

Counselor's Corner

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HURON HIGH SCHOOL

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****ACT Prep Course****

Details and sign up are available in the counselors' office. You must pay at sign up. For future ACT tests, register online: <https://www.act.org>

VISITING COLLEGES

- **South Dakota State University**
Thursday, October 27 @ 11:30 in the Front Office Conference Room

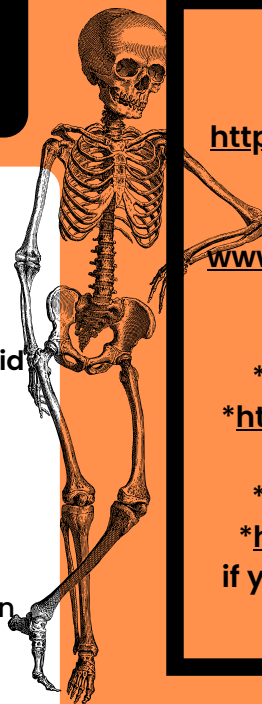


CHECK YOUR EMAIL

The law requires us to release the directory information for juniors and seniors to all branches of the military. You can request to have your information withheld from those lists. The email survey will be in your email!

October- To Do List

- Take the SAT and/or ACT
- Complete your FAFSA online at fafsa.gov to determine your financial aid eligibility
- Watch for the email notice that your **Student Aid Report (SAR)** is ready
- Attend college planning and/or financial aid information nights and collage fairs
- Visit your top school choices. If possible, make appointments with faculty, staff, and students.
- Meet with your school counselor to develop a college admission and financial aid application plan
- Contact the schools' financial aid offices to determine which forms they require. Some schools may require special forms.



****DATES TO REMEMBER****

- ASVAB registration deadline- November 1
- Registration for NEXT ACT test- November 4

OCTOBER 1- the FAFSA is open for current seniors to complete for their next post-secondary education.

***You will need to create an FSA ID (you and your parents); get this done now.**

What is the ASVAB?

It's an aptitude test that evaluates what you know now but also your propensity to learn different subject areas to help find the right career for you.

****FREE** application period for ALL SD colleges/tech schools: October 3-November 30**

****IMPORTANT FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION****

<https://southdakota.mappingyourfuture.org>
and

www.mappingyourfuture.org/paying/scholarshipresources.cfm

Other referenced resources:

*FAFSA application- studentaid.gov

*<https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>
*www.fastweb.com

*<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>

*<https://public.dollarsforscholars.org>

if you have questions call 1-800-4-FED-AID

****Scholarships****



SCHOLARSHIP-SEARCH WEBSITES-

****CAUTION: you should NEVER have to pay a fee to apply for a scholarship****

Tuition Funding Sources

CollegeXpress

Scholarships.com

Discover Colleges

Student Scholarships



SCHOLARSHIPS

Continue to check the information center in the counselor's office for updated scholarships. Those available:

- Vantage Athlete of the Month
- Heisman Scholarship
- SD Angus Association Scholarship
- SD Farmers Union Foundation Scholarship
- VFW: Voice of Democracy Audio Essay
- ELKS National Foundation Most Valuable Student
- SD ELKS Career & Technical Ed Scholarship
- PHCC: SD Association of Plumbing, Heating & Cooling
- US JCI Senate Foundation
- SD DAR Scholarship for Military Descendants
- Evie Kahnke Memorial Scholarship
- SD Farm Bureau Scholarship
- Junior Achievement: Leo Crawford Scholarship
- Agtegra Agricultural Scholarship
- Scottish Rite Foundation Book Grant

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- NSHSS Foundation varied Scholarships
- Heisman Scholarship- October 18
- 2022 SD Angus Association Scholarship- October 28
- Big Idea Competition- October 31
- VFW Voice of Democracy- October 31
- Coca Cola Scholars Program- October 31
- SD Farmers Union- November 1
- Athlete of the month (Vantage Financial Partners)- 1st of each month
- ELKS MVP Scholarship-November 14
- Elks Career & Tech Education Scholarship- November 14
- 4 other Elks Scholarships-November 14

FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP OF SD

This is a need-based scholarship. Universities will determine the financial need based on student need. Contact each university individually for details or potential opt-in requirements.

