

Planning for Your Future



What path will you choose?

We've made it to the second semester, but there is still lots of work to do before the school year is over! Seniors, you should be applying for scholarships (along with keeping your grades up!). The WAHS Common Scholarship Application is available now – keep reading for more details. There are many other local scholarship applications you can be working on too!

Are you a senior who is heading into the workforce after graduation? Then mark your calendars for our Pathways to Your Future Career Fair being held on March 12, 2020 at the high school. Many of the employers attending are ready to hire high school graduates. If you need help with a resume, stop in to see Mrs. Eck in the guidance office.

Don't worry underclassmen, we have news for you too! Course selection will start soon for the 2020-21 school year, so be sure to check out the new course catalog (link below). Plus, there are many summer opportunities for you to check out to help you explore potential career paths.



Important Dates & Deadlines

February 14:	Registration deadline for March 14 SAT Test Date
February 28:	Registration deadline for April 4 ACT Test Date
March 12:	3 rd Annual Pathways to Your Future Career Fair @ WAHS
March 27:	Deadline for WAHS Common Scholarship Application
April 1:	Deadline for First Community Foundation Partnership Scholarship Application

Scholarship Opportunities

Seniors, as we approach the end of the school year there will be many more scholarship opportunities available to you! Below is a list of some of the local scholarships currently open:

WAHS Common Scholarship Application

Deadline to apply: March 27, 2020

Application available in the guidance office or online at <https://www.wasd.org/our-schools/williamsport-area-high-school/scholarships>

- The WAHS Common Scholarship Application is used to award local scholarships to WAHS students only
- All required documents must be turned in by the deadline
- Be sure to read the criteria carefully for each scholarship and indicate which scholarships you qualify for

Williamsport First Community Foundation Partnership Scholarships

Deadline to apply: April 1, 2020

Application available online at <https://www.fcpartnership.org/apply/scholarships>

- Numerous scholarships are available for students attending a Lycoming County public school
- Also, 4 additional scholarships available for WAHS students only
- Students must apply online
- Details about the scholarships are available in the WAHS Guidance office or online at <https://www.fcpartnership.org/apply/scholarships>

Daughters of the American Revolution – 3 scholarships available

Deadline to apply: February 15, 2020

Applications available in the WAHS Guidance Office

1. PA DAR Student Scholarship – Open to any PA high school senior; must provide a copy of your acceptance to an accredited program at a college/university. Eligibility for this scholarship is not limited to a specific field or area of study.
2. Louise V. Nelson Nursing Scholarship – Open to any PA high school senior; must provide a copy of your acceptance into an accredited nursing program
3. Mary Reider American History Scholarship – Open to any PA high school senior who plans to study American History at an accredited college/university

Edward W. Claudius Memorial Scholarship

Deadline to apply: February 26, 2020

Applications available in the WAHS Guidance Office

- One-time award of \$500.00 given by the Lycoming County Counselors' Association
- Awarded to a graduating senior from a Lycoming County high school who will be attending the Pennsylvania State University (any campus – not Penn College) in the fall of 2020 for a four-year degree

Kay Ertel Scholarship

Deadline to apply: March 1, 2020

Applications available in the WAHS Guidance Office

- Two \$400 scholarships will be awarded to women pursuing an undergraduate degree in a liberal arts field
- Applicant must be a female high school senior, in a public school in Lycoming County, who is interested in public service and is pursuing an undergraduate degree

First Commonwealth Bank Scholarship

Deadline to apply: March 2, 2020

Applications available in the WAHS Guidance Office or at www.fcbanking.com/scholarship

- Open to graduating high school seniors with a 3.00 GPA (or an 85% average) or better
- A total of \$35,000 is available in \$1,000 individual scholarships

2020 John Sharp Memorial Scholarship

Deadline to apply: March 27, 2020

Applications available in the WAHS Guidance Office or at <https://www.horizonfcu.org/2020-john-sharp-memorial-scholarship/>

- Applicant must be a senior who is an active account holder in good standing of Horizon Federal Credit Union, graduating with a GPA of 2.5 or higher, and is accepted as a full-time student at a college or university

National Federation of the Blind PA Scholarship

Deadline to apply: March 31, 2020

Application available online at www.nfb.org/scholarships

- Must be legally blind in both eyes.
- Must be residing in the United States, the District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico.
- Must be pursuing or planning to pursue a full-time, post-secondary course of study in a degree program at a U.S. institution in the fall of the year of application (one scholarship may be given to a person employed full-time while attending school part-time).
- Must participate in the entire NFB National Convention and in all of its scheduled scholarship program activities (finalists will receive assistance to attend the national convention).

