



Counseling Newsletter October 2016



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1 FAFSA registration window begins
Oct 7 Manufacturing Day at Ivy Tech 11-1
Oct 12 Diesel Day at Wabash Valley College
Oct 17 U Explore Engineering at UE
Oct 18 Financial Aid Night @ MVHS, Media Center 6:30 pm
October 19 PSAT 8:05-11:00 All students grades 10 & 11
October 22 ACT at MVHS 8 a.m.
October 26 Career Days 8:15 – 10:50 at MVHS

October 27 Career Days 8:15 – 10:50 at MVHS
November 1 Priority admission application for IU
November 1 Priority admission application for Purdue
November 3 Registration Deadline for SAT at MVHS
November 3 Junior Parent Night 7 pm Media Center
November 22 College Day Program 8:45 am MVHS PAC
Nov 30 Red Cross Blood Drive at MVHS 9 am – 2 pm
Dec 3 SAT at MVHS 8 am

Financial Aid Night

Seniors: MVHS will be hosting a Financial Aid Night Tuesday, Oct 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center

2016 Career Days

Oct 26th and Oct 27th. Look for the College Fair as one of the options Wednesday Oct 26th. We have many colleges coming (IU, Indiana State, Ball State, UE, USI, Western KY, Murray State, Brescia, U of Indianapolis, Ivy Tech, Franklin, Marian, Lincoln Trail, Harrison, Indiana Tech, Vincennes, SIU Carbondale, Harrison, JAG so far)

FAFSA

Senior students may apply for the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) from October 1, 2016-March 10, 2017. This is for grants and loans to attend college beginning in the fall of 2017.

FSA ID – Students & parents sign their FAFSA using a Federal Student Aid ID

An excellent new website by Discover is <http://collegecovered.com/assist>

It allows you to search scholarships without registration & provides good help with the FAFSA.

ACT & SAT:

- You must bring your calculator, admission ticket & picture ID with you on test day
- MVHS high school code is 152460.
- All tests will begin at 8:00 a.m. & the regular location is the social studies hallway at the high school.
- ACT test center for Mt. Vernon is 164-330. Register at actstudent.org
- SAT test center for Mt. Vernon is 15-580. Register at collegeboard.org

SAT

SAT at MVHS Saturday December 3rd and May 6th

The new SAT is still English/reading & math based.

Ways the new SAT is different:

- Top score will be 1600
- No Penalty for Wrong Answers
- Fewer answer choices
- More time for each section
- No more obscure vocabulary
- Increased use of graphs & charts
- Use of texts that are more similar to what you have seen at school
- Each question has four answer choices
- Essay is optional & revamped

For free SAT practice tests & other tools go to the Khan Academy website at <http://www.khanacademy.org/sat>

ACT

ACT at MVHS Saturday October 22 (registration deadline is September 16) and April 8th (reg deadline is March 3)

The ACT is an achievement test, measuring what a student has learned in school.

The ACT has 5 parts: English, Math, Reading, Science, & an optional Writing Test. The ACT is scored based on the number of correct answers with no penalty for guessing. The ACT also has an interest inventory that allows students to evaluate their interests & career options

Applying for College

1. Apply to the college online
2. Go to parchment.com & create an account asking MVHS to send your transcript to the college of your choice
3. In many cases you can apply through the Common Application or SENDEdu make sure you have the correct counselor email: A-R guthriede@mvschool.org
Or S-Z walkerkn@mvschool.org

University of Evansville has announced a “guarantee in four years” for graduation or the 5th year at UE is tuition free if you have followed the academic plan. Must be full time student, maintain satisfactory academic progress, no academic or judicial sanctions. Further information at <http://www.admission@evansville.edu>

Questions to consider when choosing a college:

- What are class sizes like?
- Is there a freshman orientation or transition to college program?
- What is the graduation rate?
- What percentage of students graduate in two/four years, depending on the program?
- What kind of student activities or organizations are on campus?
- What do students like best about this college?
What academic or other support is offered such as free tutoring, a writing lab, counseling
- Other factors: small campus, large university, community college, living at home

Cost Calculators

Each college & university in the United States is required to have an updated college cost calculator, which indicates accurate current prices & fees for colleges. Check this out to determine the cost of your school. Many use the college cost calculator supplied by the College Board. You can find it at <http://www.netpricecalculator.org>

College Visits

Seniors have 2 days to visit college campuses. Deadline for approved MVHS college visits is May 1st. You need to pick up a college visit form from Mrs. Martin in the guidance office & follow the guidelines regarding your attendance. Juniors can also take a college visit 2nd semester with the same approve guidelines.

The NCAA Clearinghouse

The NCAA has implemented an online registration for those students wanting to play Division I or Division II athletics in college. You can register at: http://eligibilitycenter.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.html. GO TO PARCHMENT.COM AND ASK YOUR TRANSCRIPT BE SENT TO THE NCAA FROM MT. VERNON HIGH SCHOOL.

The cost is \$70. You must have your SAT/ACT scores sent directly from ACT or the College Board to the clearinghouse if you are going to play Division I or Division II athletics.

Changes in for 2016 include:

- Must have 16 core cores; 10 before senior year
- GPA in core courses must be a 2.0
- 7 of 10 core classes must be in English, math, & science.

