

Senior News

APRIL

A Note From Your Counselor—Mrs. Correll

Your April Checklist

- Keep your eyes and ears open for scholarship opportunities. Apply! Apply! Apply!
- Look back at previous newsletters, either on paper or online, for scholarships you have overlooked.
- Confirm with prospective colleges if they've sent out acceptance letters. Watch the mail.
- Compare the offers you have received from your prospective colleges. Determine which college is going to be the best choice for you.
- Contact all the colleges that sent you acceptance letters, notifying them of your decision to either attend or not attend.
- If you are not going to college, start preparing a resume and inquiring about job possibilities.
- If your grades are borderline and the class is necessary for graduation, see your teacher and work harder. You can't afford to wait any longer.
- Have you satisfied ALL graduation requirements...Keystone remediation? Senior project? Get serious and get busy!!

Career Development

Workshop — Learn about etiquette, resume building, & interview techniques on April 18th, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Job Fair — April 25th, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Register for both by emailing pursuingprofessionalism@gmail.com, sponsored by Junior League of Williamsport.

Still Deciding??

Factors to consider when choosing a college: class size, faculty/student ratio, financial aid packages, sleep and study accommodations, food, places of worship, parking, technology, location, public transportation, meeting special needs, convenience, class interest, internships, extracurriculars, athletics, career track, faculty & staff. Make sure you also look at the school's reputation. Good luck!

Tips for Winning Scholarships by Scholarships.com

- Apply only if you are eligible.
- Complete the application.
- Read and follow ALL instructions.
- Submit a clean, neat application.
- Submit a well-composed essay that makes a definite impression.
- Be aware of and meet all deadlines.
- Mail application to the proper address with the proper postage affixed.
- Give your application materials a final review.
- Seek assistance if you feel you need it.
- Make sure you're proud of and satisfied with your application submission!



Happy Spring!!!!

Tips for Comparing Financial Aid Packages

(written for parent audience but worthwhile by educationplanner.com)

- Find out how outside scholarships (that is, those not granted by the college or the government) will be handled. Will the college financial aid office deduct any or all this entire amount from the loan? From the grant? From both? Colleges vary on this and will be willing to explain their policies to you.

It's against the law to over-fund a student. That is, if a student's need is calculated at \$30,000 and her college awards the full amount of aid and she is also awarded \$5,000 from outside scholarships, an adjustment has to be made. Often colleges replace some self-help (loan and work study) with the outside scholarship, which sweetens the composition of the financial aid package by increasing the amount of gift aid in the mix. Although some students complain that they are being penalized for earning outside aid, it's really an advantage because they can reduce their self-help.

- Don't assume that a less expensive school will necessarily cost you less. Look very carefully at the amount of aid each place is offering you and compare that to the total cost of attendance to find out what each college will cost you and your family.
- If there is a discrepancy in the amount of aid you have been awarded at comparably priced colleges, contact the financial aid offices. It might be that one application asked information that another didn't and so your family contribution was calculated differently. If you are able to supply more information, you may be able to get a more generous award. On the other hand, it might be that one college simply gave you a more generous package. Financial aid officers might be able to match an award from a competitor school, particularly if they are interested in recruiting your child. Be honest with the financial aid officer. Tell him or her what the other college has offered.

Alan was torn when one college offered his daughter \$8,000 in merit aid and her preferred college offered no aid. Alan called the favored college, explained the situation, and it was able to match the merit award. Both dad and daughter were happy with the outcome. If you go out on a limb and bluff to a financial aid officer, you'll get caught, as most colleges will require a copy of the other offer letter of aid to verify the difference. But honest negotiation is worth a try—the worst thing that can happen is that the college will say no.

- Colleges have different amounts of aid available and distribute aid with different philosophies. These differences become very clear as you compare awards made by colleges able to meet total need with awards made by colleges practicing need gapping. In addition, some colleges package their financial aid with merit taken into consideration. That is, they sweeten the pot by lowering the loan and upping the grant for students with special appeal.
- Don't be surprised if you as parents don't agree with your child on the value of the varying awards and the value of the varying educational experiences. Be patient, be clear, and try to listen to your child to hear what he really wants and needs. Passionate arguments and lots of door slamming can be avoided by trying to communicate reasonably and calmly.

