

Seniors of 2024

JCHS Senior.

During the school year I will try to keep you and your parents informed about upcoming events, deadlines, scholarships, etc., by means of a regular "Senior Update". While much of this information will be about colleges, you will also find information about other topics which might apply more directly to you, such as military and career/job information. Future issues will be given approximately every 2 weeks. Please make sure that these "Senior Updates" make it home to your parents, it will be very useful for them as well.

*Parents: You may access the Senior Updates on the school website, under the "Guidance" link. Go to www.jctigers.org. If you give me your email address I will also email them to you.

Applying For College

If you plan to attend college or technical school next fall, you need to narrow your choices down to 2-3 NOW and start looking at their applications. Some schools have very early (November or December) deadlines for scholarships or special housing. Other schools have later deadlines or rolling admissions dates (which mean you may apply at any time), but the earlier you apply, the better your chances for acceptance. Check the website of the college or colleges you are interested in for their application deadlines.

If you haven't visited the colleges that you think you want to apply to, you really need to do so before making your final decision. You are going to be spending a great deal of time and money, so you need to consider a lot of factors before deciding what school is the best fit for you. Scheduling a college visit day is one way to help make the right decision.

If you have not made your final choice of school yet, you might want to consider applying to a few. BUT, keep in mind that some schools still have a non-refundable application fee, so you will want to be pretty certain before you apply.

Colleges will expect a transcript to be sent when you apply. When you are ready to apply please let Mrs.Kohler know and she will send your official transcript for you. It is your responsibility to mail or submit your own applications (including scholarships).

Many colleges have applications through the internet and will sometimes waive their application fee if you apply online. The more traditional college applications, along with the Common Application (form used by many colleges, including several private colleges in Ohio), are available online and in the Guidance Office.

Financial Aid Meeting at JCHS October 3, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. Location: Cafeteria

There will be a financial aid representative presenting from a local college to go over information regarding all aspects of financial aid, specifically how to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and all of the changes that took place over the last year. Although the representative is from a college he will be knowledgeable about other college level financial aid programs. We will also have a representative here from the Barnes Trust. Mark your calendars, this night will provide you with much needed information!

NACAC National College Fair

Most are Virtual this fall.

Visit the NACAC web site: www.nacac.com

ASVAB Testing:

Interested in the military? ASVAB testing will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 27th starting at 8:00 a.m. The sign up for testing will be in Mrs. Kohler's office.

College Open Houses/Visitation Days

Many colleges and universities have specific days planned for visits or for testing. If you are interested in a particular field of study or school, stop by the Guidance Office for more information. Mrs. Kohler will also announce when college reps will be here so that you can sign up in her office.

College Visitations

There are two ways to set up a college visit.

1. Set it up yourself. 2. See Mrs. Kohler and tell her what college you are interested in visiting and what date. She can make the reservation for you. Either way, Mrs. Kohler will give you a form to get signed while at the college to verify you were there. This form is your pass back to JC so that your absence will be excused. Without the form your absence will be counted as unexcused for that day!

You are given two college visits this year. Please use them wisely!

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Hints for a Good College Visit

Develop a list of questions and plan specific		
activities in order to accomplish your goals:		
☐ Visit while college is in session.		
☐ Meet with an admissions representative.		
☐ Verify admission requirements/deadlines.*		
☐ Meet with financial aid representatives.		
☐ Learn scholarship and financial aid		
requirements and deadlines*		
☐ Discuss academic and social fit issues.		
☐ Obtain catalogs, calendars, and literature.		
☐ Meet with faculty and students.		
☐ Talk with the career services representatives.		
\square Tour the campus; see if it is the "right fit" for		
you.		
☐ Talk to students about the general academic environment and the study commitment necessary for success.		
☐ Ask questions about the student activities—		
clubs, organizations, sports, etc.		
☐ Inquire about campus life and social activities		
that interest you.		
☐ Investigate the transportation options, school shuttle, parking, etc.		

Go to www.OPUAC.org for information on the Ohio Public Universities and www.aicuo.edu for information on the Ohio Private Universities.

