



## Information from Counseling Department – November 2020

### For Parents of Seniors:

#### Parents of seniors – Apply free to colleges

Every day of the year, students from families with low incomes can apply to most colleges at no charge using a fee waiver. **See your counselor if this applies to you.**

**Parents of Seniors - FAFSA and other Financial Aid Forms:** The 2021-2022 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is now available online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). You must complete the FAFSA online if you are applying for federal financial aid. It is recommended that every family fill out the FAFSA for a few reasons. First, all students are eligible for low-interest loans. Second, families have different financial situations from one year to the next, including sometimes having more than one student in college. Finally, some colleges look at whether a student has a FAFSA on file when they are considering students for scholarships. There are three categories of federal student aid: grants, work-study, and loans. Colleges typically have December through March priority deadlines for the FAFSA, so get your FAFSA completed and submitted as soon as possible.

**Scholarships from colleges:** Look on each of your colleges' websites for scholarships. You can find this information in the admissions section of a college's website. Many colleges use the application for admission to award scholarships, but some colleges require that you fill out an additional scholarship application for some or all of their scholarships. Typically, college scholarship applications are due between November and February.

**Local and National Scholarships (Not from a college):** To locate scholarship information in Naviance, from the home page, click on the "Colleges" tab, and scroll down to the bottom of the page. The "scholarship list" and "National Scholarship Search" are located here. Other helpful sites are [bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org), [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com), [scholarships.com](http://scholarships.com). Scholarship searches should be FREE. You should not pay for this service or to apply for a scholarship.

### For Parents of All High School Students:

**Virtual College Visits to BSM – These visits are open to Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors** College representatives will be "visiting" BSM virtually this year. Information about the colleges virtually visiting BSM will be updated daily on BSM's Naviance website. All visits are also listed in Powerschool Learning; click on: Quick Links > Guidance and Counseling > College Visits. You can also see an updated list here:

#### Upcoming College Fair Opportunities

There are still some college fairs coming up, including an HBCU fair, a Jesuit Education Fair, and a National College fair. Some require that you register and may fill up, so check them out sooner than later at this link: [Upcoming Virtual College Fairs](#)

## Summer Enrichment Opportunities

The fall and early winter are good times to start thinking about enrichment opportunities for next summer. The BSM website has an extensive list of programs that colleges offer for high schools students. (Note that some of these may not be taking place in Summer 2021 due to Covid 19). Some programs, such as ones sponsored by Duke University and the University of Notre Dame, have started accepting applications or will start on December 1st. Please see the [Summer Opportunities](#) page of the BSM website for a complete list.

## 2020-2021 ACT and SAT Test Dates:

**2020-2021 ACT Test Dates** Create account and register at: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

National Test Dates	Registration Deadlines
December 12, 2020 – BSM is a test center	November 6, 2020
February 6, 2021	January 8, 2021
April 17, 2021 – BSM is a test center	March 12, 2021
June 12, 2021	May 7, 2021
July 17, 2021	June 18, 2021

Remember to have scores sent to colleges!

BSM's school code: 242-202

BSM's test center code: 178790

**2020-2021 SAT Test Dates** Create account and register at: [sat.collegeboard.org](http://sat.collegeboard.org)

National Test Dates	Registration Deadlines
December 5, 2020	November 5, 2020
March 13, 2021	February 12, 2021
May 8, 2021	April 8, 2021
June 5, 2021 – BSM is a test center	May 6, 2021

Remember to have scores sent to colleges!

BSM's school code: 242-202

BSM's test center code: 24176