

PLANNING THE NEXT STEP

Paola High School
Class of 2018



Having a Plan



Career Cruising

THE WORLD'S MOST ENGAGING AND INSPIRING CAREER LEARNING PROGRAM

Career Cruising

take world class assessments

explore career profiles

research and plan your education

build a resume

find a job



Benefits of Career Cruising

- Helps students identify careers that fit them based on interest , skills, and ability inventories
- Centralized location to organize information about activities, honors, awards, accomplishments, work experience (including contact information), and more
 - Refer back to this information when completing college or scholarship applications, etc.
- May invite parents to view information
- May invite others to view information.
 - When asking for a reference or recommendation, these people can be invited to view the student's information via Career Cruising. The letter writer can easily view the kinds of information that helps them write a strong letter for the candidate (if the information is complete).
- Besides information about careers, CC also includes information about colleges and provides guidance on a number of topics including college visits, financial aid, work related issues, building a resume, and more

Credit Requirements

- Varying levels of requirements
 - High school graduation requires 28 credits.
 - Qualified admissions - can gain automatic admission into Regents (state) school if you meet specific criteria.
 - Kansas Scholars – 3 additional requirements in addition to qualified admissions standards.

What we mean by college...

We use college generically to mean any schooling beyond high school

- Not just KU or KSU
- Over 50 post-secondary institutions in Kansas to obtain a degree or certification

ACT & SAT Information

- If you plan to attend a 4 year college next year and have NOT taken the ACT or SAT, go home tonight and register for an upcoming test!
- Four-year colleges will require one of these entrance exams.
- Check with admissions office of prospective schools to see which test is needed.
- Most schools in the Midwest prefer the ACT.
 - December 9th ACT—registration deadline is November 3rd
 - Can pay a late fee until October 6th to take the Oct. 28th test (\$29.50 + \$46)
 - Fee waivers available for those who qualify. Contact PHS counseling office for more information.

ACT/SAT Registration

- On-line registration
 - ACT – www.actstudent.org
 - SAT – www.collegeboard.com
- Registration information and ACT practice test materials in the counseling office.
- For NCAA: 9999 For NAIA 9876

Test Prep

- Method Test Prep within Career Cruising
- ACT Website
- PHS Library
- Paola Free Library
- Practice ACT booklets in Counseling office
- ACT Prep courses available at some colleges and universities
- See PHS website [Testing/Test Prep](#)

Admission Checklist/Deadlines

- Start now. Narrow down your list of choices to a manageable number
- October 23rd--Apply KS Event during advisory for Seniors
 - A time for seniors to apply to some form of post-secondary education/training program with assistance
 - Will have school freebies and other goodies
- Each application usually must be accompanied by a check – it can get expensive.
 - October--Private universities in KS are waiving their application fees
 - All KS public universities have agreed to use the same fee waiver for those that qualify-see PHS counseling for that
 - Community colleges, career tech schools have no application fees
- Once you apply for each school, keep track of everything you have done (get organized--use Career Cruising!)

University Deadlines

- REFER TO SCHOOL WEBSITE!!!
- Admissions and scholarship deadlines are very important!
 - Watch for separate scholarship applications once you've applied to the college (departmental)
- Some deadlines occur during the fall semester
 - Ex: KSU/KU have November 1st as their priority deadline

COLLEGE VISITS

- PHS recognizes one college visit per student. You may take more.
- Get a college visit form in the counseling office, fill it out, and give to Callie in advance of your absence
- Make up class work in advance of absence!
- Please set up a visit with the college on-line. Do not just show up unannounced.
- Take advantage of reps that visit PHS
- Consider visits on days off school (Oct. 16, 19, 20, Jan 15, etc)
- Be prepared with questions

College Fairs

Can be a great way to visit with a lot of reps in one place at one time

May receive scholarships by making the contact or doing follow up
(like applying)

Go prepared with questions about things you really want to know

Upcoming College Fair opportunities:

- October 11--Osawatomie College Fair--1-2:2:30
- October 11--Shawnee Mission College Clinic-Shawnee Mission East HS--6:30 pm--8:30 pm
- October 24--Kansas City National College Fair--Bartle Hall--Kansas City Convention Center--8:30-11:30 am and 6-8 pm

NCAA / NAIA Eligibility

- This is important for anyone that anticipates competing at the collegiate level
- Registration should already be completed
- Will need to send ACT / SAT results directly to NCAA/NAIA
- Send transcript after completion of 6th semester and graduation.
- Please come to the counseling office if this applies to you. We will help walk you through the process.