College Comparisons

www.usnews.com
www.overview.com/colleges

Preparing for College

www.adventuresineducation.org
www.review.com
www.collegeispossible.org

Financial Aid Resources

www.aesSuccess.org
www.ed.gov/finaid.html
www.students.gov
www.studentaid.ed.gov
www.discovercolleges.com
www.nasfaa.org

<http://www.edvisors.com>
www.educationplanner.org
www.gocollege.com
www.scholarshiphelp.org
www.fastweb.com
www.finaid.org

www.studentcollegescholarships.com/pennsylvania.html



Scholarships

April 1—Lycoming County Chapter of PA Association of School Retirees Scholarship is for seniors in Lycoming County who are majoring in education. Completed applications must be given to your guidance counselor.

April 1—Joseph R. Calder, Jr., MD Scholarship is awarded to a senior who has been accepted into a medical-related program. Go to www.wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/Calder2013.pdf

April 3—Taber Museum Scholarship is for any senior in Lycoming County who makes a trip to the museum and writes an essay. See Mrs. Correll for information.

April 10—Mary Ann Fox Scholarship This scholarship is for students wishing to attend the following universities or colleges (including their branch campuses): Lock Haven University, Bucknell University, Lycoming College, Penn State University, and Penn College of Technology. Students must have good academic standing and character and demonstrate financial need. Applications are available in the guidance office.

April 15—PA Land Surveyors' Foundation Scholarship is for PA seniors enrolled in a surveying major. See www.psls.org/scholarship for an application.

April 15—The Morton Harrison Scholarship Fund is for students who as juveniles "have come to the attention of the Lycoming County Probation Department" and demonstrate a strong willingness to make positive changes in their lives and further their education. To apply, go to http://www.wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/Morton_&_Beatrice_Harrison_Fund_Award_2015.pdf

April 15—The Timothy Lichter Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior who has been accepted into an accredited motorcycle mechanic school. Applications available at http://wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/South_Williamsport_Area_School_District_Awards_2015.pdf

April 15—The Albert and Alice Nacinovich Music Scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior pursuing a degree in music education or a music-related field of study. Priority will be given to students who exemplify an exceptional passion and aptitude for music, demonstrate the potential for success and share their musical talents with their school, church, and/or the community. To apply, go to http://wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/South_Williamsport_Area_School_District_Awards_2015.pdf

April 15—ISCALC International Scholarship Fund is for a graduating senior who has demonstrated interest in international studies. Two scholarships will be awarded. For complete criteria and an application, http://wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/South_Williamsport_Area_School_District_Awards_2015.pdf

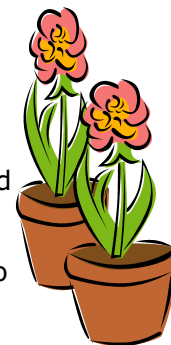
April 15—Kenneth and Marcia Johnson Scholarship Fund is awarded to a college-bound student preferably in aviation (or if no one, any major). To apply, go to http://wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/South_Williamsport_Area_School_District_Awards_2015.pdf

April 15—B-Brave McMahon/Stratton Scholarship Fund is awarded to a graduating senior who has been in the foster care system or has legal adopted status. The student must have shown remarkable achievement in spite of the obstacles in his/her life. Applications are available at http://wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/South_Williamsport_Area_School_District_Awards_2015.pdf

April 15—Taylor J. Ertel Scholarship Fund for Foster Children will be provided to individuals who have lived in foster care at some time of their lives. Applications are available at http://wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/Taylor_J_Ertel_Fund_Award_2015.pdf

April 15—Jody Lea Loudenslager Scholarship Fund is awarded to the children of Glenn O. Hawbaker employees. To apply, go to http://wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/Jody_Lea_Loudenslager_Fund_Award_2015.pdf

April 15—Robert E. Barbour Scholarship, in the amount of \$2000, will be awarded to graduating seniors from any Lycoming County High School, preference given to Montoursville Area High School students, with the intent to pursue a career as a pharmacist. To apply, go to http://wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/South_Williamsport_Area_School_District_Awards_2015.pdf



Scholarships continued...

April 15—Kids' Chance Scholarship Program grants to children of PA workers who have been killed or seriously injured in a work-related accident and are in financial need. For an application, go to www.kidschanceofpa.org

April 15—West Branch Human Resource Society is offering a \$150 scholarship to a deserving SWAHS senior who plans to pursue a degree in Business, preferably with an emphasis on Human Resources and have an 85% or better. Sign up in the counseling office if you qualify.

April 24—Kiwanis Club of Williamsport provides a scholarship to an active senior member of Key Club who plans to attend an institution of higher learning. See Mr. Manning for an application.

