

COLLEGE & CAREER BULLETIN

January 12, 2021

SENIOR CLASS:

- * Please let your counselor know when you hear back from colleges! We want to be there to support you and celebrate with you through this process. Students should also update their decisions in Naviance.
- * After submitting, check to make sure that your applications are complete. Most colleges will send you an email with instructions to set up an applicant portal, where you can see what documents they have received. (Note that it often takes 1-2 weeks for documents to appear on the portal).

JUNIOR CLASS:

- * Review the MLHS College Application Timeline.
- * Junior College Planning Meetings have begun! Email your School Counselor to schedule a meeting which should take place during a free period. As an additional resource, you can schedule an appointment with our College and Career Counselor, Mrs. Nicholson, after your initial college-planning meeting with your School Counselor.

UPCOMING MLHS EVENTS:

January 13: Instant Decision Day with Stockton
University. Interested in applying to Stockton
University? Sign up to meet with an Admission
Counselor, who will review your application and provide
you with an admission decision that day! Seniors with a
3.0+ GPA are eligible to sign up. Contact Mrs. Nicholson
for registration and more information.

January 30: Practice ACT exam, hosted by the Princeton Review. Sign up to take a full-length practice ACT (virtually). On February 3, they will host a follow up session where representatives from the

Princeton Review will discuss how to interpret your results and how to compare these to your PSAT scores. This practice exam is open to students of all grade levels. See the flyer at the end of the Bulletin for more information. Registration is available HERE.

February 2: Instant Decision Day with Dominican College. Sign up to meet with an Admission Counselor, who will review your application and provide you with an instant decision! Admitted students will also receive scholarship information that day. Seniors with a 2.5+ GPA are eligible to sign up. Contact Mrs. Nicholson for registration and more information. Your application fee will be waived for participating in the event.

February 7: Practice SAT exam, hosted by C2 Education. Sign up to take an online practice SAT (virtually). Participants will receive a FREE C2 review of practice test results to know exactly where to focus efforts for the real test. This practice exam is open to students of all grade levels. See the flyer at the end of the Bulletin for more information. Registration is available HERE.

- * Please note that the practice SAT and ACT exams are FREE events (no commitment required) hosted through the Princeton Review and C2 Education. The offering of these tests at MLHS is not an endorsement or support of their services. We want to extend every opportunity for our students to explore and practice these tests, so we take advantage of these offerings.
- * Missed any Guidance Presentations? Check out our <u>YouTube channel</u> for recordings. The Junior College Kickoff will be posted here later this week.

OTHER COLLEGE/CAREER EVENTS:

January 12: Attend the *University of Rhode Island's* "Evening with Admission." Learn how to fill out the Common Application, receive guidance on the college essay, and more. Registration is available here.

January 18-22: Interested in colleges outside the U.S.? Attend *TH!NK UK North America*, the largest scale event organized specifically by UK universities - bringing England, Wales and Northern Ireland higher education at the tip of your fingers. TH!NKUK week will cover everything from submitting your UCAS applications, right through to arriving in the UK. Register here.

January 20: Interested in any of the *Summer at Hopkins* programs? Join their Online Information Session on Wednesday, January 20 from 8-9pm. They will provide an overview of all of the programs and opportunities available to participants. Registration is available here.

January 31: The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) is hosting four virtual college fairs over the next few months, with the first on 1/31. Over 500 colleges will be in attendance. To register, visit this link. Look for a section on "What to Ask at a College Fair" in the next Bulletin.

February 3: The *Atlantic Health System* is hosting a virtual *Traditional and Non-Traditional Healthcare Careers* series. During the event, students will have the opportunity to learn more about the diverse careers that Atlantic Health System offers. Panelists include a Pediatric Gastroenterologist, a Pharmacist, a member of the Information Technology Team, and a Social Worker. Register here.

Registration for the NJACAC College Fairs (as mentioned in the Junior College Kickoff) will be shared in the next Bulletin.

* For students beginning the college search: all colleges have virtual tours / events available on their website.

OTHER RESOURCES:

<u>2020 Early College Application Numbers Defy</u>
<u>Expectations</u>, by Josh Stephens (a teacher and college counselor based in Los Angeles). This article includes interesting insight on EA/ED applicant pools and good advice for seniors.

