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HAVE A GREAT BREAK!!

You are reading this year's last issue of the Sabercat College and Career Newsletter produced by your counselor team here at Sabino. Inside you will find important dates and deadlines, college application info, career readiness resources, and financial aid info. Make sure to read it through and focus on what applies to your college or career pathway.

Creating a College Timeline

When preparing for college, it is helpful to ask the following:

Q: What is the college application deadline?

A: Different schools have different application deadlines. Make sure to check each school you plan to apply to and add that deadline in your calendar. Also, read about the differences between Early Decision, and Rolling Admissions.

Q: What tests are required?

A: Did you take the ACT? The SAT? Both? Although not all colleges require an SAT/ACT score, it is good to have one, including for scholarships. Check the registration and test dates online and put them in your calendar.

Q: What other dates to I need?

A: After admission and test deadlines, financial aid is the next area to have on your calendar. First, it is essential you complete the FAFSA with your parents/guardians which opens on December 31st. You also want to note the deadlines of any scholarships you plan to apply to

Give Yourself Plenty of Time

Do not wait until a deadline to start on a task. If a college application is due on the 15th of December, plan to start completing it a month earlier to give yourself plenty of time to work on a personal statement, send in test scores and transcripts, and review your application with a parent/guardian or with your College and Career Readiness Coordinator, <u>Dr. Karaman</u>.

"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."

-B.B. King

"The best way to predict your future is to create it."

-Abraham Lincoln

"The more that you read, the more things you will know, the more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

-Dr. Seuss

CONTACT SABINO COLLEGE AND CAREER COUNSELING

Dr. Alex Karaman College and Career Readiness Coordinator Email Dr. Karaman

Website: Click Here

Twitter: Click Here



Important Dates and Deadlines

The following list of dates and deadlines can help you with college and career planning. Make sure to read this list through and mark anything that applies to your personal college or career plan.

December Dates

- December 1—FAFSA Preparation: This is the time to begin creating an FSA ID for students and one or more parents/guardians. Every student and at least one parent/guardian needs to create an FSA ID to complete the FAFSA. An FSA ID is basically a username that can be used to access the FAFSA form when it opens on December 31st (See page 3 for more details about the FAFSA). Click here to learn how to make your FSA ID.
- Throughout December—Various Scholarship Applications: While most scholarships are not due until the Winter or after New Year's, some are due as early as September. Make sure to add scholarship deadlines to your calendar. Click Here for Scholarships Due in December
- December 23-January 7—Winter Break is a great time to work on scholarship applications. Before break, plan a schedule for yourself listing which scholarships you plan to apply to and when. With the free time of break, try to set of goal of applying to at least four scholarships. While some scholarship applications are very quick, those ones typically have a lot of applicants, so try to complete applications for larger scholarships that require an essay, letters of recommendation, or transcripts/test scores. Download our SCHOLARSHIPS
 101 PRESENTATION for more info about how to search for scholarships. (Note: Open the Scholarships 101 presentation in PowerPoint and start the slideshow with your speakers turned up to hear the live narration of each slide).
- December 31—FAFSA opens up for online completion. This form is critically important and must be completed each year to be eligible for all types of financial aid, including the Pell Grant, Federal Loans, and many other scholarships. See page 3 for important info about the FAFSA.
- December 23-January 7—Winter Break is also a good time to begin planning and studying for any AP Exams you will have in May. We have prepared a presentation on how to use Winter Break to lay out a study plan to achieve success on your exams. Click here to view the presentation (Download the PowerPoint and play the slideshow with your speakers on).

