

Focus On Your Future

NOVEMBER, 2009

TEST DATES

ACT

December 12, 2009
February 6, 2010
April 10, 2010
June 12, 2010

SAT

November 7, 2009
December 5, 2009
January 23, 2010
March 13, 2010
May 1, 2010
June 12, 2010

STUDENTS

Fee waivers are available in the Counseling Office for these tests provided a student qualifies.

In addition, if you are eligible for an ACT/SAT waiver, you may also be eligible for a college application fee waiver. See your counselor for information.

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College Applications and Deadlines

The month of November should find Seniors in the thick of the college application process. Writing essays, getting teacher recommendations, developing resumes, and filling out the application itself are all activities you should be working on now. Early Action and Early Decision deadlines are often November 1 and November 15. If you are committed to a particular institution and, if admitted would attend, then one of these options may be for you. Regular Action deadlines begin as early as December 1 so, even if not committed

"It is good to have an end to journey toward, but it is the journey that matters in the end"
Ursula K. Le Guin

to one school, you still may have to meet some early application deadlines. Typically, the more selective an institution, the earlier the deadline. See your counselor if you need help in deciphering



Graduation Day
May 29, 2010

deadline choices.

Speaking of deadlines, did you know that **the Counseling Office asks you to turn in your college and scholarship applications to us at least two weeks before their posted deadline?** We do this so we are able to write any letters of recommendation required and pull together the additional information needed in a timely manner. If we are rushed, your letter may not be the best we can write and we may not have time to fix any problems that exist. The last thing we want to happen is a missed deadline or a shoddy application packet. Therefore, we ask that you use the following guidelines when organizing your planner:

Application/Scholarship Deadline

November 15
December 1
December 15
January 1
January 15

Counseling Office Deadline

October 30
November 17
December 1
December 4
December 18

Also, just a quick review of the Lakewood college application process. Our philosophy is that one packet received by the college admission office with all necessary items in it reduces the possibility of lost pieces and presents a more professional picture of both the student and the high school. That is why we ask you to turn all your components in to us (application, essay, activity sheet, etc.) unless you submitted on-line and we then add our parts (counselor recommendation, transcript, test scores, profile, etc.). We encourage teachers to give their recommendations directly to us also for enclosure in our one-step mailing . This process has worked well in the past and we hear from many colleges that they appreciate receiving everything together. With cooperation and timeliness on everyone's part, a missing piece or a missing deadline will not happen.

College Visits to LHS

WHEW! We are all catching our breath here in the Counseling Office after the onslaught of colleges visiting LHS this past month. Eighty-one schools in October alone and ninety-two total spent time with our students and left knowing a lot more about us as an institution and our students as individuals. You guys were great, asking very insightful questions and creating such a positive impression of Lakewood High School. Thank you so much for your time and efforts. We still have a few more colleges that have scheduled appointments for the month of November. Please take note and, if interested, come pick up a pass from the Counseling Office.

November 9, 2009	Regis University	11:00 AM
November 10, 2009	Drew University	1:00 PM
November 13, 2009	Grand Canyon University	11:00 AM
November 18, 2009	Michigan State University	10:00 AM
November 19, 2009	University of Montana/Missoula	1:00 PM

On Wednesday, December 2, the University of Northern Colorado will be at Lakewood High School from 8:00AM-12:00PM for an Application Day. If you have either applied on-line (make a copy) or bring your paper application with you we will add your transcript and test scores and an admission decision can be made during your appointment time. Please see Ms. Roberts in Counseling if you are interested to get your assigned time before we run out.

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH

[Www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

Need money for college! Check out fastweb.com, a free scholarship search that features over 600,000 awards worth \$1 billion. Students are able to log in and fill out a student profile form which generates e-mail feedback on specific scholarship that they may be eligible to apply for. Through fastweb.com there is also a data base of over 4000 colleges and universities with detailed college profiles if you are still in need of some future choices.

Application Checklist

The General Application: Is everything complete, accurate and legible and your application fee paid?

Academic Transcripts: Make sure they are official.

Secondary School Report Form: If your counselor needs to fill out this form make sure they have it early.

Letters of Recommendation: Do you have the correct number required and from the specific individuals if indicated?

Work Samples/Portfolios: Send copies, not originals and put your name on each piece.

Application Essays: Make sure your name and contact information is on each page.

SAT/ACT Scores: Are they accepted from your high school or from the testing agency only? Are SAT II's required?

Signatures: Verify that all necessary forms are signed.

Deadlines: Know if it is a postmark deadline or a received by deadline and be sure to give yourself plenty of time.

KEEP COPIES: And put them in a safe place.