FAFSA's Expected Family Contribution Is Going Away.
Good Riddance, by the New York Times

Pandemic Relief Package Simplifies FAFSA, by Forbes

What does being deferred mean?, by Georgia Tech Admissions

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

200 Club of Morris County Scholarship provides assistance to children of active public safety personnel. Eligibility is limited to high school seniors serving in a Morris County branch of public safety or whose parent is actively serving or retired from a public safety capacity in Morris County. Scholarships will be awarded on a one-time basis for the 2021-2022 academic year. Award criteria includes academic performance, community service, extracurricular activities and financial need. Apply by February 15.

A Salute to Engineering Writing Contest: Students in grades 3-12 are eligible to apply and can win up to \$500. Applicant must submit an essay that salutes engineering's role in meeting and defeating the challenges presented by COVID-19. Learn more here. Apply by February 1.

Amazon Future Engineer Scholarship assists high school seniors who have completed a computer science course and plan to continue their education by attaining a bachelor's degree in computer science, software engineering, computer engineering or other computer science related field of study. Recipients of the award receive \$10,000 at an accredited four-year college or university as well as a paid summer internship at Amazon after their freshman year of college. Apply by February 18.

Association of Women in Mathematics Essay Contest:

Contest is open to students in grades 6-12 and undergraduate students. Student must submit an essay based on an interview with a women currently working in a mathematical career. Apply by February 1.

DAR Scholarships: Each year the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) awards multiple scholarships to students showing dedication to the pursuit of higher education. Apply by January 31.

Harriet Fitzgerald Scholarship: The Sunflower Initiative will award another Harriet Fitzgerald Scholarship in the amount of \$10,000 to a woman who in the Fall 2021 term will begin attending an undergraduate women's

college in the U.S. or Canada. Learn more <u>here</u>. Deadline to apply is February 1.

(ISC)² Women's Scholarship offers scholarships from \$1,000-\$6,000 per recipient. Applicants must be female and pursuing or planning to pursue a degree with a focus on cybersecurity, information assurance or related field, and be a high school senior, undergraduate or graduate student. A minimum 3.3 GPA is required. Apply by February 22.

Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarship: Provides scholarships of up to \$30,000 over four years to minority high school seniors showing leadership potential and demonstrating financial need to attend an accredited 4-year college or university of their choice. Learn more here. Apply by February 1.

Jimmy Rane Foundation Scholarships: Scholarships are open to high school seniors and current college freshmen and sophomores. Students will be selected based on academic excellence, community involvement, leadership skills, awards and honors, and financial need. Winners will receive up to \$5,000. Apply by February 5.

Junior League of Morristown will recognize the outstanding community service of high school seniors by awarding up to four \$2,500 college scholarships. The primary criterion for the scholarship is outstanding dedication to voluntarism and community service. Financial need is not a factor for consideration. Applicants must reside or currently attend school in Morris or Somerset Counties. Completed applications must be received by February 19. Learn more here.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION:

- * The <u>FAFSA</u> must be completed if you are applying for need-based financial aid. Review these resources for help on preparing for, completing, and submitting the FAFSA: <u>FAFSA Help</u>, <u>FAFSA Process</u>, <u>12 Common FAFSA Mistakes</u>, <u>Instructions on how to list more than 10 colleges</u>
- * Check to see if your colleges also require the <u>CSS</u>

 <u>Profile</u> (review their financial aid website). See <u>this</u>
 <u>guide</u> for help on completing the CSS Profile.
- * Financial Aid in Seven Easy Steps

- * Please be aware of your college's financial aid deadlines. These deadlines are typically not flexible you may miss out on potential aid if you do not submit these documents in time.
- * See upcoming changes to the FAFSA in articles shared above: FAFSA's Expected Family Contribution Is Going Away. Good Riddance, Pandemic Relief Package Simplifies FAFSA. Notably, there will be a big change in the treatment of multiple students enrolled in college at the same time.

TESTING UPDATES & INFORMATION:

* Below, you'll find the links to register for SAT and ACT exams. We encourage students to sign up well in advance of the registration deadline, as many testing sites are filling up early.

SAT Registration

ACT Registration

* Test-optional updates:

<u>Baylor University Extends Test-Optional Admissions</u> Policy for Fall 2022, 2023

See a full list of test optional schools at fairtest.org. This PDF breaks down what years the colleges are test-optional for (i.e. just the Class of 2021 or beyond). We expect colleges to make announcements about their test-optional status (whether they will continue this policy) in the spring.