Go to 2point3.org to look at the changing NCAA guidelines

Scholarship & Informative Websites

- <http://www.IndianaCollegeCosts.org> available scholarships & college costs
- <http://www.scholarship.com> free scholarship search service
- <http://www.freescholarshipguide.com> free scholarship search service
- <http://www.collegeanswer.com> free scholarship search service
- <http://www.finaid.org> free money, financial aid search service
- <http://www.schoolsoup.com> free scholarship search service
- <http://www.scholarshiphunter.com> free scholarship search service
- <http://www.fastweb.com> free scholarship search service
- <http://www.srnexpress.com> free scholarship search service
- <http://www.myfuture.com> career information
- <http://www.universitys.com> college search
- <http://www.kaplan.com> test preparation
- <http://www.mycollegeguide.com> student life
- <http://www.DriveOfYourLife.org/Educator> Indiana Career Exploration
- <http://www.learnmoreindiana.org> college & career information
- <http://www.collegeboard.com> career & college information
- <http://www.TriptoCollege.org> steps to prepare for college
- <http://www.learnmore.org> steps to prepare for college
- <http://www.indianacollegecosts.org> to find Indiana college cost info
- <http://www.collegegoalsunday.org> help in completing the FAFSA
- <http://www.upromise.com> how to set up an Indiana 529 savings plan for college

Scholarships

Scholarships are generally found in two categories 1) need based 2) merit based. The scholarship search engines above are very valuable. Also check out:

- your mother or father's employer
- your church or religious affiliated organizations
- minority serving organizations
- libraries
- book stores

When completing a scholarship application it is important to: be neat, be original, be timely, no mistakes

The following scholarship opportunities have been received by the counseling office

****INDICATES LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS - Applications available in MVHS Counseling Office. Deadline April 1**

- AES Engineering Essay Contest 500 to 1000 word essay on "When you look back on your life in 30 years, what would it take for you to consider your life successful? What relationships and accomplishments will be important on this journey?" Amount of award is \$500, submit essay to scholarships@aesengineers.com Include your name, name of school, plans for next year. Deadline Oct 6
- AmeriCorps and FEMA Corps nccnorthcentral@cns.gov
- American Honors Program at IVY TECH for transfer to 4 year college and affordability <http://www.americanhonors.org/applyivy>
- Ancilla College Scholarships <https://www.ancilla.edu/enrollment-aid/scholarships/>
- Ball State University Scholarships access at <http://www.bsu.edu/admissions/scholarships> No special application is necessary for need based scholarships.
- Brescia University Academic Scholarships <https://www.brescia.edu/brescia-university-scholarships>
- DAR Essay Contests "What technological advances would have been most beneficial to Christopher Columbus?" Title of Essay "Technology's Impact on the Voyage of Christopher Columbus" 800-1200 words, open to students 9-12. Contact Terri Branson at terribranson@att.net or call 812-985-5025
- Denison University in Ohio program for first generation college bound, multicultural or students with low socioeconomic background <http://denison.edu/campus/admissions/financial-aid/types-of-aid>
- Elks Most Valuable Student Contest Applications available online at <http://www.enf.elks.org/mvs> No longer delivered to local Elks Deadline November 30
- Gary May Veterans for Peace Essay Contest 1000 word essay or poem on topics related to peace. Applications available in Counseling Office. Deadline Oct 15
- Hagan Scholarship Program go to <http://www.hsfmo.com> for eligibility requirements for financial assistance for national scholarship program. Deadline Nov 15
- History and Significance of the 7th Amendment Essay Contest topic "Why is the right to a trial by jury critical to ensuring justice and democracy" Contact bblomberg@in.gov Deadline Oct 7

- Horatio Alger Essay for students who have had hardships but maintained integrity and perseverance. Apply at <http://www.scholars.horatioalger.org> Deadline Oct 25
- Lincoln Trail CC scholarships contact browningt@iecc.edu
- Marian University Scholarships Deadline dates vary for more information contact <http://www.marian.edu/financialaid> or admissions@marion.edu
- Manchester College Scholarships contact <http://www.manchester.edu>
- Navy ROTC Scholarship <http://www.nrotc.navy.mil>
- Oakland City University Scholarships <http://www.OAK.edu>
- Rogers Hair Design scholarships <http://www.rogershair.com/>
- Rend Lake College Scholarships <http://www.rlc.edu>
- Southeast Missouri State Scholarships <http://www.semo.edu/sfs/financialaid/scholarships/>
 - Southeast Missouri State-In state tuition if you have a 21 ACT 980 SAT and 3.0 and apply by March 1
- Tri Kappa of Evansville Scholarship applications available in counseling office. 350 word essay on future plans and two letters of recommendation. Deadline Dec 15
- Trine University Scholarships <http://www.trine.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/scholarships/>
- Valparaiso University Scholarships <http://www.valpo.edu/financialaid>
- Vanderbilt University Scholarships <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/financialaid>
- Vincennes University Scholarships: <http://www.vinu.edu/scholarships>
- Washington of St. Louis Scholarships <http://www.wustl.edu>
- Western Kentucky University Scholarships <http://www.wku.edu/topdollar/>
 - Western Kentucky University Cherry Scholarship/Dec 1 admission and Merit Scholarship Jan 15 deadline <http://www.wku.edu/scholarship>