Common Errors

- **“I’ll start the application next week.”** Don’t run out of time to complete everything; give yourself and your counselor at least two weeks to find mistakes.
- **“I already ran a spell-check on my computer.”** Words can be spelled correctly but used incorrectly. Ask a neutral individual to proofread before sending in.
- **“The one sent copy is enough.”** Keep copies of all paperwork especially any forms submitted on-line.
- **“I can send my application as soon as I am finished.”** Before you turn things in to your counselor or click “Send”, make sure everything is there and accurate.
- **“I assume this is right.”** If you are confused by a question or any part of an application, ask someone. A quick call to the admission office can save embarrassment.
- **“I should send extra items because it will make me look better.”** If the college does not request something they probably don’t want to see it. More is not better.

COLLEGE RECEPTIONS/OPEN HOUSES/CAMPUS VISITATION DAYS

Metro State College
Saturday, November 7
10:00-2:00 PM
Auraria Center

Colorado Northwestern Community College
Saturday, November 7
9:30 AM-3:00 PM
800/562-1105 Ext. 2

Regis University
Saturday, November 7
RSVP: 303/458-4900 by
November 2

Johnson & Wales University
Saturday, November 7
RSVP: 1/877/598-3368

Arapahoe CC
2009 Discover Visit Day
Saturday, November 7
9:30 AM-1:30 PM
RSVP: by November 3

Colorado State University/Ft. Collins High School Visit Day
School of the Arts– Dance and Theatre Division
Friday, November 13
RSVP: 970/491-5562

CU/Boulder
Engineering Sampler
Saturday, November 14
8:15 AM-3:45 PM
Engineering Center Lobby

COLLEGE FAIR

RMACAC Spring Fair
Sunday, April 18, 2010
1:00 AM-4:00 PM
University of Denver

CAREER FAIR

Lakewood High School
 ESL College/Career
 Opportunities Fair
 Saturday, November 7
 9:30AM-2:00PM

COLLEGE FAIR

RMACAC Spring Fair
 Sunday, April 18, 2010
 1:00 AM-4:00 PM
 University of Denver/
 Ritchie Center

ESSAY CONTESTS

Ayn Rand Institute
Anthem
 9th & 10th graders
 Deadline: March 20, 2010
The Fountainhead
 11th & 12th graders
 Deadline: April 26, 2010

POSTER CONTEST

ACT Poster Concept
Contest
 Design a poster that en-
 courages students to attend
 college and take the ACT.
 Deadline: January 30,
 2010

**NCAA CLEARING-
 HOUSE**

**Any Senior who has not
 yet filed an NCAA Clear-
 inghouse Form, and who
 plans to play Division I
 or II athletics, should see
 their counselor immedi-
 ately. Forms are avail-
 able in our offices.**

College Admission Myths

A myth is defined in Webster’s Dictionary as an “ill-founded belief held uncritically, especially by an interested group.” It is amazing how many “myths” there are out there regarding college admission. So many, in fact, that books have been published about them including George Dehne’s, 25 Common Myths. Here are just a few that you may have heard in passing:

- It is more important to get excellent grades than it is to take challenging courses.
- You have to be rich to go to college today.
- If I don’t know what career I am interested in, I can’t really choose a college.
- If I don’t recognize the college’s name, it’s probably not a good school.
- Applying to college is no big deal. I only need to do the minimum to get in because they all need students.
- Applying for financial aid will hurt my chances for admission to most colleges.
- Once I’m admitted to a college my grades won’t matter.

It is very important, as you move through the college admission process and hear some of these comments, that you verify their truth or untruth either by talking to the college directly or your high school counselor. Poor decisions have been made based on the misinformation present in many of these myths that we at LHS would like to help you avoid.

Scholarships

Each month, Lakewood High School receives applications for many scholarship opportunities from both colleges and outside agencies. These applications will be published through this newsletter and students interested in applying may pick up information from the files in the Counseling Office. In addition, there are a number of scholarship data bases that are acceptable through Naviance, the Internet and the CHOICES Program. Students are welcome to do their research at LHS, particularly if a computer is not available at home. In addition, this Newsletter will publish monthly, a running list of scholarships whose deadlines have not passed. Remember, if you intend to apply for any of these awards, a two week lead time is necessary for your Counselor to process any additional materials needed including transcripts, test scores, recommendations, etc.