January Dates

- January 22—Late Registration Deadline for ACT: This late registration deadline applies to the ACT that will be held on February 10th. If you need to take or retake the ACT, this is the latest recommended date to do so to be able to send in your scores with college applications. <u>Click Here to Register</u>
- Throughout January—Various Scholarship Applications: Make sure to add scholarship deadlines to your calendar. <u>Click Here for Scholarships Due in</u> <u>January</u>





FAFSA ALERT DECEMBER 31ST

The Federal Application for Free Student Aid (FAFSA) is an essential part of the college process. This federal form is used to determine your eligibility for need-based financial aid, including certain grants and loans. Make sure to have your parents or legal guardians with you to provide household financial information. The FAFSA opens on December 31st and should be completed by you as soon as possible.

FAFSA FAQs

Here are some answers to common FAFSA questions:

Q: Where can I complete the FAFSA?

A: Go to StudentAid.gov to complete the FAFSA or <u>Click Here.</u>

Q: What is the "new" FAFSA beginning this year?

A: For students entering college in Fall 2024, there is a new FAFSA form. The new version has been simplified in many ways, including easier access and fewer questions. Also, the cutoffs for certain aid have been changed so more students should qualify for free money this year than ever before.

Q: If my parents make a lot of money, should I still complete the FAFSA?

A: Yes. The FAFSA is often a requirement for other scholarships, not just scholarships based on financial need. You do not want to miss out on a scholarship because you did not fill it out.

Q: If I am an undocumented or DACA student, can I complete the FAFSA?

A: It depends. DACA students with a Social Security Number are eligible to complete the FAFSA. For non-DACA undocumented students, you cannot complete the FAFSA. However, there is a ton of financial aid out there so contact Dr. Karaman to learn more in a confidential setting. You can also Click Here to learn more about the FAFSA for undocumented and DACA students and see page 9 in this newsletter.

Q: Where can I find other FAFSA FAQs?

A: <u>Click Here</u> to see more popular questions people have about the FAFSA.

FAFSA Gift Card Drawing

To get our FAFSA completion rate as close to 100% as possible, we will be doing monthly drawings beginning in January and going through March. If you completed the FAFSA, you will be entered in the drawing and eligible to win a gift card. More info will be provided during the month of January so keep your ears open.



Scholarship Search Engines

- ⇒ Fastweb
- ⇒ <u>Scholar-</u> <u>ships.com</u>
- ⇒ <u>Cappex</u>
- ⇒ Petersons
- ⇒ College Board
- ⇒ Niche
- ⇒ Chegg
- ⇒ Scholly

Click To Follow Links



College Fairs and Tours: In-Person and Virtual

College fairs offer a wonderful opportunity for students to meet college admissions advisors from many universities in a single setting. When the COVID-19 pandemic affected in-person events, many virtual college fairs and college tours popped up, allowing students to explore myriad colleges from home and to meet college representatives who might not travel to Tucson for an in-person fair, including those from East Coast, Southern, and Midwest schools. Below you will find information about the College Tour website for virtual campus tours and information on an upcoming in-person college fair offered by the Rocky Mountain Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC).

Sabino's Senior Career Fair

We had a blast hosting a college fair on October 24th that had over 200 Seniors attend with multiple trade schools and local employers. We are looking to repeat the event in the Spring during the month of April, but we are going to make it huge! More employers, more trade schools, and more fun. Make sure to keep your ears open for information about the fair when we return from Winter Break.

The College Tour ▶

The College Tour is an amazing website that provides multiple, detailed, and engaging video tours of colleges all over the country. Not only do the videos help you tour campus from the comfort of your home, but they also highlight the fun aspects of student life cinluding dorms and eateries, student events, recreation centers, and so much more. If you cannot make a campus visit, use The College Tour to check out schools outside of Tucson.

RMCAC College Fair in the Spring

Rocky Mountain tion for College The Association Admission Counseling is hosting a gigantic college fair in Februa students in the February for Tucosn area. The fair will be held on February 3rd at The Gregory School. Over a hundred colleges and colleges and universities are set to attend. This is a great opportunity for Seniors and Juniors to learn more about their college options.

