

Seaholm High School

Class of 2025

**Junior Year and Planning for the
Future**



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Agenda

- . Creating your college list
- . Researching programs and schools
- . Choosing a college & campus visits
- . Overview of college application process
- . Transcripts
- . Testing: Digital format, ACT vs SAT, or not at all
- . Upcoming events

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Creating Your College List

Michigan Association for College Admissions
Counselors recommends an average of six colleges on
“your list”:

2- safety schools,
2 target schools,
and 2 reach schools.

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College Search

Identify the factors in a college that are most important to you:

- Location;
- Cost;
- Programs/Majors;
- Public vs. private vs. religious affiliation;
- Social environment, groups and clubs;
- NCAA or other sports
- College Visits or College Fairs

[Visit College Board – Search for Schools](#)

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Researching Admission Requirements

- The requirements for admission into college can vary depending on which schools you choose.
- The 2024-25 applications available early to mid-August.
- See your counselor for information about waivers and financial assistance

First-year admission criteria

Admission to Michigan State University is competitive, but there are no minimum requirements. MSU strongly encourages a college preparatory curriculum in high school. Students are also advised to apply early.

First-year admission is based on:

- Your academic performance in high school
- The strength and quality of your curriculum
- Recent trends in your academic performance
- Your class rank
- Your ACT or SAT results — however, please note that MSU is **test optional** and prospective students have the option to apply to MSU without submitting an ACT or SAT score.
- Your leadership, talents, conduct and diversity of experience

Fall 2022 first-year profile*

- Entering class: 9,676
- High school GPA: 3.5-4.0
- Composite ACT: 23-29
- Total SAT: 1130-1350

*middle 50% of enrolled first-year students

High school preparation

MSU recommends that students include a majority of core academic courses in their schedules each semester throughout high school, including three such courses each semester during their senior year. In addition, MSU encourages students to select honors, Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses when possible.

First-year applicants

[How to apply](#)

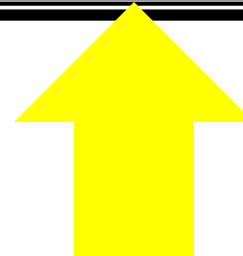
[Dates and deadlines](#)

[Admission criteria](#)

[ACT/SAT optional](#)

[Advanced credits](#)

[Apply now](#)



Seaholm High School – College Application Process

Spring

- Secure letter(s) of recommendation
- Attend the June Student and Parent Night
- Work on essays

Summer

- Send transcript through Parchment in July or August
- Continue to refine essays
- Start college applications – most open in August
- Send test scores, if applicable

Fall

- Complete and return Brag Sheet to counselor
- Continue to work on applications and submit

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Your Transcript and Parchment

- Register with Parchment www.parchment.com
- When setting up your account:
 - This needs to be a student account NOT a parent account.
 - Identify CORRECT graduation year – **2025**
 - Double check to make sure your birthday is correct
- Prospective D1 or D2 athletes must set up an account with NCAA Eligibility Center (<http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/how-register>)
- Contact Carey Balow if you have any issues at cbalow@birmingham.k12.mi.us

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Post-Secondary Options

- Community College
- Military
- Gap Year
- Trade Schools and Apprenticeships
- Consider OSTC for senior year



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Digital Testing, ACT VS. SAT, or Not At All

COLLEGEBOARD has moved the PSAT and SAT to a digital format.
To register or send SAT scores <http://collegeboard.com>

ACT - <http://www.actstudent.org>

NOTES: Many schools have moved to test-optional, visit <http://www.fairtest.org/university/optional>. Test-Optional, Test-Flexible, and possible impact on scholarships

Seaholm High School - Mark Your Calendar

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday, April 10	SAT WITH ESSAY – 11 th grade students
Thursday, April 11	ACT Workkeys – 11 th grade students
Tuesday, April 16 (tentative)	M-STEP - 11 th grade students
Monday, May 6 - Friday, May 17	Advanced Placement Testing
Junior Student and Parent Night part 2 – Wednesday, June 12 6-7:30 pm	
Notes: If you have financial need, please work with your student's counselor (Fee and application waivers may be available.).	

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Highlights of Junior Student & Parent Night Part 2 – June 12 at 6 pm

- Review of the college application process
- College deadlines
- *Deep dive* in Common App
- Letters of recommendation
- Essays
- Testing updates
- Timeline

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Final Thoughts!

- Continue to work hard!
- Attend Junior College Series in spring
- Attend College Q & As – in the spring
- Create/finalize list of extra curricular activities, employment, awards, and community service (grades 9-11)
- Visit colleges
- Attend Career Day in March
- Attend the Junior Student & Parent Night Part 2
- This is a process, you don't have to have all the answers right now.
- Let's work together and have fun!

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Resources:

- **CollegeBoard – Campus Visit Checklist** - [Campus Visit Checklist – BigFuture | College Board](#)
- **5 tips to get the most out of virtual visits:**
<https://wheatoncollege.edu/admission/visiting-wheaton/5-tips-for-getting-the-most-out-of-virtual-college-visits/>
- **College Search** - [BigFuture | College Board](#)
- **Xello (EDP/Educational Development Plan)** – Career Development/College Search
Students log-in through ClassLink
- **ACT vs. SAT** <https://www.princetonreview.com/college/sat-act> and <https://blog.prepscholar.com/act-vs-sat>
- **Check out our College and Career Center** website for more resources.

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Counseling Breakdown	Contact Info
A-D	Samantha Canfield- 248-203-3758 scanfield@birmingham.k12.mi.us
E-K	Nicole (Festian) McWilliams - 248-203-3759 nfestian@birmingham.k12.mi.us
L-P	Jenn Vanderveen - 248-203-3760 jvanderveen@birmingham.k12.mi.us
Q-V	Walt Romano - 248-203-3757 wromano@birmingham.k12.mi.us
W-Z DEPARTMENT CHAIR	Kristy Fekaris - 248-203-3756 kfekaris@birmingham.k12.mi.us
Wellness & Crisis Counselor	Sherree Wilson - 248-203-3740 / 248-203-3504 swilson@birmingham.k12.mi.us
College & Career Center Specialist	Brenda Guinan Huddy - 248-203-4253 bguinanhuddy@birmingham.k12.mi.us