April 24 —Beta Sigma Phi Award is given to a college-bound student who is average to above average in academics & displays good citizenship. Sign up in the guidance office to be considered for this award.

April 24—Jamie Davis Award is a \$50 award given to a student interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement. Sign up in the guidance office to be considered for this award.

April 24—Lola Hauser Memorial Award is given to a student enrolling in post secondary level elementary education. Sign up in the guidance office to be considered for this award.

April 24—South Williamsport Lions Club Awards are presented to graduating seniors who have been accepted at a college, trade or technical school. The students should possess character, integrity and a cooperative attitude and show evidence of responsibility. The money is paid directly to the institution of higher learning. Applications are available in guidance.



April 24—Virginia Courtright Memorial Scholarship/SWAEA Award is given to a college-bound student with an education major. Sign up in the guidance office to be considered for this award.

April 24—Joshua Andy Memorial Scholarship is \$500 scholarship, awarded to a graduating senior who is planning to attend college, preferably majoring in music. Preference is given to a student who has dealt with life's struggles and who has a sincere love of music. Applications are available in the guidance office.

April 24—Greg Guerrisky Memorial Award is a \$500 award which requires an application and a brief essay on the impact of chemistry on your life. Applications are available in the guidance office.

April 24—Raniero Memorial Scholarships include two \$250 awards to a graduating senior (one male & one female) attending an institute of higher education. Student should demonstrate academic proficiency and have participated in a varsity sport. Participation in school and community service activities, demonstration of leadership qualities, and financial need will be considered. Applications are available in the guidance office.

April 24--Foundation Scholarships: Complete the Williamsport-Lycoming Community Application available at

http://wlfoundation.org/sites/default/files/South_Williamsport_Area_School_District_Awards_2015.pdf
Same application, different essays and other requirements:

Nolan W. Feeser Scholarship Awards are \$2500 renewable awards, given to one male and one female with the highest ranking student and unmet financial need. *Preference* may be given to those attending Lycoming College, Penn College or Gettysburg College.

John Savoy Scholarship is \$500 renewable award, given to a senior who displays good citizenship, community involvement, and unmet financial need and is not the recipient of another major scholarship. Preference is given to those attending college in Pennsylvania. Other than a strong potential for success, such factors as class rank and grade point average will not be criteria in making a selection unless in the judgment of the selection committee such factors are needed to distinguish between multiple potential candidates.

Jane Salansky-Onzik Scholarship is a \$500 non-renewable award for a senior who has been accepted into a full-time undergraduate program at an institution of higher education (preferable in

Scholarships continued...

PA) to study secondary education (preferable to teach Spanish) or to study Spanish in preparation for a career that would utilize the Spanish language. The applicant will exhibit good citizenship and community involvement, will have unmet financial need, and will not be the recipient of other major scholarship awards. Other than a strong potential for success, such factors as class rank and grade point average will not be criteria in making a selection unless in the judgment of the selection committee such factors are needed to distinguish between multiple potential candidates.

April 24—Matthew Owen Pecht Memorial Award is given to a student who is going to attend a post secondary college and majoring in the medical or health field. Sign up in the guidance office to be considered for this award.

April 24—Sue Hutchinson Scholarship is a \$200 award, given to a student planning to major in elementary education, showing good citizenship and community involvement, unmet financial need, and not the recipient of other major awards. Sign up in the guidance office.

April 24—John F. Laedlein Lodge No. 707 Masons' Book Grant Scholarships are \$250 scholarships, awarded to one male and one female senior in good standing and who plan to attend post-secondary education. Applications are available in the guidance office.

April 24—Zafar Grotto Rafaz Club Book Grant Scholarships are \$250 scholarships, awarded to one male and one female senior in good standing and who plan to attend post-secondary education. Applications are available in the guidance office.

April 24—LCPL Abram L. Howard Memorial Scholarship is a \$500 scholarship for a senior who has been accepted to a school of higher education and is the child or step-child of either an active duty armed services personnel serving overseas OR an armed services veteran having served overseas OR an active duty armed services personnel serving stateside OR an armed services veteran serving stateside. Applications are available in the guidance office.

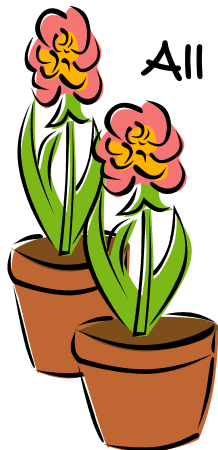
April 30 – American Association of Drilling Engineers, Appalachian Chapter offers 20 \$1000 scholarships for seniors attending colleges in PA, OH, or WV. Go to <http://www.aade.org/chapters/appalachian-basin/> for an application.

