

Important Senior Information

Graduation Requirements

Students must earn the correct number of credits in each category to graduate. Students must earn **25** credits overall or **24** credits for Vo-Tech students. Categories include:

English (4)	Social Studies (4, 3 for Vo-Tech)	Math (3)	Science (3)
Wellness Ed (4)	Humanities (1)	Electives (6)	

Important Dates for Seniors

- **Thursday, October 23, 2025** - ASVAB test for interested seniors who need to retake the exam, sign up with Mrs. Jones in the School Counseling Office or email Mr. Albright to participate (Periods 1-4)
- **Tuesday, November 4, 2025** - ACT Test at THS, deadline to apply online is 9/7/23. Saturday test dates at other locations can be found online (www.act.org)
- **Tuesday, October 14, 2025** - Financial Aid Night in THS auditorium at 5:30pm (\$250 scholarship given to one senior student in attendance)
- **Monday, November 3, 2025** - College in the High School application deadline
- **Date TBD in December** - FAFSA Completion Night (more information will be provided at a later date)
- **January 2026** - Scholarship booklet is released and can be picked up in the Guidance Office.
- **Wednesday, March 4, 2026** – SAT Test at THS during the school day (no Saturday test date at THS, but other locations can be found online at collegeboard.org)
- **Wednesday, April 15, 2026** - Most local scholarships are due (unless otherwise stated)
- **Friday, May 1, 2026** - Deadline to file FAFSA form to be eligible to receive PHEAA grants (studentaid.gov) Please note that some schools may have an earlier deadline
- **Thursday, April 30, 2026** - Career Day - Must be present to be eligible to attend prom.
- **Thursday, May 21, 2026** - Seniors' last day *
- If you are in danger of not passing/graduating, you will be expected to work during the last 10 days of school to make up/complete work
- If you are not passing your courses to graduate by this date, you are in jeopardy of not participating **in** the senior banquet and graduation (can still earn diploma)
- **Tuesday, May 26 - Friday, May 29, 2026** - Tentative finals week (you will come in for scheduled finals) *
- **Thursday, May 28, 2026** - Vo-Tech graduation at 12:30pm*
- **Thursday, May 28, 2026** - Senior Academic Awards at 5pm*
- **Thursday, May 28, 2026** – Athletic Awards at 6pm*
- **Tuesday, June 2, 2026** – Graduation Practice at 7:55am*
- **Tuesday, June 2, 2026**-Senior Banquet at 6pm*
- **Thursday, June 4, 2026** - Baccalaureate at 6pm*
- **Friday, June 5, 2026** - GRADUATION AT 6pm! *

*Date is tentative, and further information will be provided in the future

Make sure you check college application due dates, some majors may have different deadlines November 1 is often the deadline for most schools for Early Admission/Early Decision

Check SAT & ACT registration dates (listed in packet)

- Remember you must have a photo ID and admission ticket with you to be admitted
- If you don't have a photo ID, please see Mrs. Jones in the School Counseling office in advance, and she will make one for you
- Take a calculator and a #2 pencil (no mechanical pencils)
- Snacks and drinks are permitted during break times
- ACT - www.act.org
- SAT - www.collegeboard.org
- SAT practice - khanacademy.org, can be linked with PSAT test results for personalized practice

Letters of Recommendation & Transcripts

- Letters of reference/recommendation - Complete form with Mr. Albright, and it will be stored in a binder
- Students are expected to request recommendation a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the date that the recommendation is needed
- You can get a copy of the personal data sheet you filled out to give to the person writing the recommendation, sheets can be updated as often as necessary
- Be sure to notify Mrs. Jones if your letters are to be sent with your high school transcripts, college applications, or scholarship applications
- Transcript requests - See Mrs. Jones to complete transcript request release to send transcripts to future schools (if under 18, need parent signature)
- Final transcript requests - For students furthering their education, final transcripts **MUST** be requested by the last day of school and approved by student signature (signs ups toward end of year)
- Future requests for transcript or diplomas, contact Mrs. Jones

Senior Interviews

Mr. Albright will meet with students to discuss graduation requirements, post-high school plans, financial aid, etc. during the fall months. A letter will be sent home to your parent(s)/guardian(s) summarizing the information discussed.

