



Laquey High School College & Career Planning For Juniors

We hope you find the following *Junior College Planning Handbook* helpful. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time by e-mail or by phone at 765-4051.

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LHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Language Arts (LA I, II, III, LA IV or College Eng)	4 Credits
Social Studies (Wld Hist, Am Hist, Govt, Econ)	3.5 Credits
Math (Algebra I & Higher)	3 Credits
Science (Physical Science, Biology & Elective)	3 Credits
PE	1 Credit
Health	0.5 Credit
Personal Finance	0.5 Credit
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Practical Arts	1 Credit
Electives (Any Classes)	7.5 Credits
Total	25 Credits

COLLEGE PREPATORY REQUIREMENTS

At least 5 Academic Courses Every Year

Language Arts	4 Credits
Social Studies (Am Hist, Govt, Wld Hist, Elect)	3 - 4 Credits
Math (Algebra & Higher)	3 - 4 Credits
Science (Bio & Chem - With Labs)	3 Credits
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Foreign Language (Same Language)	2 Credits
Electives	7.5Credits
Total	25 Credits

LHS offers the following opportunities to earn college credit (or equivalent) while still in high school:

AP Language AP US History

AP Literature AP Calculus

OTC Dual Enrollment

LHS GRADING SCALE

Excellent			Above Average			Average			Below Average		
95-100	A	4.0	86-89	B+	3.67	76-79	C	2.67	66-69	D+	1.6
90-94	A-	4.0	83-85	B	3.33	73-75	C+	2.33	63-65	D	1.3
			80-82	B-	3.0	70-72	C-	2.0	60-62	D-	1.0

Failing - 59 & below F

HONORS REQUIREMENT

At least a 3.0 cumulative GPA

Additional upper level credit in Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies*

Language Arts (LA I, II, III, 2 Elect)	5 Credits
Social Studies (Am Hist, Govt, Wld Hist, Econ, 1 Elect)	4.5 Credits
Math (Algebra I & Higher)	4 Credits
Science (Physical Science, Bio, 2 Elect)	4 Credits
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Practical Arts	1 Credit
Health	.5 Credit
Personal Finance	.5 Credit
PE	1 Credit
Electives	4.5 Credits
Total	25 Credits

*Upper Level/Weighted Courses:

Language Arts	Social Studies	Science	Math
AP Language	AP US History	Chemistry II	AP Calculus
AP Literature	Psych/ Sociology	Biology II	Trigonometry
Novels		Anatomy & Phys	College Algebra
Mythology			
Contemporary Lit			

JUNIOR PLANNING CHECKLIST FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

WINTER

- Register "online" for the February 11 ACT at www.actstudent.org
 - Registration deadline is January 13
 - If score is not satisfactory, plan to take a later ACT in April or June.
 - 55% of students increase their score the 2nd time
- If you would like additional help with the ACT, pick up an ACT practice book in the guidance office or sign up for ACT prep classes.

- a. If you receive free/ reduced lunches ask about a voucher to waive the ACT fee. You may receive two waivers for two ACT tests. One junior year and one senior year or two your senior year.
3. Begin your College Search on MissouriConnections.org or www.connectedu.net. Your Missouri Connections password from the past will still work. If you have trouble logging on see Mrs. Mayle. Many more links for college and career searches are available on our LHS website just click on the A+ link.
4. Listen to daily announcements at LHS to find out when college admission representatives are visiting LHS—talk to representatives of interest.
5. Consider taking the SAT. Pick up a practice test and registration form from the office.
6. Have an honest discussion with your parents about financing your college education. Find out how much your parents can/cannot help you with your college expenses. Attending college is expensive and it's important to know what you can afford.
7. Determine if receiving a College Prep Certificate is a goal you would like to achieve. The College Prep Certificate is an award from the State of Missouri. Check the LHS Student Scheduling Handbook for course requirements.
8. Research college entrance requirements.

SPRING

1. All Juniors will take the ACT at Laquey High School on April, 19th for FREE!
2. Register "online" for the April 8 ACT at www.actstudent.org
 - Registration deadline is March 3
 - Plan to take a later ACT in June (registration deadline is May 5)
3. If you would like additional help with the ACT, pick up an ACT practice book in the guidance office or attend the after school ACT prep classes. Sign up in the high school office.
4. Consider taking the SAT. Pick up a practice test and registration form from the office.
5. Ensure that you are enrolled in appropriate and rigorous college prep courses your senior year.
6. Students interested in Division I or II sports in college should visit the NCAA Clearinghouse website (www.naaclearinghouse.net) for eligibility standards. Make sure that you are scheduled for the correct number of core courses to meet eligibility requirements. NOTE: You should register with the Clearinghouse at the end of your junior year.
7. Ensure that you are enrolled in tutoring to complete requirements for the A+ Program. Check with Mr. Shaw to verify A+ eligibility.
8. Register with ConnectEdu at <http://www.connectedu.net> and Fast Web at <http://www.fastweb.com/>. ConnectEdu and Fast Web (along with other websites) provide FREE information on scholarships, college searches, and jobs and internships customized to the INDIVIDUAL student profile. You can also use Missouri Connections to search for scholarships. There is a link to scholarships through the LHS A+ page and a link under Mrs. Mayle's name on the high school page.
9. Arrange enriching summer activities early, including volunteering, getting an interesting job or internship, or job shadow in a profession that interests you.
10. Develop and maintain a list of 5-10 colleges that interest you using a college search website. Check our LHS website the A+ link or here are some examples are below:

11. <http://www.connectedu.net> <http://apps.collegeboard.com/search/index.jsp> <http://mymajors.com>
<http://MissouriConnections.org>
12. Plan summer college visits by contacting admissions offices at colleges of interest.
13. Visit the LHS Counselor's Office and check out the following resources:
14. College Catalogs: A number of four-year and two-year college catalogs are available that contain descriptive information about the school, its faculty, its course of study, financial aid and admission requirements/procedures.
15. Files: A collection of pamphlets & brochures are available which describe and promote numerous college programs and campus activities.
16. If you would like to join the military through the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) while attending college, be sure to speak with a ROTC representative.
17. Attend Laquey High School's College and Career Fair in February.
18. Research about Financial Aid/ Scholarships/ FAFSA

SUMMER

1. Visit colleges and universities of interest. (See attached College Comparison Worksheet)
2. Schedule interviews with admissions counselors.
3. Request applications and financial aid information from these colleges. Requests can be made through mail service or on-line.
4. Check important dates. Some universities have early deadlines.
5. Check out helpful websites.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

(to help with Financial Aid, Scholarship Searches, and other College Planning)

www.finaid.org (The Financial Aid Information Page)
www.missourimost.org (Missouri MOST Program)
www.ed.gov/inits/hope (Hope Scholarship & Lifetime Learning Tax Credits)
www.upromise.com/mohela (New ways to save for college)
www.studentaid.ed.gov
www.fafsa.ed.gov (FAFSA on the Web) www.pin.ed.gov
(get your PINs for the web-FAFSA)

www.fastweb.com (Scholarship search)
www.srnexpress.com (Scholarship search)
www.gocollege.com (Scholarship search)
www.wiredscholar.com (Scholarship search)
www.scholarships.com (Scholarship search)
www.ncaa.org/about/scholarships.html (Sports scholarships & internships)

www.connectedu.net (Online college search and planning)
www.act.org (Online registration for ACT) www.collegeboard.org
(College Board) www.naaclearinghouse.net (NCAA
Clearinghouse) www.dhe.mo.gov (Missouri Department of
Higher Ed) www.ed.gov (US Department of Education)
www.ed.gov/parents (Free publications to download)
www.petersons.com (Peterson's Education & Career Info)
www.skill-ed.com (Career & College information)
www.collegequest.com (College Search)
www.stats.bls.gov/oco/ocoia.htm (Career Info Occupational Outlook Handbook)
www.mapping-your-future.org (Career Planning)
www.commonapp.org (Common Application online)
www.naACP.org (NAACP)
www.collegefund.org (Multi-cultural students)
www.ncld.org (Students with Learning Disabilities)

www.sss.gov (Selective Service)
www.militarycareers.com (Military Career Guide Online)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: I got a letter from a college. Does that mean I can get in?

A: Colleges purchase thousands of names and addresses of students with test scores within a certain range and send one communication to everyone. These letters (and e-mails) are meant to capture a student's attention and encourage the students to learn more about the college. They are NOT offers of admission. A student can only be admitted by submitting an application which is then reviewed by the college admissions office, which makes admission decisions. (Source: [Link, the next step in school counseling](#), Carol E. Wasden, Nov/Dec 2007)

Q: I can do all of my research on the Internet. Why do I need to go to the college fair or speak with an Admissions Officer?

A: Colleges want to ensure that they offer admission to students who are likely to accept the offer. One of the ways colleges attempt to determine the likelihood a student will accept an admissions offer is by tracking students who have visited the campus or met with admissions officers at their high school, college fair, or area receptions. It is also impossible to get a realistic perception of a college/university without actually visiting the campus. Remember that colleges are advertising on their website and in the brochures and catalogs. You are only seeing a small piece of the student body and campus life.

Q: Do I really have to take hard classes my senior year?

A: Yes, it is a good idea to continue with a college prep schedule your senior year. This should include AP, Honors, and/or upper level English, Math, Science, and History courses. Colleges will ask to see a transcript after your 7th semester of high school (1st semester of your senior year) and your acceptance into a college is contingent (dependent) on your final transcript grades and course load. Taking an "easy" schedule your senior could also affect the amount scholarship money you receive.

Q: Once I've been admitted, I can "slack off" at school, right?

A: As previously stated, your acceptance to a college/university is contingent on your final grades and course load. Your acceptance can be revoked at any time up until the first day of class at the college. Acceptance can be revoked for a number of reasons, these reasons may include: an arrest record, felony conviction, failure to pay deposits/fees, school discipline record and final transcript grades.

Q: Why is my ACT/SAT score so important?

A: ACT/SAT scores are important because many scholarships and college acceptances are directly based upon your ACT/SAT score. The higher your score, the better your chances of getting into the college you want to attend and the higher your chances are of receiving scholarship money.

COLLEGE COMPARISON WORKSHEET

College Name			
Location -Distance from home			
Size -enrollment -physical size of campus			
Environment -type of school (2 yr or 4 yr) -school setting (urban, rural) -male, female, or co-ed -religious affiliation			
Admission Requirements -deadline -tests required -average test scores, GPA, rank -notification			
Academics -your major offered -special requirements -accreditation -student/faculty ratio -typical class size			
College Expenses -tuition, room and board -estimated total budget -application fee, deposits			
Financial Aid -deadline -required forms -percentage receiving aid -scholarships			
Housing -residence hall requirement -food plan			
Facilities -academic -recreational -other			
Activities -clubs/organizations -Greek life -athletics/intramurals -other			
Campus Visits -when -special opportunities			