LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Senior Handbook 2019-2020
South Sioux City High School
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The senior year is a very exciting, busy time in the life of students and parents. There are many activities which involve deadlines and solid organization on the part of the senior so as to avoid unnecessary stress and frustration. One step in being organized is to maintain a senior calendar with important deadlines and dates. The information to be placed on the calendar will be available at various points during the year, allowing the calendar to be a current usable tool for seniors and parents. Another important part of successfully mastering senior year tasks is the completion of numerous forms and applications. It is very important for the paperwork to be done thoroughly and neatly so that the final copy is a very positive, accurate representation of the student.

It is very important for seniors to be able to deal with distractions that accompany the senior year and focus on the most immediate goal of successfully graduating from South Sioux City High School. Being organized and meeting deadlines will help pave the way to a successful, satisfying year for seniors and parents.

**COLLEGE PLANNING CALENDAR**

**FALL**

(AUGUST-SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER-NOVEMBER)

_____Schedule a conference with your counselor. This may include some general plans or an outline for your senior year. Make sure you are taking the right courses to get into college. Consider taking a course at a local college for college and high school credit. If you are an athlete who plans on playing a sport or receiving an athletic scholarship at a Division I or II college, make sure you have registered with the NCAA. Or if you are going to participate at a NAIA college, you do need to register with them also.

_____Keep up on your studies. Colleges will request grades from you for your entire senior year so don’t slack off.

_____Continue to be involved in activities and to develop leadership skills. Share your time and energy with volunteer community organizations.

_____Register for appropriate college entrance tests (especially ACT). This may be an initial test for some or retakes for others. Keep in mind that some select colleges request an achievement test. Begin planning your ACT preparation. Get study materials from the ACT website on the internet. Practice by reviewing test materials at least 2 months prior to the test. Definitely take a timed practice test.

_____Attend the Financial Aid Meeting which will be Wednesday, September 18, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. for the Spanish version and at 7:00 p.m. for the English version, in the High School Little Theater. Bring your parents with you.

_____Obtain financial aid information from the Guidance Office.

_____Complete Financial Aid Form (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov as soon after October 1 as possible, to apply for financial aid.

_____Review scholarship options in the current scholarship file and complete applications that have fall due dates. Available scholarships are on the school web site at www.ssccardinals.org

_____Visit colleges you might wish to attend. Set up an appointment for a campus
visit. You may make this appointment yourself by calling the Admissions Office at the college, or you may request that your high school counselor help you set it up. If possible, select days when the high school is not in session; then you will not have to miss your classes.

____ Meet

with college representatives who visit South Sioux High School. This information is posted monthly on the College Visitation Calendar in the Guidance Office or school website and is on the daily school announcements.

____ Obtain

and fill out college applications. Applications for many public Nebraska, South Dakota, and Iowa colleges are available in the Guidance Office or on their websites. If you apply online, make certain you inform your counselor so he/she can send an official transcript. If you can't locate an application, ask your counselor for assistance. (See the section on procedures for sending applications.) It is highly recommended that all college applications be sent in prior to Christmas vacation.

____ Assemble

your personal resume. Make sure your resume stresses your strengths, activities, recognition, interests, and goals. This resume will help your recommenders and it will help you fill out applications. (See the section on Guidelines for Writing Resumes.)

____ Think

about which teachers you will select to write your college and scholarship recommendations. Always be considerate of teacher's time. Try to provide teachers and counselors ten days to two weeks lead time.

____ Begin

getting your essays into form. Have teachers, parents, and friends look them over to see if they really tell who you are in good, flowing English.


WINTER
(DECEMBER-JANUARY-FEBRUARY)

____ Continue
to review scholarship options each week in the current scholarship file or on the web site. Always be aware of due dates. Never wait until the deadline to hand applications in; this may not allow counselors time to process the application. Also be aware of deadlines that fall on weekends and holidays.

____ Expect

a Student Aid Report (SAR) acknowledging that your FAFSA was processed. Also, expect financial aid award notifications from the college(s) you listed on your FAFSA.


SPRING
(MARCH-APRIL-MAY)

____ Visit

schools if your college decision has not been made.

____ Continue
to select and complete scholarship applications.

____ Reply

promptly to colleges. Be sure to meet deadlines or you could lose the acceptance you have gained.
___Decide on the college to attend. Be sure to let other schools know that you will not attend.

___Complete housing and meal plan contracts as soon as you receive them. Don’t procrastinate as dormitory rooms will fill up very quickly.

___Participate in your college’s summer orientation program for incoming freshmen. It really helps to familiarize yourself with things ahead of time.

___Search for summer employment to earn money for the coming school year. Make sure you save a portion of your earnings for college costs.

PLANNING YOUR FUTURE

Here are some suggestions to help you prepare for the future and particularly for your education beyond high school. DISCUSS YOUR PLANS AND PROBLEMS WITH YOUR PARENTS, COUNSELORS, AND TEACHERS.

1. KNOW YOURSELF.
   Achievement, abilities, interests, and ambitions are important factors to be evaluated in setting your goals. Initiative, responsibility, and personality will determine your degree of success.

2. THE WORLD OF WORK
   Explore the many occupational fields prior to entering high school; evaluate this information as it relates to your self-evaluation. Don’t select an occupational field or goal just because "Uncle Charlie" or "Aunt Jane" is successful or thinks it is for you.

