



# Welcome Back

## **SEPTEMBER ONE-LINER**

### **SENIOR INFORMATION**

Important senior information will be provided to you through your One-liner each month. I will send you this bulletin by e-mail and it will be posted on our school website as well as the bulletin board by Mr. Fox's room. It is also very important for you to ask questions so please stop by my office or email me anytime.

#### **ACP CONFERENCES**

Schedule an ACP (Academic and Career Planning) session with me next week. We will complete a senior credit check as well as go over the checklist of things you need to accomplish by May.

#### **COLLEGE APPLICATIONS**

College applications are now open. Students can begin applying for admission for the Fall 2025 term. Applications for the UW colleges are available online. Visit <https://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/application-review-timetable/> to view campus timelines for their review process.

If you have an ACT of a 25 or higher, it is important that you apply as soon as possible. Merit scholarships are decided early.

Seniors interested in attending a 2-year technical college should submit their applications as soon as possible to avoid wait list issues.

There is no undergraduate application fee for all UWs with the exception of UW-Madison (\$70), UW-Eau Claire, UW- La Crosse (\$25).

Southwest Tech - Free

## **College Application Words of Wisdom**

**Avoid misspellings and grammatical errors**—Errors in spelling and grammar are big pet peeves of admissions people. If you make a mistake on something as important as your college application, it suggests that either you don't pay attention to details, or you simply don't care.

**Include extracurricular activities**— Knowing that you are active and well-rounded is valuable to many colleges. You should mention activities such as sports, the arts, formal organizations, and volunteer work. Talking on the phone and hanging out with friends, however, shouldn't make the cut.

**Get confirmation if applying online**— If you apply online, you should receive confirmation that the college or university received it. Confirmation could be an e-mail message, a Web page response, or a credit card receipt. Follow through and make sure that your application has been submitted.

### **APPLICANT STATEMENT**

The statements/essays that are most helpful are the ones that give more insight into the student, providing additional information not found on a high school transcript or a standardized test score. They would like to know what inspires you, why you are focused on a particular area of study, why you are interested in attending their campus and/or any other personal information you would like them to take into consideration when reviewing your application for admission. And, your statement should be well-written, organized, grammatically correct...and proofed!

If your academic record was affected by a personal situation in your life, tell them how that circumstance had an impact on your academic performance.

Complete your statement/essay telling a college why you are interested in their campus.

### **REQUESTING A TRANSCRIPT**

Once your application has been submitted, request an official transcript from your **Xello account**. You must request a transcript for each school you apply to.



## **CHECK IT OUT... ACT**

The Universities of Wisconsin is test-optional for students applying for undergraduate admission for Spring 2025 through Summer 2027 term unless the Universities of Wisconsin Board of Regents takes additional action regarding test score requirements before that time. If you have a strong ACT score, it is recommended to submit them with your application for scholarship opportunities.

If you did not have ACT scores electronically sent from ACT, you can have a copy sent from Ms. Townsend or register to have them sent directly from ACT. Each school has a different requirement so check to see what your school will accept. If you have them sent from ACT, there is a fee attached.

If you want to retake the ACT go to [act.org](http://act.org) to register

## **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

Will you need letters of recommendation? Most colleges do not require them but if you are “on the bubble”, that is, not quite meeting requirements or on the edge of admissibility, letters of recommendation may be helpful to the admission staff. The letters of recommendation will provide a better sense of your performance in the classroom and potential for future academic success, particularly if there are extenuating circumstances involved that may have impacted upon your performance (ie. death in the family, loss of job by parent, change of schools, etc.) It is also important that such letters be written by individuals who are in a solid position to know your academic history and performance potential.

There are two ways to generate a letter of recommendation. The Recommendation for Undergraduate Admission form is accepted by most campuses in the UW System. UW-Madison provides their applicants with an online Letter of Recommendation Form at [www.admissions.wisc.edu/apply/recommendations/submit/index/php](http://www.admissions.wisc.edu/apply/recommendations/submit/index/php) which should be used by all applicants to UW-Madison.