Senior Mock Interviews

- Thursday, November 13th, 2025 in the morning from 8-11am, students will participate in one of three interview waves (8- 9am, 9-10am, 10-11am)
- Students who have English class in the afternoon will have interviews in the morning
- Each student will complete **TWO** interviews
- Mock interviews will be held with two local employers, and they may or may not be related to your career goal Students will submit a resume, cover letter, and application to their English teacher
- There will need to be 3 copies of each, in three packets paper clipped together
- The interview will be included as a grade for Q2 senior English classes

- Dress appropriately for an interview (you will be graded on appearance)
- Ladies: dress pants or skirt with a nice shirt, dresses are also appropriate Gentlemen: dress pants and dress shirt with or without a tie
- If having appropriate clothing to wear is an issue, please let Mr. Albright know ASAP

Career Information Websites

- Smartfutures.org - Career information, scholarship and college search used in classroom presentations
- march2success.com - Practice ASVAB, military info, practice SAT and ACT, career information, college search
- jobgateway.pa.gov - Virtual job shadows
- educationplanner.com - career information, scholarship and college search
- pacareerlink.pa.gov - statewide job search data base, career information

College Applications

Make sure you meet the deadlines for the college and major (certain majors may have earlier deadlines)

If you need a recommendation letter, give the person writing it a couple of weeks to complete it (more info above).

Students should apply to 3-4 postsecondary options with one of those being a "safe" school that is affordable along with their "dream" school.

Final decisions about which school you will attend don't need to be made until May, unless noted elsewhere.

The high school code is 394-820 (also may be referred to as CEEB code).

Students are permitted to meet with postsecondary representatives who come to the school, listen to the announcements to hear about these opportunities and make sure you get a slip signed by your teacher to attend.

Students can use up to 3 trip forms to visit postsecondary schools, and make sure to use a trip form submitted to Mr. Knapp at least 3 days prior to your visit.

Research your schools to see when they have an open house to visit, and some will waive application fees. It is a good idea to take an unofficial copy of your transcript with you to discuss with an admission counselor.

4 Year Colleges Look at:	2 Year Colleges look at:
Cumulative GPA	Cumulative GPA
Class Rank	High School Curriculum
SAT/ACT Scores (some are test optional)	
High School Curriculum	
Extracurricular Activities	

Scholarships

- Local scholarship booklet in School Counseling Office, new booklet is passed out in January.
- Some unique scholarships will be lying on the School Counseling Office counter
- Listen to announcements and check email to hear about additional scholarships.
- Make sure you meet all scholarship deadlines (typically around April 15th)
- Write an appropriate thank you note to people who grant you a scholarship

Military Academy Deadlines

- There are early deadlines for students who plan to apply to one of the 4 military academies
- Recommendations need to be requested from Congressman Mike Kelly
- Please see Mr. Albright if you need further assistance

Selective Service

- Almost all male U.S. citizens and male immigrants, who are 18 through 25, are required to register with Selective Service.
- Visit <https://www.sss.gov/> to register
- The law says men must register with Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthday
- It's important to know that even though a man is registered, he will not automatically be inducted into the military
- Registering with Selective Service does not mean you are joining the military
- Registering online requires a valid social security number

NCAA Clearinghouse and NAIA

Student athletes that want to participate at the Division I or II level must register at www.eligibilitycenter.org. or playnaia.org for NAIA participating schools

Go to Perspective Student-Athletes

Cost is \$100 for either one, see Mr. Albright for a fee waiver if you qualify for free/reduced lunch

You must meet a minimal GPA calculated on their scale, take approved core course requirements, and meet testing score requirements to be eligible to participate as a freshman.

See Mr. Albright and your coach for further details

Students also must complete a survey about their participation in sports on the web site

Attendance and Grades

Remember attendance is a key factor to passing courses, make sure you are here every day on time!

If you are struggling with a class, make sure you seek assistance from your teacher during DL or after school and/or see Mr. Albright.

Have a great senior year!

7 Things You Need Before You Fill Out the 2026-27 FAFSA®

If you need financial aid to help you pay for college, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA*) form. The 2026-27 FAFSA form will be available on October 1, 2025. You should fill it out as soon as possible once it opens at the official government site, studentaid.gov. It'll be easier to complete the FAFSA form if you gather what you need ahead of time. Below is what you'll need to fill it out.

1. Your FSA ID

An FSA ID is a username and password that you can use to log in to certain U.S. Department of Education (ED) websites. Each student, and one parent of each dependent student, will need their own FSA ID to complete the FAFSA process on studentaid.gov. We recommend creating your FSA ID early-even before you're ready to complete the FAFSA form-to avoid delays in the process.