End of Course Assessments

Your class, the class of 2024, needs to meet the new graduation requirements as well as take 6 EOC assessments. If you have not yet met your testing requirements then you will have two opportunities to do so during this school year. The first round of testing will be in December; the final round is during Spring Testing (March – May). Meeting your graduation requirements is your pathway toward a diploma in the State of Ohio and for participating in the graduation ceremony here at J.C. Go to the ODE website for information on all graduation pathways:

http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-Graduation-Requirements/Graduation-Requirements

Useful Websites to check out:

College and Financial Aid:

https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/

www.absolutelyscholarships.com

www.estudentloan.com

www.fastweb.com

www.studentloan.org

https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-

aid/fafsa

www.finaid.org.

www.collegeboard.com

http://www.collegeportraits.com/

www.commfoun.com

Career:

https://jobseeker.k-

12.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/seeker.aspx www.hometownopportunity.com

Military:

https://www.asvabprogram.com/

In your packet is a list of all Ohio colleges/universities with their phone numbers and websites for you to browse through.

ACT/SAT

If you are planning to apply to a college or tech school, you might want to give them your ACT/SAT scores. Some colleges require the writing portion of the ACT; check the college you are interested in to see if they require it as some schools are test optional.

Registration packets, which include sample questions from old ACT tests, are available in the brochure holder outside of the main office. I also have a few books and videos with sample tests available for students to check out. You are encouraged to register online at www.actstudent.org. On your ACT registration you will be asked our school CEEB code, it is 362-705. Please use this number so that I get your results and can put them on your transcript. If you are applying to the NCAA Clearinghouse, then also have your scores sent to 9999 or the NAIA - 9876.

If by chance you are interested in a college/university, which requires the SAT - registration forms, test dates, and practice material is available in the Guidance Office or you can go on-line at www.collegeboard.com to register.

Here are the ACT registration deadline and test dates for the 2023-2024 academic year:

<u>Registration</u> :	<u>Test Date</u> :
Fri., Sept. 22	Sat., Oct. 28
Fri., Nov. 3	Sat., Dec. 9
Fri., Jan. 5	Sat., Feb. 10
Fri., Mar. 8	Sat., Apr. 13
Fri., May 3	Sat., June 8
Fri. June 7	Sat., July 13

District vs National ACT Testing

JCHS will host an ACT district test date on Tuesday, October 17th here at JCHS. Mrs. Kohler will register the students for district testing. The fee is \$44.50 due to Mrs. Kohler by September 1st if you wish to participate.

If one wants to take the ACT on a national test date the student must register themselves (including the fee). Mrs. Kohler is not able to register a student for a national test date.

Scholarships

If you know for sure which college or university you plan to attend, send in your application early, doing so will enable you to apply for scholarships offered by that institution. Be sure to ask for that information when you apply. Individual colleges are an excellent source of financial assistance, whether through scholarships or various grants and in-house programs, such as work-study.

Some colleges have an early application deadline, such as OSU – Nov. 1st. Be sure you are aware of their deadlines so you don't miss out on any scholarship money.

Be careful of any scholarship application or scholarship search that asks for money up front. It is probably not legit. In nearly every case, you can get the same information through other sources.

Don't forget to check with your parent's employers, your employers, church, etc., for any scholarships or loans that they might have available for you. Just remember, that you may not get a scholarship for which you apply—but you will never get one for which you haven't applied!

I will keep you updated of all the scholarship applications that the Guidance Office receives in your bi-monthly senior updates. In the updates you will find what the scholarship is, required criteria and deadline. New scholarships will be listed in the update but will not be repeated in future updates, so please keep track of them yourself. If you see one you would like to apply

for, see Mrs. Kohler in the Guidance Office for an application.

Colleges are now required to post a "Net Price Calculator" on their website. This calculator provides you with financial aid information based on your ACT/SAT scores and GPA.

Many times this information can be found under the Financial Aid link on their website.

Local Scholarships:

The Education Foundation Scholarship application and the 4-H/FFA Scholarship application will be passed out in late January/early February.

All other local scholarship applications (i.e. Airstream, EMI, Lacal, etc.) will be available on our school website in early March and due back to Mrs. Kohler in early April. Mrs. Kohler will provide you with a list of the local scholarships and their criteria at the beginning of March.

Career Information

For the past several years you have been doing career interest and ability inventories with Mrs. Kipker and I to help you choose the career that is best suited for you. I keep a record of this information in my office in what is called a CIP folder for each of you. Please use this Career Passport for job, college, and/or scholarship interviews.

Every once in a while I will get information of a job opening in our area. I will put this information in the Senior Update. Please read your "Updates" they will be filled with valuable information!

The Career Coach Program is available through the Workforce Partnership of Shelby County. Please let me know if you'd like to participate.

Have a GREAT Senior year!