Thomas W. O'Brien Memorial Scholarship

Deadline to apply: April 3, 2020

Application available online at www.cte.iup.edu/scholarship

- \$1500 scholarship awarded to a senior enrolled in an approved CTE program in PA and planning to attend a post-secondary institution majoring in a career and technical field

PALCO Members Helping Members Scholarship

Deadline to apply: April 24, 2020

Applications available in the WAHS Guidance Office

- Two \$1,000 scholarships available to graduating high school seniors enrolling in an accredited college/university or other recognized institution of higher learning full-time in the 2020 school year
- Applicant must be a member in good standing with the PALCO Federal Credit Union for six months or more

Be sure to check out FastWeb (www.fastweb.com) to search for thousands of other scholarships as well. Complete a profile and then you'll have access to \$3.4 billion dollars of funding!

Pathways to Your Future Career Fair

We currently have 33 registrants for our career fair – almost half of the registered employers have job openings for students who have a high school diploma! If you plan on entering the workforce immediately after graduation, this is a perfect opportunity for you to complete applications and talk to employers.

The 3rd Annual Pathways to Your Future Career Fair will be held at Williamsport Area High School on Thursday, March 12, 2020. Students have the opportunity to speak to employers and colleges, apply for jobs, and explore options for their futures.

Military Options

Recruiters from several branches of the military are visiting the high school each week. If you are considering enlisting in the military, stop by the guidance office so we can share your name with the recruiters. Recruiters will also be at the career fair.



Course Selection for 2020-21 School Year

As we head into the 3rd marking period, our underclassmen soon will be asked to start thinking about course selection for next school year. As you think about what courses you will request, consider what career path you might choose. WAHS offers a wide variety of classes that can prepare you for whatever path you decide to follow after high school. Talk to your teachers about what courses they recommend for you.

The 2020-21 course catalog is now available online at <https://www.wasd.org/our-schools/williamsport-area-high-school/academics>. Review all of the electives that are available to you and choose those that align with the career you are interested in. If you are considering pursuing a college degree after high school, you should look at our Advanced Placement offerings and the dual enrollment courses (through PC Now courses).

Summer Opportunities

It might feel as though summer will never come, but we are already halfway through the school year so it's time to start making summer plans. Consider opportunities that will help you explore potential career paths. Summer camps and programs are a great way to add to your resume and college applications.



Iacocca Global Entrepreneurship Intensive @ Lehigh University

Deadline to apply: February 19, 2020

Dates of program: June 28 – July 25, 2020

Program Cost: \$4250 (includes program fee, room and board, instructional materials and field trips)

- Open to current sophomores and juniors
- Learn how to think like an entrepreneur and recognize problems as opportunities
- Includes dynamic learning opportunities, workshops and design labs, a team project with a partner organization, visits to local companies and start-ups and mentoring from entrepreneurs, executives, investors and other professionals

More information available at: <https://global.lehigh.edu/iacocca-institute/high-school>

The University of Pittsburg Health Career Scholarships Academy

Deadline to apply: February 19, 2020

Dates of program: June 28 – July 25, 2020

Program cost: \$2950 (includes tuition, room, board, instructional materials)

- Open to current sophomores and juniors
- Introduces students to the world of health care, including issues of primary care, prevention, public health, career exploration, human growth and development, and areas of practice
- Students will develop a reflective portfolio, write a research paper, participate in a shadow experience, multiple site visits, small group discussion groups, guest speakers, simulations and more

More information available at: www.hcsa.pitt.edu

Penn State, Pennsylvania School for Excellence in Agricultural Sciences

Deadline to apply: February 21, 2020

Dates of programs: July 5 – 31, 2020

- Open to current high school juniors who have an interest in the food, agricultural, and natural resource sciences
- Students will participate in classes, daily labs, workshops, field trips, and guest lectures

More information available at: <http://agsci.psu.edu/school-for-excellence>

Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week (PFEW)

Deadline to apply: March 2, 2020 (Early Bird) or May 1, 2020 (Final deadline)