Click Here to Register
for the RMCAC InPerson College Fair

Click Here to View the
Participating Colleges
and Universities

MEET YOUR SABINO COUNSELING TEAM

For any counseling you need that does not relate to College and Career Readiness, you can reach out to our amazing counseling team:

Mrs. Ibarra Counselor, Last Names L-Z Academic and Mental Health Renee.Ibarra@tusd1.org

Mrs. Mateos Counselor, Last Names A-K Academic and Mental Health Kristine.Mateos@tusd1.org

Mrs. Deshaies Emotional and Mental Health Support Specialist Photini.Deshaies@tusd1.org



Requesting Letters of Recommendation

Letters of recommendation are often required for college and scholarship applications. In some cases, they are optional, but submitting a good letter of recommendation is always a safe bet. Consider all the information below when requesting letters of recommendation from teachers or counselors:

- Make a formal request to your recommender at least three weeks before a recommendation letter is due. Teachers and counselors are very busy and writing a letter of recommendation takes time. Ask early to give them plenty of time to write you a good letter.
- Be ready to provide a resume to your recommender. School staff do not have your whole list of achievements and interests memorized, so provide a resume that includes your extracurriculars, major accomplishments and awards, volunteer or community service experience, employment experience if applicable, and additional skills to make the letter writing process easier.
- Make sure you are requesting the right recommender. Some colleges want a letter from a teacher, others from a counselor, and some from both. Make sure you know who the school wants a letter.
- Know that you might not be able to read a letter of recommendation. Students have a legal right to see letters of recommendation written for them, but a lot of colleges and the CommonApp ask students to waive that right to ensure they do not have influence over the letter writing process and that the letter is honest and true. It is recommended that you do waive your rights to see a letter, so make sure you are confident that your recommender will write a good letter.
- Write a thank you letter. It is proper to provide a formal thank you to whoever writes a letter for you. Don't forget!

College Spotlight

Grand Canyon University (GCU), located in the heart of Tucson, is one of Arizona's premiere universities. If you ask students what they love most about GCU, many will say the amazing campus community. Small class sizes help you connect with peers and faculty, while campus resources help you get the real college experience. GCU's main campus is rapidly expanding (see image), and has recently added two state-of-the-art STEM buildings, residence halls, dining options and more.

Each program offered by GCU is centered around teaching students to be effective communicators, transformative leaders and innovative thinkers. With over a hundred majors to choose from — including Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS) degrees, as well as a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) — there is definitely a program that is right for you.

Click Here to Learn More About GCU





Understanding Financial Aid: The Big Picture

The world of financial aid can be confusing, so you can use this general overview to gain some basic understanding of how to get money for college:

Q: What types of scholarships are out there?

A: Financial aid comes in a few forms. Scholarships are free money that can be given by the college you attend (called internal scholarships) or by private organizations and donors (called external scholarships). Normally, you will find out about potential scholarships a specific college once you are accepted for admission, either in your acceptance letter or shortly after. Scholarships can be merit-based, given for your academic record, need-based, given for those in financial need, or diversity and leadership-based, given to students from marginalized communities or students who have a history of volunteering and leadership.

Q: What else is required for scholarships?

A: Did you take the ACT? The SAT? Both? Although not all scholarships require an SAT/ACT score, it is good to have one. Check the requirements for scholarships before you apply to make sure you qualify. Additional requirements might include a personal statement, a letter of recommendation, and/or transcripts.

Q: What other types of financial aid exist?

A: Besides scholarships, students can be eligible for grants and loans. Grants are free money you can get, like scholarships, that does not need to be repaid. The most common grant is the Federal Pell Grant, given to students with financial need who complete the FAFSA. You can read about your Pell Eligibility on the email you receive when you submit the FAFSA. Loans, however, need to be repaid. For most student loans, you do not need to make payments until you graduate from college. The most common loan students use is the Direct Safford Loan, a federal student loan that is also mentioned in your FAFSA submission email (See page 3 for FAFSA info).

