Recognitions, Honors, Awards, etc
 - High school Binder

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS, CONT.

At any point in the application process, even after application submission, all colleges will need the following:

- **Official high school transcripts:** LCL uses Parchment
 - Create account on www.parchment.com, enter LCL as school, complete profile information, and “order” transcripts for free to be sent to colleges electronically
- **ACT (and/or SAT) test scores**
 - Non-official scores are included on transcript. Check each school to see if they need official scores. Request scores at www.actstudent.org

INSTITUTION EVALUATION PROCESS

How Colleges Evaluate Applicants

- GPA
 - Rigor and types of courses taken into consideration (AP, Dual-Credit, etc)
- Standardized Test Scores (ACT/SAT)
- Extra-Curricular Activities
 - Athletic, leadership roles, clubs, organizations, volunteer service
- Essays
- Letters of Recommendation

JUNIOR YEAR

MARCH | APRIL | MAY

- > Attend Junior Meetings
 - Review senior course selection
 - discuss college/career discernment
- > Create a testing plan by **registering for ACT tests**
 - In advance (*LCL host site for April & June 2019 tests*)
- > Take practice ACT tests and use scores to determine strengths and weaknesses to study
- > **Take SAT practice test** –
 - Determine whether or not to take SAT. Register if taking.
 - LCL is not a testing site - See SAT website for locations For May and June tests*
- > Research Colleges/Universities , including majors of interest and Early App deadlines

SUMMER

- > Set up appointments to visit Colleges of interest
- > Begin online applications:
 - Common App if applicable
- > Create Resume of high school involvement – athletic, volunteer, church, club, etc.
- > Determine and Contact Recommenders

SENIOR YEAR

SEPT | OCT | NOV

- > **Complete FAFSA** (opens Oct 1)
- > Meet with Guidance Counselor to review application process
- > Take additional ACT/SAT tests (as needed)
- > Request Letters of Recommendation from faculty and/or coaches at least 3 weeks in advance. Give specific instructions for submission
- > Place request in Parchment for transcript to be sent to colleges
- > Complete and Submit College Applications (*note that Preferred Application Deadline is often Nov 1*)
- > Once admitted, visit colleges of interest during fall & winter semesters
- > Begin Scholarship research

DEC | JAN | FEB | MARCH

- > Continue Scholarship search(es) and apply
- > Compare financial aid offers
- > Notify Colleges of mid-year course changes
- > Based on financial aid offers, notify colleges of final decision and secure position!

COLLEGE APPLICATION TIMELINE

DUAL-CREDIT OPTIONS

- While at LCL, students can enroll in dual-credit courses to receive credit for LCL as well as college credit.

ONLINE OPTIONS

- Concordia University Wisconsin - \$150 per course
- Grand Canyon University - \$295 per course

LCL OPTION

- Spanish 3 and Spanish 4 – Mr. Seder

ACT TEST DATES

****Plan to take at least 3 times****

Register at www.act.org

<u>Test Dates</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>
• April 13 th 2019 (LCL host site)	March 8 th 2019
• June 8 th 2019 (LCL host site)	May 3 th 2019
• July 13 th 2019	June 14 th 2019
• September 14 th 2019	
• October 26 th 2019 (LCL host site)	
• December 14 th 2019 (LCL host site)	

SAT TEST DATES

Take practice test online and compare scores

**** Free test prep including practice tests and guided instruction/tutoring on Khan Academy****

Register at www.collegeboard.org

Test dates

- May 4, 2019 Milwaukee, Mequon, Madison test centers
- June 1, 2019 Milwaukee, Mequon, Madison test centers
- Aug 24, 2018 (not released)
- Oct 5, 2018 (not released)
- Nov 2, 2018 (not released)

TEST SUPERSCORING

Colleges that Superscore the ACT will look at the student's highest individual subject test scores from Math, Science, Reading, and English and calculate a new, composite score from across all your test dates.

Check with each school where you are applying to find out their policy on Standardized Test Score acceptances.

HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

- Total amount tuition, fees, room & board
 - COA – Cost of Attendance
- Minus scholarships and grants
- Minus federal & student aid
- Out of pocket cost
 - Payment plans, parent plus loans, private loans, cash

HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE: FEDERAL & STATE AID

- Fill out the free application at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- FAFSA for 2020-2021 will go live October 1st, 2019
- First create a FSA ID at www.studentaid.ed.gov
 - FSA ID for 1) Student and 2) Parent
- Use prior, prior year tax information (2018 tax return)
- Student Aid is determined by EFC (estimated family contribution) to qualify for FEDeral and State aid

HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE: INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

- Merit scholarships
 - Based on GPA and either ACT or SAT test scores
 - Most private schools offer these vs few public schools
- Performance scholarships
 - Athletics
 - Arts
- Institution specific
 - School may have extra you can apply for, including first generation, minority, low income, etc

HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE: OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

- Parents' work
- Local Scholarships from county of residence, clubs, organizations
- Places of employment or volunteer work
- Church
- LCL Scholarship Spreadsheet (<http://www.lakecountryhs.org/guidance>)
- Search-Engine Websites
 - College Greenlight Raise Me FastWeb
 - Cappex Myscholly.com NHS.org
 - College Raptor Go College Petersons.com

OVERWHELMED??

The College Application process can be very overwhelming. I am here to help if you have any additional questions or would like to set up an individual meeting.

Also, all this information (and more) can be reviewed on our detailed College/Career Planning Handbook, located on the Guidance page of the LCL website:

<http://www.lakecountryhs.org/guidance>

**CONTACT
INFORMATION**

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