3. PLAN FOR YOUR VOCATION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.
   Start planning your future upon entering high school. Get some experiences in the various occupations which interest you. Talk to people actually doing the work in which you are interested. Spend a day with them, asking questions and taking notes (this is known as shadowing). Talk to your teachers about contacting people in careers that appeal to you.

4. SELECT YOUR COLLEGE OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.
   Investigate the schools which offer training in the field of your choice. Talk to people who have attended these institutions, if possible. Find out the cost of your proposed course and what scholarships the school you selected offers. Learn about projected demands for the field of employment you select.

5. PLAN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM.
   Certain courses are required for entrance to college. The catalog or website of your chosen school will tell you what courses you should take. Your counselor will help you.

6. LEARN TO STUDY.
   Your teachers can help you learn good study habits for various subjects. Work hard to constantly improve your study habits. You will be glad you did.

7. MAKE GOOD GRADES.
   Grades of ‘B’ or better are "recommended" grades. You must have recommended grades to be eligible for most scholarships. Good grades are important. If you are not getting recommended grades, talk to your teacher about your difficulty.
8. **BECOME A WELL-ROUNDED INDIVIDUAL.**
   Develop hobbies and participate in school, community, and church activities. **Become involved in volunteer community service projects.** These activities will be invaluable as you begin applying for scholarships.

9. **PLAN FINANCES.**
   Parents and students should consider the combination of savings, scholarships, loans, and part-time student jobs when planning the financial of higher education. (Do not secure your information from old publications.)

10. **LEARN ABOUT COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE.**
    Many degree-granting institutions require applicants to take admission examinations of some kind (i.e., SAT or ACT.) Check with your high school counselor about the advisability and the availability of taking these tests.

11. **PREPARE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS EARLY.**
    Get references, transcripts, and other material in order long before the deadline. Obtain applications well in advance of deadlines. Starting early in your senior year is advisable.

**MAKING A COLLEGE CHOICE**

Making a college choice can be like making other important decisions that challenge you. Until you find a place to begin, a method to organize the task into smaller pieces, a way to put a great deal of information into a meaningful package, it may seem almost impossible to make a good decision.

Begin by identifying what your reasons are for going to college.
   What do you hope to gain?
   What learning opportunities do you need?
   What are your goals?
   What are your career ambitions?
   How will college help you achieve these goals and ambitions?

The next step is to relate these goals to factors you can use as you search for colleges that meet your needs.

**Factors to consider:**

A. Type of college
   1. Two- or four-year college
   2. Residential or commuter
   3. Large or small
   4. College or university

B. Location
   1. What area(s) of the country will you realistically consider?
   2. What about the relations between location and costs?
   3. Are specific interests and goals tied to a specific location?
C. Admissions selectivity
   1. What are the application procedures?
      a. What tests are required?
      b. Are there any deadlines?
      c. What high school course preparation is needed?
   2. Are you eligible for admission?
   3. What academic demands can you expect to find?

D. Costs
   1. How much will it cost?
   2. What kind of financial aid is available?
   3. How do you apply for financial aid?

E. Majors and study programs available
   1. Does the school offer the major you want?
   2. If you are undecided, does the school offer you the chance to explore areas of your interest?
   3. Does the school have any kind of internship program?

F. Social life
   1. What is the campus atmosphere like?
   2. What extracurricular activities are available?

After you have developed a list of colleges to consider, begin to form a detailed and complete picture of each college. This will be helpful in identifying those that best fit your needs. Once you have identified those that best fit your needs, it is important to arrange visits to those colleges.

HOW TO GAIN MAXIMUM BENEFIT FROM YOUR CAMPUS VISIT

BEFORE THE VISIT
1. Contact the college at least one to two weeks in advance to schedule a date and time. The college's admissions office can arrange for you to talk to an admissions counselor and take a campus tour. Many admissions offices also are willing to set up appointments with coaches, professors, housing personnel, and financial aid officers if you so desire. Some offer to make overnight arrangements for visiting students.

2. Try to visit the campus when classes are in session. You can get a better idea of what a college is like if you visit when students and faculty are there. Scheduling your visit around a special event such as a lecture, a concert, or a game is also a good idea. In any case, spend no less than a half a day at a college.

3. Regardless of when you visit, you should try to
   --talk to an admissions counselor
   --take a tour of the campus
   --attend a class or two
   --eat a meal in a dining hall
   --talk to a coach or advisor
   --meet with a professor in your academic area
   --stay overnight in a campus living unit if you have the time and it is possible

4. Read the college's catalogs and brochures, or go online and check out their website. This will provide general information so you don't waste time on these during your visit.
5. Prepare a list of specific questions. This may sound like a lot of work; but remember, you are visiting to find out as much as you can about the school.

6. If possible, take an unofficial copy of your high school transcript and know your PSAT, SAT, or ACT scores.

7. BRING YOUR PARENTS. Parents often have questions of their own and may want to visit with you. Remember, they care about you and have an interest in what you do.

THE VISIT
1. Be on time. If you will be late or have to postpone your visit, you should call the college as a courtesy.

2. Talk with as many people as you can. Meeting a variety of people will give you a more complete picture of what a college is really like.

3. Try to work some free time into your schedule. Use this time to wander around, perhaps drop into the campus snack bar, talk to students, etc.

AFTER THE VISIT
1. On your way home, while your thoughts are still fresh, jot down some of your impressions of the college. Save these notes for future reference.