SUMMER PROGRAMS:

It is not too early to be thinking about summer! Some programs have January or February deadlines. More opportunities will be shared in each Bulletin. See previously listed opportunities HERE.

Georgetown's Summer High School Programs: Ranging in length from one to eight weeks, their programs span a wide range of subjects, including business, politics, social justice, sports management, entrepreneurship, and medicine. Applications are available HERE. The priority application deadline is February 1.

Summer at Hopkins: Led by innovative and dedicated Johns Hopkins instructors, these programs will help you

connect with like-minded peers from around the world. A variety of programs are offered, including "Epidemics, Pandemics, & Outbreaks," "Medical School Intensive," and "Psychological Profiling." Summer 2021 programs will be held online. Applications are now open; learn more here.

NINTH GRADE OPPORTUNITIES:

W.E.B. Du Bois Scholars Institute – Accelerated Learning Academy was created to bring welcome and much-needed diversity to STEM studies and industries, especially for others who are underrepresented in these fields yet have a long history of achievement. The ALA provides an opportunity for high-achieving, forward-thinking 8th and 9th graders—students who will evolve into our next generation of engineers, software developers, mathematicians, architects, doctors and physicists—to explore STEM in new and exciting ways. The application and supporting materials deadline is February 3. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, so students are encouraged to apply as early as possible.

If you have any questions or want to schedule an appointment, please contact Mrs. Nicholson at cnicholson@mlschools.org.

The **Princeton** Review®

SAT® | ACT® | PSAT®

Be confident on test day. You can.

FREE ACT® Practice Test and info session

For Mountain Lakes High School Students!

The Princeton Review is pleased to offer a free ACT practice test for Mountain Lakes High School students. The test will take place on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>January 30th at 9am</u>. Although the COVID-19 Pandemic prevents us from holding in-person practice tests, the online practice test will still offer students a simulated experience with the ACT.

Click here to register for the Virtual ACT Practice Test

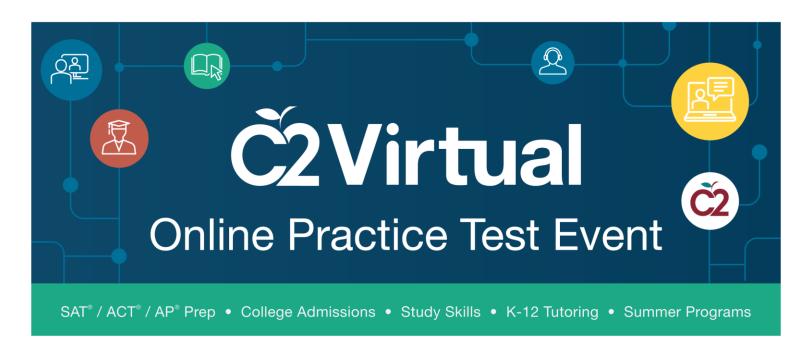
How to Register:

<u>Step 1:</u> Use the above link to enroll in the practice test. The link will take you through the steps to create an account .

<u>Step 2:</u> Once enrolled you can log into your princeton review account to access the test. There will be a live session with a proctor at 8:45 on January 30th. Please plan for about 3 hours to take the test. IMPORTANT NOTE! If you are unable to take the test that day or time, you can take the test at ANY time that is convenient for you by logging into your Princeton Review account and clicking "launch practice test". Your results are available immediately upon completion of the exam.

<u>Step 3-</u> We will be hosting a LIVE info session on Wednesday, February 3rd at 7pm. We will review the SAT, ACT, and PSAT as well as a walkthrough of the score report. All who enroll in the practice test will automatically get the link for the info session

Questions? Reach out to Nicole lannucci: Nicole.lannucci@review.com or (848) 229-9978



Free Virtual SAT Practice Test Mountain Lakes High School

February 7, 2021

This is a great opportunity for students to become familiar with SAT material and learn where improvements are needed in order to score big on the real test.

No payment or commitment is required! Participants will receive a FREE C2 Virtual review of practice test results to know exactly where to focus efforts for the real test.

Register today to secure your virtual seat!

Registration Link: http://bit.ly/MountainLakeHSVirtualSAT or scan QR Code

We will email you an online test link and code on 2/6. You can connect to the test at you convenient time on 2/7. You have to finish the test in one sitting.

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