Financial Aid

- FAFSA – FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID
- www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - Required for federal and state aid
 - Recognized/required by many privately funded scholarships
- It is free to complete.
- FAFSA forms available October 1. Kansas priority deadline is Oct 1 to Dec 1.
- 2016 Tax information
- Student and Parent will each need a FAFSA ID. Can apply for that now on the FAFSA website.

Financial Aid

Types of aid: <http://studentaid.ed.gov>

- Federal: Stafford, Perkins, work study, Pell Grants, need-based merit scholarships

PHS Financial Aid Night--Thursday, October 19, 6:30 pm, PHS Theater
Cal Boren, KSU

Scholarships

- If there is a fee, be cautious
- Scholarship services are expensive and you still have to do most of the work
- Avoid pressure tactics
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is
- Ask about employer scholarship programs

Best Paying Part-Time Job

- Quote from students, "I don't have time to do scholarship applications because I have to work"
- 20 hours of scholarship applications – What if you only got 1 - \$250 scholarship?
- You just made \$12.50 an hour with no taxes taken out.
- What if you get a \$1000 scholarship?



- Free Scholarship Search
- Personalized Matching
- College Comparison
- Tips
- www.fastweb.com
- Dedicated, professional e-mail



- Directory of Merit based scholarships
- Organized by school
- Not just for “A” students
- Many are leadership or school involvement based
- Some are specific to majors
- Part of Cappex.com which also has information about college & career choices and more

Kansas Independent College Association

- Detailed info about the 18 private colleges in Kansas
- Parent Guide
- Info about Paying for College
- How to plan a visit
- Transfer info

Other on-line resources:

- Kansas Career Navigator -- <http://kscareernav.gov/home>
- Occupational Outlook Handbook -- <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>
- My Big Future -- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>
- [PHS Counseling Website](#) -- College information, college fairs, military info, apprenticeship info, scholarships, and more

Local Scholarships

- There is money available locally.
- **Complete scholarship applications IF YOU ARE PLANNING on ANY TYPE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION OR TRAINING**
- Scholarships are posted on the [PHS counseling website](#)—check weekly
- Prepare a resume, activity list, etc. to have on hand when completing applications.
- By completing 1 application, you could be applying for 1 to 30 scholarships (or more)
- Will be separate applications for some local scholarships

Essays

- Many scholarships require that students submit an essay, including our local scholarships.
- **It will be helpful to start on this task early.**
- Look through applications and find common themes.
- Keep your essays on file and modify them as needed for future scholarships.

Letters of Recommendation

- Don't wait until the last minute.
- Make sure that letters are being written by the correct people.
- When asking for a letter...
 - You need to actually talk to the person you are requesting the letter from
 - allow for plenty of time.
 - provide a list of activities, interests, etc.
 - provide an addressed, stamped envelope.

Ethical and Personal Responsibilities

- Authentic applications, essays and resumes
- Personal conduct and reporting to colleges
- Twitter, Instagram and Facebook
- Maintain high academic performance (early release)

Financial Fitness

- May receive credit card application offers.
- Be prepared to deal with this scenario.
- Use only as a last resort – unless you will be able to pay off the entire balance.
- If you need a loan – Federal student loans have a much better interest rate.

Random Tidbits

- Roommate decision – best friends?
- Applications need to be typed or neatly printed in black or blue ink
- College Visits – take them!
 - Campus tour vs. tailgate party
 - Look for PHS In-service days
- Don't overlook the Career-Tech programs

EARLY RELEASE

- Forms available in counseling office beginning October 30th
- Due December 8th
- Must have proof of employment or enrollment in classes
- Typically 1-2 blocks of release (at most) are granted
 - Blocks must not occur in the middle of the day (class 1st, out 2nd, class 3rd—would not be allowed)
 - Remember KSHSAA requirements; enrolled in 5 classes and must be present 3rd & 4th block and advisory
 - Colleges and scholarship donors look at the rigor of spring schedules

QUESTIONS???

Come see us in the counseling
office!

Also:

PHS website--Counseling section
Twitter--@Counsel4PHS