2. If questions come up after the visit, don't hesitate to contact the people you have met.

3. Send thank you notes to those with whom you had appointments.

QUESTIONS FOR COLLEGE RECRUITERS
1. What are your school's admissions requirements?

2. Does your school require standardized admission tests?
   ACT_______ SAT_______ Other_______

3. Does your school have an application deadline?

4. How much is the application fee?

5. Does your school require a tuition deposit at the time of application?

6. What are your costs per year or program?
   Tuition_________ Fees_________
   Room___________ Books_________
   Board___________ Personal/Misc._________

7. Is financial aid available?

8. Is there a deadline for applying for financial aid?
9. Does your school have a financial aid application form that needs to be completed in addition to the federal forms?

10. Are there scholarships available for first year students at your school?

11. How does an individual apply for scholarships at your school, and is there a deadline?

12. What percentage of your students receive financial aid?

13. What is the average financial aid award?

14. What is your school’s reputation in the area of _____________(major or program)?

15. Does your school have resident housing?

16. Must I live on campus?

17. How many students occupy each room?

18. What about laundry and other services?

19. Are credits earned at your school transferable to other schools?

20. What is the enrollment at your school?

21. How large will a typical class be?

22. What is the ratio of courses taught by professors versus teaching assistants?

23. How often do students meet with their advisors?

24. Are there tutors and extra help available?

25. What about computer accessibility?

26. What are the hours that the library is open?

(Other questions are available at www.collegeselection.com/question.htm)

**COLLEGE APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION**

Applications from many Nebraska colleges and area South Dakota and Iowa colleges are available in the Guidance Office. If information isn't available, contact the counselors at the high school, call and request an application from the admissions office at the college (the majority of them have toll free numbers), or access them through the internet (www.learnlink.org). **MOST COLLEGES PREFER ONLINE APPLICATIONS.**

If you are going to apply to a college or university that you did NOT have your ACT scores sent to, you must fill out a Score Request Form which is available from the counselors. An additional fee must be submitted for each score request.

Unless you are sure you want to attend one specific college, it may be to your advantage to apply to several. It may cost a small fee, but more options will be available. When you decide on the colleges to which you wish to apply, follow the simple steps below (How To Process An Application To College).
HOW TO PROCESS AN APPLICATION TO COLLEGE

STEP 1: Complete the **college application form** (this step may be done online or by paper). Typing is preferred; neat printing is allowed. If the application requires teacher or counselor recommendations, arrange for those immediately (see important note on teacher recommendations below).

STEP 2: Write a **check** payable to the school to which you are applying for the application fee if a fee is required. **Do not send cash for the application fee!** If applying online, you may use a credit card.

STEP 3: Complete a **“Release of Information” form** which is available in the Guidance Office. This gives the school permission to send your high school transcripts (grades and test scores) to the college.

STEP 4: **TAKE ALL ITEMS IN STEPS 1-3 TO YOUR COUNSELOR. THE APPLICATION FEE, ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FORMS, AND AN OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT WILL BE PLACED IN A SCHOOL ENVELOPE AND MAILED TO THE COLLEGE.** This process reduces the chances of registration material being lost or misfiled. Record will be kept in the counselor's offices of all mailings and dates of mailings.

**IF YOU APPLY ONLINE, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU LET YOUR COUNSELOR KNOW SO THAT HE/SHE CAN SUBMIT YOUR TRANSCRIPT. YOU WILL ALSO NEED TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION FEE.**

**Important Note About Teacher or Counselor Recommendations:**

If teacher recommendations are needed, contact a teacher you have this year or one that you had last year at least one week (and preferably two weeks) in advance of any deadlines. It is not to your advantage to have any written recommendations done under time pressure. Provide the teacher with a Recommendation Request Form which relays information about you and the purpose of the recommendation; providing the teacher with this information can enhance the recommendation. Forms to provide this information are available in the Guidance Office.

**COLLEGE ADMISSIONS GUIDELINES**

Each college has its own requirements for admission to its institution; and as these are constantly changing, it is very important that you check out this information in individual college catalogs or the internet.

**ATHLETIC GUIDELINES**

NCAA Division I and II institutions have established academic guidelines for students who plan to participate in college athletic programs and/or receive athletic scholarships. NCAA eligibility requirements are based on a student’s GPA in specific core courses and a minimum ACT/SAT score. Because there are differences in each division, it is important to check with your counselors to insure you are enrolled in the proper classes and on the right course. You may also get on-line at [www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org](http://www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org) to check out the guidelines and register with them. There is now an NAIA Eligibility Center, [www.playnaia.org](http://www.playnaia.org). So if you are planning on participating in a sport at a college that is at the NAIA level, please check out their requirements also, and register with them.
SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Because it is impossible to list all individual scholarships, it is imperative that the students take the responsibility to carry out each of the following suggestions.

1. Scholarships issued through colleges and universities compose a large percentage of the scholarships awarded to high school seniors. Some of these scholarships may require a specific application; others you automatically qualify for on the basis of class rank or test scores. It is extremely important to review specific college websites and contact the financial aid office at the school.

2. The current scholarship page on our school website is continuously updated with scholarship opportunities. Students should check these files at least once a week first semester and on a daily or bi-weekly basis second semester. Remember that competition is tremendously keen at the national level; however, never rule yourself out of any competition. One never knows the applicant pool; perhaps many others rule themselves out and only a few applications are received by the awarding source.

