

A note from the COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER Registration 2021

Dear Parents of Seniors:

It must be hard to believe you are nearing the end of a very important journey and ready to embark on a new phase of parenting. It can be a bittersweet time watching your student survey college campuses, vocational training, the military, or workforce opportunities. It is comforting to know that as they offer their plans to the Lord, He will direct their steps during this exciting season of life.

Watch your email for links to Parent Perception and Optional Information **forms to be completed by you no later than September 10**. Your insight into your student's strengths and experiences is extremely helpful as we seek to create strong college admissions, scholarship, and job recommendations for them.

Shortly after school begins we will be hosting two very important events:

College Knowledge Night (Date, time, location/format to be announced soon). This evening is designed to provide seniors and their parents with information on the college search process, financial aid, scholarships, college testing (SAT,ACT,SAT Subject, and CLEP Tests), NCAA requirements, etc. We would like to invite you to attend together as this will create a great opportunity for dialogue.

Financial Aid and FAFSA Information Night (Date, time and location/format to be announced soon). I urge all seniors and their parents to attend. Recently some MAJOR CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE FAFSA. The FAFSA application opens on October 1. You will want to submit your application as close to October 1 (not before) as possible.

In order to receive their diploma each senior must complete all elements of their Career Readiness Portfolio by Spring Break. **The first items will be due within the first week or two of the school year. It is vital that seniors complete these items by the required deadlines.**

Senior advisors LaRee Roth, Tyler Ferguson, and I will be working together to make this a very special year for your student. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I look forward to working with your family. It is going to be a great year!

Warmly,

Jeanne Schaffner
College & Career Counselor

On Track to Graduate?

Please contact our registrar Sami Beam right away should you have any questions about the graduation credit checklist you received this summer.

Upcoming Events and Information

- Senior Family Potluck and College Knowledge Night (**Date, Time, Location/Format TBA**)
- Financial Aid Night (**Date, Time, Location/Format TBA**)
- Scholarship opportunities
- College information sessions
- Graduation/Baccalaureate information
- Test dates

*We will do our very best to keep you up to date. **Please be looking for announcements from the Career & College Department. You won't want to miss time sensitive information!***

COLLEGE INFORMATION SESSIONS

Each month there will be admissions representatives from a variety of universities and colleges meeting with us in person and/or virtually to expose our students to what they have to offer. Seniors are required to attend a minimum of four presentations and fill out an associated reflection questionnaire. They will be guided by the Career & College Office in how to assess which places of learning or training might be most fitting for each individual.

FEE WAIVERS

Fee waivers are available for the SAT and ACT and for many college applications. They are based on eligibility for federal free and reduced lunches. I would be happy to help you obtain a waiver if you think you qualify. Please don't be shy about this! Senior year expenses can add up.

REGISTER NOW TO TAKE THE SAT OR ACT! **(See the attached list of test dates and registration deadlines)**

Due to COVID19 most colleges have dropped their testing requirements for the Class of 2022. There is national debate about the future of standardized testing as admission requirement beyond 2022, as well. However, taking the ACT or SAT this fall is advisable as it test scores are still used for some scholarships and having taking a test when not required to, causes you to stand out amongst your peers across the nation.

SAT/ACT

Students tend to be most successful when taking the SAT or ACT in the winter or spring of their junior year or early in the senior year. A student may take these exams as often as they wish, and most colleges will make admissions and scholarship decisions based upon the student's highest score.

The ACT includes a science reasoning portion beyond the verbal/math test. They offer a writing option as well. The SAT includes reading, math and writing portions. *Students should take the writing section as many colleges require it for admission.*

ACT and SAT practice tests can be taken online without charge at www.collegeboard.com or www.actstudent.org. Repeated exposure to these exams usually brings an increase in scores. There are many helpful test preparation options. The Assistance League of Corvallis offers a class that helps prepare students for the SAT. Registration details will be announced in the senior newsletter and the Eagle Happenings. CIS has a battery of prep options and many companies offer programs online. Test prep books and software options are readily available at public libraries, bookstores, and even on Craigslist!

CIS: AN EXCELLENT RESOURCE

Santiam Christian subscribes to the computer-based Oregon CIS (Career Information System) program which is a tremendous asset in the career guidance process.

This tool:

- **Houses** the Career Readiness Portfolio which is required for graduation from Santiam Christian
- **Helps** students discover more about their interests and aptitudes
- **Offers** career information, standardized test preparation, and a scholarship data base.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Santiam Christian's scholarship database is updated weekly and can be found on the SC website at <http://www.santiamchristian.org/academics/collegeplanningandprograms.cfm> under "Financial Aid". Please note that within the Excel Spreadsheet there are separate tabs for local and national scholarships. Another great scholarship database can be found on CIS.

Your student's chief enemy in this process is procrastination. Once they have applied for one scholarship, it is fairly easy to reproduce their efforts and apply for more. It is imperative that you and your student pay close attention to due dates and eligibility requirements. Many scholarships require items such as letters of recommendation and transcripts, so it is important to begin the process weeks in advance of the due dates.

Free scholarship searches are an excellent means of finding a "match" for your student. *Please beware of programs that charge a fee.* Legitimate scholarships or scholarship databases do not require a fee!

Good planning and time management are essential to successful pursuit of scholarship monies.

SENIOR GRADUATION SLIDESHOW

SENIOR SLIDESHOW (Due Date NO LATER THAN March 31): A great highlight of the graduation ceremony, it features one baby picture, one growing up picture, and one senior picture. Christmas Break is a great time to walk down memory lane, while searching for pictures. Dress should honor the SC Appearance Policy.

2021-22 Standardized Test Dates & Registration Deadlines

SAT and SAT Subject Tests

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
October 2	September 3	September 21
November 6	October 8	October 26
December 4	November 4	November 23
March 12	February 11	March 1
May 7	April 8	April 26
June 4	May 5	May 25
August 27 (Tentative)		

(To register and pay go to <http://sat.collegeboard.org/register>)

ACT Test

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Fee Required
September 11	August 6	August 20
October 23	September 17	October 1
December 11	November 5	November 19
February 12	January 7	January 21
April 2	February 25	March 11
June 11	May 6	May 20
July 16	June 24	July 8

(To register and pay go to <http://www.actstudent.org/regist/>)

Advanced Placement Exams

Exam	Date/Time
U.S. Government & Politics	Monday, May 2, 8 a.m.
Statistics	Thursday, May 5, 12 noon
U.S. History	Friday, May 6, 8 a.m.
Calculus AB	Monday, May 9, 8 a.m.
English Language & Composition	Tuesday, May 10, 8 a.m.

PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT)

Exam	Date
PSAT/NSMQT* (Juniors)	Wednesday, October 13

***Juniors at Santiam Christian are required to take the PSAT/NSMQT and are already registered.**