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Scholarship Sponsor</u>	<u>Qualifications</u>
November 2, 2009	Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity/ Delta Eta Chapter	African American male; CO resident; Academics; Financial need; Activities
November 2, 2009	Elks Most Valuable Student Schol.	Financial need; Leadership; Scholarship
November 27, 2010	Next Step Magazine Super Teen	Application questions; Photo
December 28, 2009	JCI Senators of Colorado, Inc.	CO resident; Financial need; Activities; Leadership; Employment; Essay
December 31, 2009	NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation	Demonstrates entrepreneurial spirit and initiative (DECA, FBLA, etc.; Academic standards
January 9, 2010	Elks Legacy Scholarship	Child, grandchild, step-child, step-grandchild or legal ward of Elks member
January 11, 2010	Gates Millennium Scholars Program	Minority student; US citizen; 3.3 GPA; Leadership; Meet Pell Grant Eligibility criteria
January 15, 2010	White Rose Scholarship Found.	US citizen; CO resident; Financial need; Community service; 3.0 GPA; Transcript; Recommend.
January 15, 2010	Mensa Education and Research Foundation	Resident of area of participating local group of American Mensa; Essay
January 30, 2010	CCHS/CR Volunteerism/Commu- nity Service Scholarship	US citizen; CO resident; Attend a CO college; significant volunteer/ community service; 2.5GPA
February 1, 2010	Society of Women Engineers Program	Female; Intend to enroll in Engineering Or Computer Science at ABET accredited institution

Scholarships

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Scholarship Sponsor</u>	<u>Qualifications</u>
February 1, 2010	Burger King Scholars Program	2.5 GPA; Work part-time; Community service; Financial need
February 10, 2010	KFC Colonel's Scholars	2.75 GPA; Financial need; Entrepreneurial spirit; www.kfcscholars.org
February 15, 2010 February 15, 2010	Oh, the Places You'll Go Schol. National Co-op Scholarship	Essay Question; Character; Attend one of eight NCCCE Partner Colleges and Universities
March 1, 2010	CO Mason's Benevolent Fund Scholarship	CO HS senior; Attend a CO college; Academics; Financial need; Essay; Recommendation; Interview
March 15, 2010	CO Mason's Benevolent Fund Vocational Grant	CO HS senior; Attend a CO vocational program; Transcript; Financial need; Recommendation; Interview
March 15, 2010	CO Society of Mayflower Descendants	CO resident; Essay; Academics; Activities; Leadership
May 15, 2010	Carrie King/Troy Lyles Memorial Scholarship	LJBA baseball player and/or play a sport for LHS; Transcript; Essay
June 19, 2010	Abbott and Fenner Scholarship Program	Essay; www.abbottandfenner.com/scholarships.htm
June 24, 2010	Big Sun Scholarship 2009	HS senior; Student athlete; Essay
Ongoing	The Christian Connector Inc	www.ChristianConnector.com
Ongoing	Discover Colleges, Inc.	www.discovercolleges.com
Ongoing	U.S. Bank Internet Scholarship	www.usbank.com/studentloans

In addition, we have received scholarship information, since the last Newsletter was printed, from the following colleges for students interested in attending their institution:

- Army ROTC Scholarships/Colorado— Seven Colorado Colleges and Universities
- Gonzaga University/Washington— Dauna Leigh Bauer Scholarship; Ignatian Leaders Scholar.
- Illinois Wesleyan University— Music Scholarship
- Lawrence University/Wisconsin— Multiple Academic, Talent and Interest Scholarships
- Louisiana State University— LA-STEM Research Scholars Program
- Marist College/New York— Computer Science/Information Technology and Systems Scholarships
- Mesa State College/Colorado— Multiple Merit, Opportunity and Service Scholarships
- University of Texas at Dallas— The Eugene McDermott Scholars Program

COLLEGE APPLICATION WEEK

The week of November 1-7 has been declared College Application Week by College in Colorado. During this week, there are a number of Colorado colleges and universities that will waive their application fee if a student submits their application. Others will waive the fee if the student qualifies for the free/reduced lunch program. If you are interested in submitting your application this week, please see Ms. Roberts in Counseling ASAP.

President's Leadership Class

The President's Leadership Class (PLC) or Chancellor's leadership Class (CLC), programs that fosters intellectual and personal growth, are available to select students who attend the University of Colorado/Boulder or Colorado Springs. This class provides leadership development opportunities, scholarships ranging from \$2000 to \$10,000 over four years, internship experiences, and study abroad to those who qualify. The deadline for receipt of the application is February 1, 2010 and the appropriate paperwork is available on-line at: www.coloradoleadership.org (Boulder) or www.uccs.edu/clc (Colorado Springs). This is an excellent chance for students attending CU/Boulder or Colorado Springs to make the most of their undergraduate years.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION DEFINITIONS

Early Decision: the application process in which students make a commitment to a first-choice school where, if admitted, they will definitely enroll. Students accepted under Early Decision must withdraw any applications sent to other schools and will not have the opportunity to compare financial aid packages. However, should they not be offered an award that makes attendance possible, the student may be released from their Early Decision commitment.

Early Decision II: The application process which allows students denied under Early Decision I or Early Action at another institution to apply to a second choice school. Restrictions described above apply under Early decision II also.

Early Action: The application process in which students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date. Students who are admitted under Early Action are not obligated to accept the decision or submit a deposit prior to May 1. Students may compare college offers and financial aid packages under Early Action.

Early Action/Single Option: This application process is the same as described above except the student is only allowed to apply to one institution under any early option.