3. Many local colleges have freshman scholarships which are available (UNO, UNK, UNL, WSC) and the deadlines for these may be as soon as December 15th so please be sure to check the files in the Guidance Area.

4. Local scholarships are available thanks to the generosity of organizations, businesses, and individuals. Each scholarship has its own application form, and these forms begin showing up on the current scholarship page around February 1st. The majority of them are due between the dates of March 15th-April 15th so this can become an extremely busy, harried time for seniors. Doing certain tasks ahead of time (such as Step 1 in How To Process a Scholarship Application) will definitely alleviate some of this stress.

5. Never limit your scholarship search. There are numerous places to look. Some suggestions are:
   - College websites
   - Financial aid and scholarship publications in the Guidance Office
   - Scholarship resources in public libraries
   - Free scholarship services like the one available through the Educational Planning Center in Omaha (Never pay for this service.)
   - Organizations to which your parents belong
   - The INTERNET!!!

Visit with
   - College admissions directors
   - College financial aid personnel

6. The majority of scholarships require that a transcript be sent with the application. A transcript shows all classes taken in grades 9-12, all grades received in those classes, the most recent grade point average and rank in class, and ACT/SAT scores. If you plan on applying for scholarships and have not taken the ACT, please get registered to do so. Go to www.actstudent.org and register on-line.

7. You may receive numerous scholarship search opportunities through the mail with a cost attached, or you may see offers in magazines or newspapers. We highly discourage any student paying for this information as it can be obtained at no cost.
YES, APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS INVOLVES A LOT OF WORK; HOWEVER, YOU MUST REMEMBER TWO THINGS:

1) SCHOLARSHIPS WILL NOT COME YOUR WAY UNLESS YOU TAKE THE TIME TO APPLY.

2) THE MORE SCHOLARSHIPS YOU APPLY FOR, THE GREATER YOUR CHANCES OF RECEIVING MONEY.

HOW TO PROCESS A SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

STEP 1: The majority of scholarships request the same information: educational background, involvement in activities, employment history, honors, awards, community service involvement, etc. Prior to filling out any applications, compile a list with all this information; and then arrange this information into resume form. Save this resume on a computer flash drive because you will be using it over and over again and continually updating it. (See section on Guidelines for Writing a Resume.)

STEP 2: Take a photocopy of the scholarship application form, and fill it out in pen or pencil. You may want someone to proofread your answers before typing the final forms.

STEP 3: TYPE the original application, taking the information off the photocopy. NEATNESS IS A MUST!!! Most scholarships are now scanned in the guidance office and are put on the school website so that you can save it to your computer and type it up in Kami. This is a very good idea because the end result is extremely professional. Our website is: www.ssccardinals.org.

STEP 4: If a teacher, counselor, or administrator recommendation is required, contact that individual at least one week (and preferably two) in advance of any deadlines. Provide that person with information about that scholarship so he/she will know what the recommendation should emphasize and with information about yourself (Recommendation Request Forms for this purpose are available in the Guidance Office.)

If the recommendations are to be sent directly to the scholarship agency, provide recommender with a stamped envelope addressed to the scholarship agency. If the recommendation is in form format, make certain you fill out any necessary sections.

If the recommendation is to be returned with the scholarship application, designate on the Recommendation Request Form the date it should be turned in to the Guidance Office. Once again do not use the application deadline as your deadline. Example: If the application deadline is April 15 and the 15th falls on a week day, designate to the recommender that the recommendation should be to the Guidance Office by April 13th. ALWAYS ALLOW PROCESSING TIME (AT LEAST TWO DAYS FOR THE GUIDANCE OFFICE.)
STEP 5: Take completed application and any other required information (resume, essay, photograph, letters of recommendation, etc.) to the Guidance Office at least two days prior to scholarship deadline. If the deadline falls on a weekend or during a holiday break, get all information to the Guidance Office two days prior to the last school day of the week.

Counselors will then organize all scholarship information, attach a transcript (if requested by scholarship agency), and mail it for you. Counselors will record name of scholarships being applied for and mailing dates. Transcripts MUST be mailed out of the guidance office for them to be “official”.

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING A RESUME

1. Before you begin to write your resume, sit down and make a list of all activities you have been in from the ninth grade to the present. Include the following:

   -- every activity you have participated in (both in and out of school)
   -- every leadership position you have held
   -- every accomplishment/honor/award you have achieved
   -- every work experience
   -- every volunteer community and/or church activity you have been a part of
   -- every organization of which you have been a member

2. Organize this list into categories and then arrange categories in chronological order (most recent first). When you show the years you were affiliated with each event, use grades, not years. It is much easier to read.

   Recommended: Football (12, 11, 10, 9)

3. You should limit your resume to two pages. Do not fall into the trap of thinking that an extra-long resume will be impressive. Show the reader that you know how to organize and prioritize.

4. The fewer words you have in your resume, the better. Remember: a resume is an outline of your qualifications, not an essay about them.

5. There are several sample resumes at the end of this booklet. Use them as a guide only because a resume should be as unique as your fingerprint.

6. Use standard, easy-to-read typefaces; if the font is so elaborate that it is difficult to read, your resume will have no significance. Do not use print which is too small; ten or twelve point is recommended.

7. Your resume should be attractive, clean, and easy-to-read. Never submit a resume with cross-outs or handwritten corrections. Do not crowd the page.