Q. What is the order of tasks for getting financial aid?

A. While there is no perfect approach, you should 1. Complete the FAFSA and list colleges you plan to apply to on your FAFSA (See Page 3). Check if you are eligible to receive a Pell Grant. 2. Apply to colleges and read about any potential scholarships you are awarded. 3. Calculate the remaining cost of college by subtracting any scholarships and grants you have been offered from the cost of attendance. 4. Search for and apply to additional scholarships to bring you total cost of attendance as close to zero as possible (See Page 3 for scholarship search engines).

DOWNLOAD OUR SCHOLARSHIPS 101 PRESENTATION FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Note: Open the Scholarships 101 presentation in PowerPoint and start the slideshow with your speakers turned up to hear the live narration of each slide.

SAT Testing Preparation

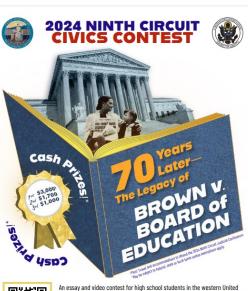
When you were a Junior at Sabino, you took the ACT exam with us. The SAT, however, is another exam accepted by colleges and scholarship providers that you might consider taking if you still need a test score. The SAT is similar to the ACT, but does not have a Science section. If you need to prepare for an SAT, we have a great opportunity for you.

On January 27th, at 10 a.m. Revolution Prep will have an online practice test that replicates the exact testing conditions of the SAT. Do not miss this valuable opportunity.

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR THE PRACTICE ACT



Unique Scholarship Opportunities





States, Guam and Northern Mariana Islands. Contest rules and entry instructions available at: https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/civicscontest

Entries accepted beginning January 8, 2024. **Deadline for entries is March 8, 2024** Sponsored by the United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit.



2024 NINTH CIRCUIT CIVICS CONTEST Essay and Video Contest Prompt

Years Later—

Board of Education



more information about the local contest, please contact: en Weber - (602) 735-8320 / Ellen_Weber@ca9.uscourts.gov



Student winners will be honored *May 4, 2024* at an *A Legacy of Excellence College* ship Banquet Event at J.W. Marriott Starr Pass Resort and Spa.

A Legacy of Excellence College Scholarship Committee will award 10 scholarships in mount of \$5,000 for the 2023-2024 school year.

APPLICATION DUE: FEBRUARY 2, 2024 @ 11:30pm

- Minimum 3.2 weighted GPA
 Two letters of recommendation
 a school official and one from a
 reference of your choice
 submitted to:
- submitted to:
 https://forms.gle/tvqwUdnwdUHS2pp
 Responses to three application questic
 400-600-word essay response to: "Hod
 has your community shaped you and
 how have you impacted your
 community?"
 Resume or Brag Sheet

Legacy Scholarship Application Support Workshops available on the following Tuesday dates from 6pm-7pm via Zoom: https://husd1.zoom.us//189718300914 Meeting ID: 897 1830 0914

• October 3rd • December 12th

Apply today for our high school & university scholarships.



Calling all current and future accounting majors! The ASCPA offers scholarships to high school and college students. The 2024–25 scholarship applications are now open through February 2, 2024.

These scholarships are available thanks to the generous contributions from the CPA community and are granted by the Arizona CPA Foundation for Education & Innovation in coordination with the Arizona Society of CPAs.

We also offer free memberships to students. Click here to unlock your complimentary perks.





YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE IF YOU:

IMPORTANT DATES:

Application opens online: October 1, 2023

Phase I Deadline: January 31, 2024

APPLY ONLINE



QUESTIONS? CONTACT US:

Dorrance@DorranceScholarship.org www.DorranceScholarship.org 480-405-2410

- Are an Arizona resident
- Are a current graduating senior attending a public, private, charter, or home school
- Will be a first-generation college student (neither parent, stepparent, or legal guardian holds a four-year degree in any country)
- Have a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA (weighted or unweighted)
- Have a minimum test score of 1110 SAT, 22 ACT, or 72 CLT
- Demonstrate financial need by completing the FAFSA
- Plan to attend ASU-Tempe, NAU-Flagstaff, or UA-Tucson
- Agree to live in on-campus housing during freshman and sophomore year





WHAT IS PROP 308?