IMPORTANT: Do NOT create an FSA ID on behalf of someone else. That means parents should not create FSA IDs for their children and vice versa. Doing so may result in issues signing and submitting the FAFSA form and could lead to financial aid delays. (Also, it's against the rules to create an FSA ID for someone else.)

To summarize:

- Anyone who plans to fill out the 2026-27 FAFSA form should create an FSA ID as soon as possible.
- If you are required to provide parent information on your FAFSA form, your parent should also create an FSA ID.
- Because your FSA ID is equivalent to your signature, parents and students each need to create their own FSA IDs using their own email address and phone number. Parents should not create an FSA ID for their child and vice versa.
- In some situations, you may need to wait up to three days to use your FSA ID after creating it. If you want to avoid FAFSA delays, create your FSA ID now

2. Your Social Security Number

You can find the number on your Social Security card. If you don't have access to it, and don't know where it is, ask your parent or legal guardian or get a new or replacement Social Security card from the Social Security Administration. If you are not a U.S. citizen, but meet Federal Student Aid's basic eligibility requirements, you'll also need your Alien Registration number.

3. Your Driver's License Number

If you don't have a driver's license, then don't worry about this step,

4. Your 2024 tax records

The FAFSA will require you to report income information from an earlier tax year.

- On the 2026-2027 FAFSA form, you (and your parents, as appropriate) will report your 2024 income information.
- Since you'll probably already have filed your 2022 taxes by the time the FAFSA form launches, you'll be able to import your tax information into the FAFSA form right away using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool

(DRT).

- Not everyone is eligible to use the IRS DRT; and the IRS DRT does not input all the financial information required on the FAFSA form. Therefore, you should have your 2022 tax return and 2022 IRS W-2 available for reference.

The IRS DRT is the fastest, most accurate way to input your tax return information into the FAFSA form. To address security and privacy concerns related to the IRS DRT, the tax return information you transfer from the IRS will not be displayed on studentaid.gov or the IRS DRT page. Instead, you'll see "Transferred from the IRS" in the appropriate fields on studentaid.gov.

You cannot use your 2025 tax information. We understand that for some families, 2024 income doesn't accurately reflect your current financial situation. If you have experienced a reduction in income since the 2024 tax year, you should complete the FAFSA form with the info it asks for (2024), and then contact each of the schools to which you're applying to explain and document the change in income. They have the ability to assess your situation and make adjustments to your FAFSA form if warranted.

You cannot update your 2026-27 FAFSA form with your 2025 tax information after filing 2025 taxes. 2024 information is what's required. No updates necessary; no updates allowed.

5. Records of your untaxed income

The FAFSA questions about untaxed income may or may not apply to you; they include things like child support received, interest income, and veterans' noneducation benefits. On the 2026-27 FAFSA form, you'll report 2024 tax or calendar year information when asked these questions. Find specific details for parents and students.

6. Records of your assets (money)

This section includes savings and checking account balances, as well as the value of investments such as stocks and bonds and real estate (but not the home in which your family lives). You should report the current amounts as of the date you sign the FAFSA form, rather than reporting the 2024 tax year amounts.

Note: Misreporting the value of investments is a common FAFSA mistake. Please carefully review what is and is not considered a student investment and parent investment to make sure you don't over- or under-report. You may be surprised by what can (and cannot) be excluded.

7. List of the school(s) you are interested in attending

Be sure to add any college you're considering, even if you haven't applied or been accepted yet.

- Even if there is only a slight chance you'll apply to a college, list the school on your FAFSA form. You can always remove schools later if you decide not to apply, but if you wait to add a school, you could miss out on first-come, first-served financial aid.
- The schools you list on your FAFSA form will automatically receive your FAFSA results electronically. They will use your FAFSA information to determine the types and amounts of financial aid you may receive.
- If you add a school to your FAFSA form and later decide not to apply for admission to that school, that's OK! The school likely won't offer you aid until you've been accepted anyway.
- You can list up to 20 schools at a time on your FAFSA form.

TIP: You will receive an email from PHEAA to apply for state aid once you complete the FAFSA.

FAFSA completion night will be held in the THS Library on a TBD evening in December. Assistance will be provided for completing your FAFSA. It is best if you have your FSA ID prior to attending this night, but it is not a requirement.

There have been several changes to the FAFSA in the last couple years to make completion quicker and easier. Please be sure to ask for help if you need it.

Check out studentaid.gov for more information.