Dates of programs: 4 weeks to choose from – July 5 – 11, July 12 – 18, July 26 – Aug 1, August 2 – 8, held at Lycoming College and/or Pennsylvania College of Technology

Program cost: \$295 registration fee

- Open to current sophomores and juniors
- Students will form an executive management team and form an imaginary business and compete against other student companies
- Scholarships for Lycoming and Penn College available to PFEW graduates

More information available at: www.pfew.org

Pennsylvania College of Technology Pre-College Programs

Penn College offers overnight programs to help students explore potential career paths. Students can earn a \$1000 scholarship for Penn College by attending one pre-college program (attend 2 programs and you can earn a \$2000 scholarship)!

- Dates vary by program, most are 3-4 days
- Open to grades 9-12 depending on program
- Registration opens March 1, 2020 at <https://www.pct.edu/pre-college-programs>

Programs include:

Architecture Odyssey
Automotive Restoration
Automotive Technology
Aviation
Design, Build & Grow Landscape Horticulture
Diesel Truck & Heavy Equipment
Engineering
First Responder Basic

Future Restaurateurs
Graphic Design Summer Studio
Hall of FAME (Finance, Accounting, Marketing & Entrepreneurship)
Have Your Cake & Decorate It Too
Health Careers
Information Technology
Thingamajig Fabricators

When can I take the SAT or ACT?

Students are encouraged to take the SAT/ACT during the spring of the junior year. Ideally, students will take the PSAT in October of their junior year and then use the results from the PSAT to help study for the SAT. PSAT results typically become available in December. The March SAT date is a good goal to set for yourself – by taking the SAT in March, you would then have time to take the SAT for a second time in June if you want to try to improve your scores. Some seniors also choose to take the SAT in October or November for a 2nd or 3rd time. See below for the test dates and registration deadlines for the SAT and the ACT – you need to plan ahead in order to avoid a late registration fee!

SAT TEST DATES

	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE
March 14, 2020	February 14, 2020	March 3, 2020
May 2, 2020	April 3, 2020	April 21, 2020
June 6, 2020	May 8, 2020	May 27, 2020

Register online at www.sat.org

ACT TEST DATES

	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE
February 8, 2020	January 10, 2020	January 17, 2020
April 4, 2020	February 28, 2020	March 13, 2020
June 13, 2020	May 8, 2020	May 22, 2020
July 18, 2020	June 19, 2020	June 26, 2020

Register online at www.act.org

SAT vs. ACT – Which one should you take?

The majority of Williamsport High School students take the SAT when applying to college, but the ACT is also an option for you. With the recent revisions to the SAT though, there are now not many differences between the SAT and ACT. Both are good options as you complete the college admissions process. Here's a more detailed breakdown of some of the potential differences:



	SAT	ACT
How much does it cost?	\$64.50 w/ essay, \$49.50 no essay **Fee waivers are available if you qualify for free/reduced lunch – come to the guidance office to request one**	\$68 w/ writing, \$52 no writing
Where is the test given?	Williamsport High School (and some other local school districts)	Penn College or Hughesville (depending on the test date)
What am I tested on?	3 sections – reading, writing & language, and math – and optional essay	4 sections – English, math, reading, and science – and optional writing section
How long is the test?	3 hours + 50-minute essay (optional)	2 hours 55 minutes + 40-minute essay (optional)
How are the scores reported?	Composite score range of 400–1600 (SAT Essay: reported in 3 dimensions, each 2–8)	Composite score range of 1–36 (writing domain scores: 2–12)
Is there a penalty for guessing?	No penalty for guessing	No penalty for guessing – score is based on correct answers
What schools will accept my scores?	All U.S. colleges	All U.S. colleges
How do I register?	www.sat.org	www.act.org

Need a reminder?

Want a reminder about when these important events are happening? Sign up for the Remind app and you'll receive reminders from your counselor!

Class of 2020 – Mr. Yonkin - <https://www.remind.com/join/wahscla>

Class of 2021 – Mrs. Harris - <https://www.remind.com/join/3h9hc>

Class of 2022 – Mrs. Hunsinger – <https://www.remind.com/join/chk6ch>



How can I get in contact with my counselor?

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Check out the High School Guidance webpage @

<https://www.wasd.org/our-schools/williamsport-area-high-school/guidance>