8. Spell Check your resume before printing; however, don’t rely solely on that. You should also check and double-check for punctuation errors and typos. Have others (counselors, teachers, parents, friends) look it over and give suggestions for making it even better. Microsoft WORD, under “file”, then “new document” has different resume form types that can be filled in with your information, also. “A typo or misspelled words in your resume tells the reader that you are lazy, sloppy, or stupid.” (Easy Working Resume Kit, Spinnaker Software Corporation, 1997).
HOW TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

1. In October of the senior year you will apply for financial aid (FAFSA). It must be completed online, but you do need to obtain a FSA ID number before you can apply and that is best if it is done before October. Both student and ONE parent must obtain a FSA ID number. You may do so by going to fsaid.ed.gov.

2. During the month of October, work on completion of the FAFSA. This must be done online. Income information will be taken directly from the 2018 Income Tax Returns. It is NEW this year that you apply for FAFSA this early but is very important that it is done right away in October.

3. As you finish your financial aid application, you will have the option of indicating which colleges are to receive the analysis. Provision of the analysis to all colleges you still have in consideration because it is difficult to add colleges later. Be sure parents and the student sign the form in the proper places. This is what the FSA ID number is for.

4. If you have not sent admissions applications to the colleges to which financial aid information is being provided, you must do so now. COLLEGES WILL NOT BEGIN ANY FINANCIAL AID CONSIDERATIONS FOR A STUDENT UNLESS THEY HAVE AN APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION ON FILE!

5. You will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR), after completing the FAFSA. Check it over carefully; if there are major mistakes, correct them immediately by logging back into the FAFSA web site and click “make corrections to a FAFSA”. It is extremely important to provide accurate information when filling out the FAFSA for the first time. If you do have to make corrections, your financial aid package from your college will be delayed.

   If there are no corrections to be made, this information will automatically be sent by FAFSA to the colleges you designated. Save the SAR as you may need it should you decide to attend a college different than the ones designated on your FAFSA.

6. Once the college processes this information, the financial aid office will send you a letter or e-mail you, indicating the aid for which you are eligible. You must then notify the college as to whether you will accept the aid they are offering.

7. If you have any unusual or unique financial situations, or if you wish to appeal the financial aid decision, your best contact is the financial aid department of the college you wish to attend. College financial aid directors have some discretion and options for the financial aid awarded by their institution.

YOUR FAMILY FINANCES
What Information Will You Be Asked To Provide

Many families applying for financial aid are disturbed when they discover they must disclose personal financial information to qualify for aid. It is important to understand that the data is needed to meet federal government requirements as well as to assure that financial aid programs are administered fairly.

Here’s a preview of the information your family will be asked to provide when you are filling out a financial aid form.

**Total Income**, which includes a) the income you reported on your tax form, b) IRA/KEOGH payments, c) Social Security benefits, d) AFDC/ADC, and e) Other untaxed income.

**Standardized allowances**, which are a) federal income tax paid, b) Social Security payments, c) state and other taxes, d) medical and dental expenses, e) elementary school, junior
high, senior high tuition, and f) standard maintenance allowance based on number of members in
your household.

**Net worth**, which includes a) cash and savings accounts, b) other real estate/investment equity, and c) net worth of your business and/or investment farm.

**Student contribution**, a) the income student reported on tax form, b) savings from work and gifts, and c) untaxed income.

**Records You Will Need**

--2018 U. S. income tax return (IRS Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ)
--W-2 Forms and other records of money earned in 2018
--Records of untaxed income, such as welfare, social security, AFDC or ADC, or Veterans' benefits
--Current bank statements
--Current mortgage information
--Business and farm records
--Records of stocks, bonds, and other investments
--Student's driver's license and social security card

**CONFRONTING THOSE FINANCIAL AID FORMS**

Most schools will require that you fill out a federal financial aid form (FAFSA). All forms are available on-line at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov). To apply for a Stafford loan, you may need to complete yet another form. Get one from a bank or savings and loan institution after the student has been accepted at a school.

Before you do battle with these forms, take heed of these helpful hints:

--Apply early. Aid is often distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.
--Follow directions exactly. If you don't, your form will be returned to you for clarification.
--You must have on hand current tax and financial information, from the previous year to the
one in which the student will start college. In other words, if the student will be a college freshman in
the fall of 2020, you'll need copies of your family's federal, state and local income tax returns for the
2018 year.
--For income reporting, take the Adjusted Gross Income from your family's 2018 federal tax
return. (Form 1040)
--Round off numbers to the nearest dollar.
--Complete the entire financial aid form. Computers will reject incomplete forms, delaying
your request for aid.
--Don't forget to sign the application! Both student and parent(s) should sign.
--Remember that you need to fill out a separate application for a Stafford Loan. Get one
from the college's financial aid office or any commercial lender.

**MISCELLANEOUS TIPS, ADVICE, WHATEVER
REGARDING FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS!**

1. APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS DOES TAKE TIME.

2. NO ONE ELSE CAN DO IT FOR YOU.

3. YOU WILL RECEIVE NO FINANCIAL AID UNLESS YOU TAKE THE TIME TO
BECOME INFORMED AND ACT.

4. THE EARLY BIRD GETS THE WORM.

5. MAKE PHOTOCOPIES OF EVERYTHING.
6. TAKE YOUR TIME AND BE ACCURATE.

7. NEVER THROW ANYTHING AWAY.

8. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL AID, YOU MUST MAINTAIN A 2.0.