May 9 – Duboistown Garden Club Available to seniors who plan to major in horticulture, landscape, floral design, or environmental science. See Mrs. Correll for an application.

May 15 – Road to Safety Scholarship is a scholarship for PA seniors that involves a creative way to highlight the dangers of drunk and/or distracted driving (original art, essay, video, song). First place winner receives \$1000, second place \$750, and 3rd place \$500. See www.arrivealivepa.com for details.

May 23 – Woodlands Bank Scholarship is for seniors who used EverFi in Personal Finance. See Mrs. Correll for a scholarship application.

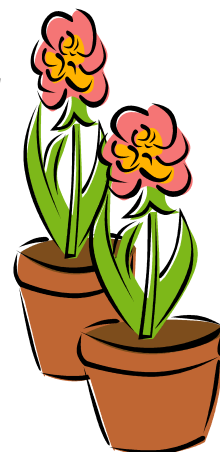
The cost of college is so expensive. Take the time and effort to apply for scholarships. The more you can get, the less you'll be forced to borrow and repay at high interest rates!



**All local scholarships and sign-ups must be completed
by April 24th by 3:00!**

There will be NO exceptions!!!

Get started early!!



Check It Out

Penn College website has multiple listings for scholarships. Simply log on to www.pct.edu/finaid and click on scholarships. If you're attending Penn College, you need only complete one application form for multiple scholarships. **Due date is WEDNESDAY, April 15th.** Check out the external and internal scholarships. If you're not attending PCT, just go to external scholarships.

Miscellaneous

- The last Penn College FAFSA workshop is April 7th. Register by emailing finaid@pct.edu
- The FAFSA deadline is May 1st. If you need financial aid (and who doesn't?), you must complete the FAFSA paperwork on www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- Email colleges you're not planning to attend. Be courteous.
- Use Spring/Easter vacation to complete English and Biology remediations.
- Use Spring/Easter vacation to work on scholarships.
- For your senior calendars: April 15 National Honor Society banquet and ceremony, April 24 Scholarship deadline for local scholarships, May 9 Prom, Final Exams May 27 and 28, Awards Night May 27, Baccalaureate May 31 (tentative), Graduation June 5.
- Congratulations to all who were involved in "The Sound of Music." What a wonderful performance!!!
- Good luck to all those taking the AP exams: May 5 AP Calculus exam, May 6 AP English Lit exam, May 12 AP U.S. Government exam, May 14 AP World History exam.
- Congratulations to all who qualify for National Honor Society. Enjoy your banquet and ceremony on April 15!

Weird Scholarships from <http://www.college-financial-aid-advice.com>

My Favorite Car Scholarship Application Deadline: April 30 Award Amount: \$500

Choose your favorite car on their website and write an entertaining description on why that should be your car during college. Use your imagination and be funny if you want to be a winner. For more details on My Favorite Car Scholarship see the website below and click on the Scholarship link www.chilliwackdealerships.ca

Ice Cream Flavor of the Month Scholarship Application Deadline: July 31 Award Amount: \$1500

Enjoy an ice cream cone while you compose your ideas for this summer scholarship. "If you were an ice cream flavor, which would you be and why?" Are you tart, sweet, nutty? This unusual scholarship is open to high school students ages 13+ and college students. For application and information about the Ice Cream Flavor of the Month Scholarship for college see www.scholarshipexperts.com

Turf Writers Journalism Scholarship Application Deadline: March of each year Award Amount: \$10,000 per year, may be renewed

Do you love horse racing and journalism? Help pay for college with these unusual racing scholarships. Applicants must demonstrate the potential to make a contribution to the horse racing industry. Journalism majors should definitely consider this scholarship which pays \$10,000 a year, and is open to undergraduate and graduate students. Essay required and GPA 3.0 or higher. For more information about the Horse Racing Scholarship for Journalism Majors see www.racingscholarships.com.

Make Me Laugh Scholarship Application Deadline: August Award Amount: \$1500

This is summer, time to have some fun! This scholarship will make you LOL. Write a short funny story, that can be true or false. Whoever said applying for scholarships is not fun, has it wrong. LOL. Open to high school students grades 9 - 12 and college students. You will find the Make Me Laugh Scholarship Application online at www.scholarshipexperts.com. They also have other unusual scholarships on their website.