WHAT IS PROP 308?

Prop 308 provides in-state tuition for Undocumented high school graduates in Arizona if theu meet a set of qualifications.



QUALIFICATIONS

- Attended a school in Arizona for a minimum
- attained a GED in AZ

FOR SOME CONTEXT

STATE AID

available to Undocumented students even if they don't meet the **Prop 308 residency** requirements. This Includes fee waivers given by colleges or organizations. Each opportunity will have its own requirements.



receive federal aid such as FASFA and the Pell Grant. We do not recommend Undocumented or DACAmented students apply unless a scholarship asks for it.

IF I DO NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR 🏄 **PROP 308. WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?**

ualify for **in-state tuition 🤺** under Prop 308, you can still receive state aid if you meet the requirements of the specific opportunity. You can also apply to private scholarships.

PRIVATE INSTITUIONS



All students pay the same tuition at private offer financial aid to students regardless of immigration status. Some examples in AZ are Grand Canyon University and Prescott College



EXAMPLES OF SCHOLARSHIPS

- DREAM.US Scholarship oria Teresa Arias Memorial Foundation
- has Jolanshio Jilans for Scholans Jonas Christensen Gould Memorial

SCHOLARSHIPS 066 a-

Scholarships Due in December





Open to **Undocumented** Students

Open 11/01

Award **Full Ride**

The Dream.US National Scholarship

Applicants must be Undocumented, with or without DACA/ TPS, have come to the U.S. before the age of 16, before Nov. 1, 2018, & have continuously lived here since then. Can cover your tuition and fees at one of their Partner Colleges & is renewable each year through the completion of a bachelor's degree

Application closes February 29, 2024! For more information, eligibility criteria, & to apply visit: thedream.us/scholarships/

Due /15

Award **Prizes**

Photo Contest Arizona Highways

Arizona Highways has a photo contest for all photographers 18 and older, under the age of 18 with parents' permission. Applicants must submit a photo and fill out application. Photo must be taken in Arizona. For more information, eligibility criteria, & to apply visit:

arizonahighways.com/photo-contest-rules

Due 2/31

Award **\$2,500**

First-Gen Trailblazers Scholarship

Calling all first generation college-bound students! Exclusively for high school juniors and seniors who will be the first in their family to attend college. Applicants must enroll at an accredited college or university. For more information, eligibility criteria, & to apply visit:

getschooled.com/first-gen-trailblazers-scholarship/

Due

ward \$2,000

Achieve Today Scholarship

The Achieve Today scholarship fund is awarding a college & university student. Applicants must submit a video, audio, or essay on their prompt under the subject of personal experience and development. Application must be submitted via email to scholarship@achievetoday.com.

For more information, eligibility criteria, & to apply visit:

achievetoday.com/scholarships

SCHOLARSHIPS **9 9 a**-**z**



Job Opportunities



Pima County Workforce Investment Board Youth Council & Pima County One Stop Arizona @ Work



Job and Career Fair Hospitality Industry



Security, Culinary, Housekeeping

Grounds Maintenance, Sales, Customer Service

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Casino of the Sun

7406 S. Camino de Oeste Tucson, Arizona 85746

Registration Required by 4:00 pm on January 10, 2024.

Register: https://tinyurl.com/a6rzvvnb

Employers

- Loews Ventana Canyon Resort
- La Paloma Resort and Spa
- Omni Tucson National Resort
- El Conquistador Tucson
- Casino Del Sol Resort
- JW Marriott Tucson Star Pass