9. AID MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE TO YOU COME PAYMENT TIME IF YOU ARE SLOW WITH FORMS.

10. IF YOU NEED TO APPLY FOR A STAFFORD LOAN, ALLOW FOUR TO SIX WEEKS FOR PROCESSING. AS OF SEPTEMBER 1991, FIRST TIME BORROWERS WILL NOT RECEIVE THEIR LOAN MONEY UNTIL THIRTY DAYS AFTER SCHOOL HAS BEGUN. STUDENT MUST BE ATTENDING CLASSES REGULARLY AND BE IN GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING. STUDENTS AND FAMILIES MUST BE PREPARED TO FINANCE THOSE INITIAL COSTS.
RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Following is a list of popular web sites for students who plan to attend a postsecondary school. Please be aware that this list is only a small sample of the many excellent resources that are available today.

Web Sites

General College & Career Search Information

www.act.org/
This is ACT’s main site, providing many educational services.
www.actstudent.org
This portion of ACT’s web site has practice tests available to take to prepare for your test day. You can also register to take the test on this website.
www.act.org/aap/
Have questions about the ACT Assessment Test? This site contains everything you need to know.
www.aib.org/
America’s Job bank
www.acinet.org
This site contains occupational information that will assist you in your employment search and give you information on current job markets.
www.bls.gov
The information found on this interactive site will guide you through your skills and interests to qualifications, educational requirements, and salary estimates.
www.campustours.com
Want to see what a campus looks like without driving across the country? This site provides virtual tours of colleges throughout the nation.
www.careerbookstore.com/
Career Bookstore
www.careerbuilder.com
Career Builder
www.collegeboard.com
This is a complete site for planning for college, taking tests, finding the right college, getting into college, and paying for college.
www.collegefund.org
This site provides information on the American Indian College Fund, tribal colleges, and scholarship opportunities for Native Americans.
America’s colleges and universities have prepared this site to guide you to the books, websites, and other resources that admissions and financial aid professionals consider most helpful.
www.collegenet.com
www.collegeview.com
This is a complete web site covering all aspects of college including college search, scholarship search, virtual tours, financial aid, test prep center, career center, and much more.
www.educationquest.org
This web site provides information on scholarship searches, college cost estimates, etc. Find, apply, and get into the right program for you.
www.finaid.org/otheraid/natamind.phtml
This page provides information about financial aid for Native American students.
www.jobsmart.org/
Job Star
Selecting the right college is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Don't be afraid to ask for help. And don't automatically rule out your first choice even if it seems like you can't afford it.

This site helps students discover their best fit education program.

This site provides information on test preps, colleges, scholarships, and career information.

This site is dedicated to careers, including salary ranges for all parts of the nation and career management information.

This comprehensive guide to college includes a college search, a scholarship search, admissions tests, financial aid information, Q & A forums, and books and resources.

Search for specific kinds of schools including community colleges, culinary, religious, and male/female only schools, as well as links to student aid and other information.

This site provides information on selecting a college, scholarship searches, projecting college costs, finding a job, and much more.

This site provides information on going to college from early preparations to getting loans.

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**Student Financial Aid**

College is one of the biggest investments you and your family will ever make. There is help! This web site provides you with concrete information and advice about finding and applying for financial aid.

This web site explains how to properly complete a FAFSA, the purpose of the questions, and how to report information in some unusual cases.

This web site provides information on scholarship searches, college cost estimates, etc.

This site allows you to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submit it for processing on-line.

Financial aid has its own vocabulary. To help you speak the language, here are the most commonly used terms and acronyms.

This site contains a financial aid estimation calculator, a college cost projector, an educational savings plan designer, scholarship information, and much more.

The PIN serves as your identifier to let you access your personal information in various U.S. Department of Education systems. You can request a PIN and change your PIN on this site. This site provides help lines for students applying for federal student aid.
Scholarship Searches

www.educationquest.org
This web site provides information on scholarship searches, college cost estimates, etc.

https://embark.com/
Ease the financial burden of school with scholarships. Wiredscholar’s free search will help you locate scholarships or which you qualify.

www.fastweb.com
Search this site for scholarships for which you may be eligible to apply.

www.gocollege.com/goscholarshipsearch
This site is a reliable source for scholarships.

www.collegenet.com
This scholarship search site offers you a database of 600,000 potential scholarship matches.

http://scholarships.com
Start your free college scholarship search here. Your results are delivered to you immediately on-line.

www.ftc.gov
Don’t get taken by phony scholarships search offers. Check out this site first.

Military Sites

www.finaid.org/military
This FinAid site provides information about the financial aid resources available through the military.

www.myfuture.com
This site contains military opportunity and tuition assistance information.

www.sss.gov/Registration-Info
Use this link to register for the Selective Service on-line.

Contact Education Quest for Assistance

Education Quest is here to help you with financial Aid, FAFSA, and Loan Questions:

Omaha 1-888-357-6300 or 1-402-391-4033
Lincoln 1-800-303-3745 or 1-402-475-5222
Kearney 1-800-666-3721
Web site www.educationquest.org

EducationQuest Foundation is a nonprofit organization with a mission to improve access to higher education in Nebraska.