****Other Scholarship Opportunities****

There are several scholarships with deadlines already approaching. **Don't delay!** These are updated constantly. **YOU** need to be checking this link **OFTEN!!**



Apprenticeship Opportunities

Tech-College/University Visitation Opportunities

Make Sure YOU are the Scholarship Applicant that Wins

5 Ways to Make Your Scholarship Stand Out:

1. **Be Specific and Make it Personal**- Your message has impact! Link content of your essay to your own life.
2. **Narrate a Story**- Your scholarship essay will stand out if you structure it in a way that makes the reader want to know more.
3. **Blend In The Essay With The Essay Prompt**-It is important to paint a picture of what existed before and what is anticipated for the future.
4. **Understand Your Reader**-Familiarize yourself with the scholarship panel who will be awarding the scholarship.
5. **Follow All Instructions Given**-Reading through the scholarship essay prompt several times will help you to pinpoint key areas that you need to pay attention to.

Tips from gudwriter.com

Tips on How to Write a Scholarship Essay:

1. **Write A Captivating Introduction**- grab their attention and compel them to read on.
2. **Surprise Your Audience**-write what everyone else is NOT writing about.
3. **Refrain From Starting Your Essay or Paragraphs with Distinct Phrases Like:** "I am writing this essay to express interest in the University scholarship..."
4. **Focus On The Essay Topic**-Ensure that you have a thesis statement and follow all the instructions given.
5. **Make Your Essay Personal**-Including unique perspectives will make your scholarship essay more memorable.
6. **Be Clear And Concise**-Your choice of words should relate to the topic and try to use the most straightforward language possible.
7. **Write An Exciting Conclusion**-The end explains why the topic is crucial and summarizes your work. Avoid "in summary" or "in conclusion"
8. **Edit And Proofread Your Essay**-Proofreading provides assurance that you have written the best possible way you can.

Tips from gudwriter.com

Make It Past The First Round

-Do You Qualify?

Sounds simple, but students every year waste time by applying for awards they are not eligible to win. If you don't qualify, don't enter.

-Is Your Application Presented Well?

Type your essay and any other parts of the application if possible. Writing is messy.

-Did You Include All Required Documents?

Some documents that are frequently required but often left out: transcripts, references, letter of recommendation, resume.

-Did You Answer All Of The Questions?

Double-check that you haven't forgotten any required information



Financial Aid Ins and Outs



- checklist of items needed to complete the FAFSA
- Mistakes to Avoid
- Be sure to add every school you're interested in attending to your FAFSA; get their code off the website or call the school

You've applied for Financial Aid. What's next?

- You are going to receive an "Award Letter". This tells you what aid (if any) and how much you will be receiving. You need to accept/decline each item.
- If your financial aid package includes federal student loans, your school will tell you how to accept the loan.
- You will be required to:
 - complete ENTRANCE COUNSELING-a tool to ensure you understand your obligation to repay the loan
 - sign a contract called an MPN (MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE), agreeing to the terms of the loan

How Will You Receive Your Loan?

The school will first apply your loan funds to your school account to pay for tuition, fees, room and board and any other school charges. IF any additional loan funds remain, they will be returned to you. ALL loan funds MUST be used for education expenses- remember what you borrow, you must pay back.



Can You Cancel a Loan?

If you decide that you don't need it OR if you need less than the amount offered, you can CANCEL all or part of your loan. After the loan is dispersed, you can cancel all or part of the loan within certain time frames.







Where Can You Find Information About the Student Loans You've Received?

Visit My Aid (using your FSA ID to log in) to view information about all of the federal student loans and other financial aid you have received and to find contact information for the loan servicer for your loans.



[Learn more about the process of receiving Financial Aid](#)
[Learn more about repaying your loan](#)
[Learn more about your repayment options](#)
[Learn more about deferment or forbearance options](#)

Past Newsletters:

-  [Counselors' Corner Newsletter Issue 1](#)
-  [Counselors' Corner Newsletter Issue 2](#)
-  [Counselors' Corner Newsletter Issue 3](#)
-  [Counselors' Corner Newsletter Issue 4](#)
-  [Counselors' Corner Newsletter Issue 5](#)
-  [Counselors' Corner Newsletter Issue 6](#)