Individual letters of recommendation written by teachers, counselors, and other educators are also accepted at most UW campuses.



## **VISITING COLLEGE CAMPUSES**

College visits are an essential part of your college process. I encourage you to schedule a visit this fall or take advantage of colleges offering small groups and on special preview days. Each senior is allowed 1 free campus visit day. Any additional will come from your 10 needed days

## **SOUTHWEST TECH'S CAMPUS VISIT OPTIONS**

### **ON CAMPUS - IN PERSON**

Interested in a specific career and want a hands-on learning experience? **Join us for our in-person visit** where you will have the opportunity to:

- Come to campus
- Meet with an advisor
- See program classroom& labs
- Meet instructors
- Learn about campus services including *housing, financial aid, learning services, disability services, veteran services, and more.*

## ***Four-Year CAMPUS PREVIEW DAYS- Check Online for Dates***



### **Wisconsin HELP Websites**

Electronic doorways to the UW System, WI Technical Colleges, WI Private Colleges. These online sites allow you to take a virtual campus tour, talk to an advisor, calculate college costs, answer questions about admission policies, living on campus, choosing a major and much more!!

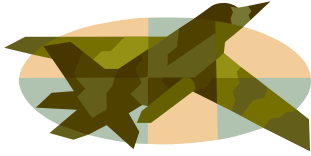
UW-HELP - [uwhelp.wisconsin.edu](http://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu) or call 1-800-442-6459

WI Private Colleges – [PrivateCollegeZone.org](http://PrivateCollegeZone.org)

WI Technical Colleges - [witechcolleges.org/](http://witechcolleges.org/)

### **CAPRI Cosmetology Open House**

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 – 1:00-3:00. You will have the opportunity to see Cosmetology, Esthetics, Nail Technology and Massage Therapy. Text 563-663-9173 to RSVP.



## MILITARY INTERESTS

There are many opportunities for training and education through military service. If you are interested in this direction, contact a recruiter in our area and schedule to take the ASVAB (entrance exam for the military). Recruiters are welcome to come to River Ridge and visit with any interested students.



## Financial Aid & Scholarships

### NEW 2025 WISCONSIN TUITION PROMISE

The new 2025 Wisconsin Tuition Promise is an initiative created by the Universities of Wisconsin to ensure underserved Wisconsin students can attend any UW university without paying tuition or fees. The 2025 Wisconsin Tuition Promise applies to new undergraduate students who first enroll starting with the Fall 2025 term. More information can be found at the following link:

[www.wisconsin.edu/tuition-promise/](http://www.wisconsin.edu/tuition-promise/)

### 2025-26 FAFSA UPDATE

On August 7, the US Department of Education announced that the 2025-26 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA form) will be launched through a new process. Starting on October 1, 2024, the department will release the 2025-26 FAFSA form for testing with a limited set of students & institutions.

The Department will make the application available to all students on or before December 1. More information will be released in the coming weeks.

## Scholarships

There are scholarship dollars waiting for you. The time to start looking is now. Finding and applying for scholarships takes a great deal of time and effort. Have what it takes to seek these out and know where to look.

### ***Have What It Takes...***

Every scholarship is unique and can be awarded based on one or more of the following criteria, or any number of others not listed here.

- Academic achievements
- Intended major
- Volunteer activities

- Athletic, musical or artistic talent
- Income level
- You or your parent's employer
- Hobbies & interests

***Know Where to Look...***

- Check your One-Liner that is provided to you by your high school counselor each month.
- College Foundation Office. All colleges offer scholarships for incoming freshman and/or current students. Call their foundation office or do online research.
- Private colleges are usually more generous when awarding scholarships. Don't rule out a private college until you've seen their financial aid package.
- Apply to online scholarship service: **Fastweb.com – HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!**

**A list of scholarships will be listed in this bulletin each month. Scholarships will be discussed in your ACP Conferences.**



**National Honor Society Scholarship – Deadline: November 26, 2024**



Job offerings will be listed each month and/or emailed to every senior.

Bloomington Meats – must be 16 or older. Will take a senior interested in School to Work.