EducationQuest provides free college planning services, need-based scholarship programs, college access grants for high schools.
This is a very important page on our school website, go to www.ssccardinals.org, at the top, “click on” Students, then “click on” Guidance and Scholarships. During the year, it will list all local scholarships that are available. You will be able to click on each scholarship to type up the application. First save the scholarship to your computer, and then type it up in Kami.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Important Dates</th>
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<td>ACT Testing, Parent Teacher Conferences, Tri-State College Fair, &amp; Financial Aid Meetings</td>
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<th>KnowHow2GoNebraska: 4 Steps to Make College a Reality</th>
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<td>SSCHS Full 2019-2020 Registration &amp; Course Guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Link to Valuable Websites for ACT, College Information, Scholarships, &amp; Financial Aid</td>
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<th>Help Your Child Succeed in School</th>
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<tr>
<td>Life After High School A Senior Handbook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Information for New Students Registration &amp; General Information</td>
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</table>

| Special Education Transition Department |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Local Scholarships Available Update Coming Soon |
| ACT Tips Standardized Test Prep Courses |

### Important Dates to Remember

**Parent-Teacher Conferences**
Wednesday, September 18, 2019, Evening
Wednesday, November 13, 2019, Day & Evening
Wednesday, February 5, 2020, Evening
Wednesday, April 1, 2020, Day & Evening

**ACT Testing**
Want to improve your ACT, take the Prep Course offered by SSCHS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 14, 2019</td>
<td>August 16, 2019</td>
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<td>October 26, 2019</td>
<td>September 20, 2019</td>
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<td>December 14, 2019</td>
<td>November 8, 2019</td>
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<td>February 8, 2020</td>
<td>January 10, 2020</td>
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<td>April 4, 2020</td>
<td>February 28, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 13, 2020</td>
<td>May 8, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 18, 2020</td>
<td>June 19, 2020</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**SCHOLARSHIPS**
Check school website: www.ssccardinals.org
Look under High School, Students (at top), Then Guidance & Scholarships.
All local scholarships will be listed with applications

**Financial Aid Meeting**
Wednesday, September 18, 2019
5:30 p.m. for Spanish Speaking Parents
7:00 p.m. for English Speaking Parents
Both meetings held in the: High School Little Theater

**FAFSA Information**
Apply for FAFSA ID at www.faid.ed.gov
After October 1, 2019, complete the FAFSA
At www.fafsa.ed.gov
## Valuable Web Sites

<table>
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<tr>
<th><a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a></th>
<th><a href="http://www.educationquest.org">www.educationquest.org</a></th>
<th><a href="http://www.petersons.com">www.petersons.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a></td>
<td>SAT Online Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.collegenet.com">www.collegenet.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.finaid.org">www.finaid.org</a></td>
<td>scholarshiphelp.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.nelnet.com">www.nelnet.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.learnlink.org">www.learnlink.org</a></td>
<td>Standardized Test Prep Courses</td>
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<td>Education Planning &amp; Financing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Morgan Bowman
Street Address
South Sioux City, Nebraska, 68776
Phone Number
E-mail Address

Education:
- South Sioux City High School
- Graduation Date: May 19, 2019
- GPA:
  - Weighted/College Course
    Honors English 1 and 2
    AP Language/Composition
    College Algebra
    AP Literature
    AP US History

Education Goals/Future Plans:
- To attend Concordia University at Seward and major in mass communications

Work Experience:
Secret Closet Boutique (12, 11)
- Checking out customers
- Steaming and tagging clothes
- Mopping, dusting, and organizing

Awards/Honors:
- Gold Honor Roll (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Top 10% of class (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Class Treasurer (12, 11)
- Superior rating on vocal solo (9)
- Varsity letter in volleyball (12, 11)
- Varsity letter in dance (12, 11, 10)
- Varsity letter in cheer (12)
- Varsity letter in choir (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Volleyball Academic All-State (12)
- National Honors Society Historian (12)
- Most Communicative- Volleyball (11, 9)
- Lead roles in Musical (12, 11, 10, 9)

Activities/Organizations:
- Marching Band (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Concert Band (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Volleyball (12, 11, 10, 9)
- National Honors Society (12, 11, 10)
- Swimming (9)
- S Club (12, 10)
- Pep Band (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Chamber Choir (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Prom Committee (11)
- Show Choir (10, 9)
- Madrigal (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Musical (12, 11, 10, 9)
- FCA (9)
- Vocal Harmony (11)
- Dance (12, 11, 10)
- Cheer (12)

Volunteer Activities:
- Academic All-Conference (12, 11)
- Varsity dance captain (12, 11)
- Concession Stand (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Cardinal Christmas Baskets (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Cardinal Festival Days (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Little girls volleyball camp (11, 10, 9)
- Little girls cheer camp (12)
- Little girls dance camp (12)
- Junior prom committee member (11)
- District Music stage hand (12, 11, 10, 9)
Selene Guzman
Address, City, State, Zip
Phone Number
E-Mail Address

Education:
- South Sioux City High School, South Sioux City, NE
- Expected Graduation Date: May 19, 2019
- Weighted GPA:
- Weighted Class Rank:
- Weighted/College Courses:
  - Honors English 1 (9)
  - Honors English 2 (10)
  - Trigonometry and Analysis (10)
  - American Literature 1 (11)
  - AP Calculus (11)
  - AP Language and Composition (11)
  - AP Literature and Composition (12)
  - Medical Terminology (12)
  - Probability and Statistics (12)

Awards and Honors:
- Gold Honor Roll (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Top 10% (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Top 5% (12)
- Student of the Term (11, 10, 9)
- Believers and Achievers Nominee (12)
- Varsity Letter:
  - Track (12, 11, 10, 9)
  - Basketball (12, 11, 10)
  - Volleyball (10)
  - Band (12, 11, 10, 9)
- River Cities Conference Academic All-Conference:
  - Basketball (12, 11, 10)
  - Track (12, 11, 10)
  - Cross Country (12)
  - Volleyball (10)
- NCPA Academic All-State Award:
  - Basketball (12)
- Wayne Honor Band (12, 11, 10, 9)
- RCC Honor Band (11, 10, 9)

Future Plans:
- Attend the University of South Dakota and double major in Medical Biology and Psychology with a minor in Criminal Justice
- Intending to become a trauma surgeon

Volunteer Experience:
- Cardinal Christmas Baskets: prepared boxes of food for the less fortunate (11, 10, 9)
- Booster Club Basketball Tournament: ran the clock and kept score (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Concession Stands: prepared food, ran cash register, cleaned stand (12, 11, 10, 9)
- South Sioux City Youth Basketball Camp: taught basketball skills and lead youth groups (12, 11, 10, 9)
- South Sioux City Youth Volleyball Camp: taught volleyball skills and lead youth groups (10, 9)
- Veterans Memorial Performance: played music while veterans marched (11)

Activities/Organizations:
- Girls' High School Track (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Girls' High School Basketball (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Girls' High School Cross Country (12, 11)
- Girls' High School Volleyball (10, 9)
- Concert Band (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Marching Band (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Pep Band (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Madrigal Band (11, 10, 9)
- Mariachi Band (11)

Leadership Positions:
- Strength Unity Council (11, 10)
- Band Section Leader- Flutes (12, 11, 10)
- Girls' High School Varsity Basketball Captain (12)

Employment:
- Bobier Studio (May 2016-present)
  - Input student data for personalized data files for over 15 separate schools in the Siouxland Area, create packaging labels for individual student orders.
- Bobier Boutique (May 2016-present)
  - Taking inventory, rotating store items and clothing by season, uploading store information (sales, deals, etc) to shopping sites.
Dylan McGuire
Street Address
South Sioux City, Nebraska 68776
Phone number
e-mail address

Education
❖ South Sioux City High School
❖ Graduation Date: May 19, 2019
❖ GPA:
❖ Class Rank:
❖ Weighted/College Courses: Pre calculus

Activities
❖ Cross Country (11, 10)
❖ Leadership Academy (11)
❖ Track (12, 11, 10, 9)
❖ Swimming (12, 11)
❖ Basketball (10, 9)
❖ Superintendent Council (9)
❖ Football (9)

Community Involvement
❖ Cardinal Christmas Baskets (12, 10)
❖ Booster Club Tourney (12, 10, 9)
❖ Servant at the O'Connor House (9)
❖ Cardinal Family fun Night (9)
❖ KidZone Volunteer SunnyBrook Community Church (10, 9)

Honors and Awards
❖ Track Hardest Worker (10)
❖ Swimming Rookie of the Year (11)
❖ Swimming State Qualifier (12, 11)
❖ Varsity Letter winner (12, 11, 10, 9)
❖ Gold Honor Roll (12, 11, 10, 9)
❖ Academic All Conference (12, 11, 10, 9)

Work Experience
❖ FleetFarm (12)
❖ ARC Woodbury Day Camp (12)
❖ JCPenney (11)
❖ Mow Lawns (9)

Special Skills
❖ Semi-fluent in Spanish
❖ Able to troubleshoot basic computer issues
❖ Able to work well with others
❖ Able to learn tasks quickly
❖ Self-motivated and persistent
❖ Problem Solver

Interests
❖ Welding
❖ Architecture
❖ Teaching
❖ Math
❖ Computers
Marybeth Rasmussen
Street Address
Dakota City, Nebraska, 68731
Phone Number
E-mail Address

Education:
- South Sioux City High School
- Graduation Date: May 19, 2019
- GPA:
- Class Rank:
- Weighted/College Courses:
  - Honors English I (9)
  - Honors English II (10)
  - AP Language and Composition (11)
  - AP Literature and Composition (12)
  - Trigonometry and Analysis (11)
  - AP Calculus (12)
  - Medical Terminology (12)

Activities/Organizations:
- Basketball (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Track (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Cross Country (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Volleyball (9)
- Strength Unit Council (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Leadership Academy (10)
- National Honor Society (12, 11, 10)
- Girls’ High School Basketball Varsity Captain (12)

Educational Goals/Future Plans:
- To attend The University of Nebraska–Lincoln for Pre-Nursing

Employment:
- Fareway (June 2019-present)
  - Cashier

Volunteer Activities:
- Worked concessions during Cardinal football and basketball games as a part of basketball, track, and cross country (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Christmas Baskets (11, 10, 9)
- Dakota City Soup Suppers (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Dakota City Breakfasts (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Breakfast Elementary Buddies (12, 11)
- Food Banks (12, 11, 10)
- Youth Girls’ Basketball Camp (12, 11, 10, 9)

Awards/Honors:
- Gold Honor Roll (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Top 10% of Class (12, 11, 10, 9)
- Student of the Term (11)
- Varsity Letter
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