

LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

CULVER COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

FALL

Graduation Requirements

SENIOR NOTES: Be careful if you revised your schedule for either first or second semester.

1. CORE 40 DIPLOMA IS **DEFAULT** DIPLOMA

All students must have 8 credits English, 6 credits Math, 6 credits Science, 6 credits Social Studies, 2 credits PE, 1 credit Health, 1 credit Digital Communication Tools, 1 credit speech, 12 elective credits (with recommendation of 2 years world language).

2. INDIANA ACADEMIC HONORS DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

overall GPA of 3.0 and no grade lower than a C -, 1 credit speech, 6 credits science, minimum 3 years of one language or two years of two different languages, 2 credit fine arts, 6 elective credits. In addition: One of the following —2 A.P. courses with corresponding exams or 2 dual credit courses (Ivy Tech, or PNC) or combination of 1 AP course and 1 dual credit course or score 1200 or higher on SAT / 26 on ACT composite

3. PARTICULAR COLLEGE

ADMISSIONS and individual programs requirements (i.e. two years of the same language)



THE COLLEGE ADMISSION APPLICATION

Congrats to those of you that have already started this process. I have been amazed with the number of applications that have been submitted. If you have not started, do not worry but start now! The early priority date for most colleges is Nov. 1. The next couple of

months will be critical if you want your applications to meet this deadline. The application is a formal document submitted to an institution indicating your desire to attend their school.



ALTHOUGH CULVER HIGH SCHOOL WILL SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE YOU IN EVERY WAY, WE CANNOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY TO INSURE YOU GRADUATE OR ARE ADMITTED TO THE COLLEGE OF YOUR CHOICE...THAT RESPONSIBILITY IS ULTIMATELY YOURS.

CONTINUED

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Applications are either paper or electronic forms—although many colleges are now preferring the online application (and some even waive the application fee if done online). Each school has its own particular application. There is no one form (Exception: the “Common Application” which pertains to mostly private colleges/universities/Purdue). Each school sets its own application procedures. Application procedures are found in written material published by the school available both in print and on the web. We also have several resources in the Guidance Office - these include the College Handbook, Book of Majors and Getting Financial Aid (published by the College Board).

Information about requirements for Indiana Colleges can also be found at: www.learnmoreindiana.org.

Typical elements on the application include: basic identifying information, SAT/ACT testing results, senior course load, a transcript with counselor verification, and application deadline date. In addition, some schools require a description of extracurriculars, an essay,

recommendations and sometimes even an interview (although usually this is for a “direct admit” into a competitive program.) Not adhering to a particular school’s application procedures WILL exclude you from consideration. READ ALL DIRECTIONS! Most importantly always remember to complete the application in PEN if you choose to complete a hardcopy vs. online form.

QUESTION AND ANSWER



***Question: How does one obtain an application?**
Answer:

(1) Apply online. In most cases it is [www.\(name of school\).edu](http://www.(name of school).edu) - you can also go to www.collegeboard.com

(2) See Mrs. Sheldon or check in the Guidance Office.

(3) Visit college representatives when they are here. There are lots of representatives scheduled to be here Sept/Oct/Nov during SRT.



MORE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question: How many colleges should I apply to?

Answer: The rule of thumb is 2—4 colleges....

- 1 or 2 ‘safety’ or ‘fall back’ schools
- 2 to 3 schools you have a good chance of getting into.
- And if affordable 1 ‘dream’ or ‘reach’ school



Question: How will I know if I have been accepted?

Answer: A formal letter will be mailed directly from undergraduate admissions indicating acceptance or denial. PLEASE BRING A COPY TO THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

DEFINING THE TERMS:

Early decision: Students apply to their first choice for college, usually in the fall of their senior year. If admitted, they **MUST** commit to enrolling. The student may have only one early decision application pending at one time although may apply to others for regular decision. If offered admission, the student must withdraw applications to all other institutions.

Early action: Students apply and receive an admission decision earlier than normal but are **NOT** required to commit until the regular deadline of May 1. Institutions using an early action plan may not place restrictions on the number or type of other applications filed by the student.

Regular decision: Students submit an application by a specific date and receive a decision by no later than April 15. The student may apply to other colleges without restriction and reply to admissions offers by May 1.

Rolling admission: Students may apply at any time. The institution reviews applications as they are received and renders a decision in a timely manner. The student may apply to other colleges without restriction.

Wait list/Deferred list: An admission tool designed to protect an institution against shortfalls in enrollment. By placing a student on the wait list, an institution does not initially offer or deny admissions. It extends to a candidate the possibility of admission in the future.

The Online Application

Most schools have made their applications available online and actually prefer this method of applying. Some schools will not charge an application fee if you apply online while others will not charge if you apply before a certain date. However, most schools do charge anywhere from \$30 to \$100. Some allow for payment by check, but most require credit card payment at the time of a online submittal. Application fees are processing fees for the service being provided to you. Application fees are non-refundable, even if the decision is not favorable.

Some schools will allow you to fill out their application on site and then submit it. Some schools will allow you to complete the application over a variety of, sessions while with others its all one shot. Some schools will provide a variety of options: online submittal; download a PDF file; a fill-in PDF file that is downloadable. Some schools also allow you to submit supplemental information electronically (if this is allowed, I **HIGHLY** recommend you do so).

Applying online is quick and simple; however, caution needs to be exercised

1. **READ** all instructions **PRIOR** to starting to fill out an application.
2. Download all supplemental forms (e.g. the counselor's recommendation or secondary school report are a **MUST**).

Application Pointers

- Consider preparing a **RESUME** of your activities during high school. Include school-related extracurricular activities, non-school related activities, list of academic honors, civic awards received, etc... this can be used for **MOST** of your applications.
- If completing the application by hand—**PRINT NEATLY** or **TYPE** your application. **NEVER** submit an application in pencil! (This is also the case for scholarship applications).
- **SUBMIT** recommendation request to teachers 2 weeks before they are due.
- When you apply remember to submit a transcript request to the Guidance Office via e-transcripts

Ready to send transcripts **FAST** and **FREE** to colleges **Nationwide?**

Culver High School seniors applying to colleges should now use Indiana e-Transcript to send their transcripts. This is a **FREE** service to Indiana students (through IDOE) for electronic ordering and delivery of Indiana high school transcripts to colleges nationwide. This is a **FAST** and easy way to get your transcripts to the college of your choice. Go to the CCHS Guidance web page for a link which will take you to Docufide. Initially, you will have to register as a High School Student user. Once your account is established, you will log back in using your ID/Password to request transcripts. You can also then track when a transcript is sent from our office and when it is received by the college.

access provided by  INDIANA e-transcript



Choosing a College

The Right Match

What Type To Choose? The kind of college you choose to attend should reflect your goals and your personality. Whether you choose a public, private, community, technical, trade or even an online college, make sure it's the best match for YOU.

Big or Small? Do you want to attend a big university with a greater choice of majors and social activities, but perhaps have larger classes? Or would you like a smaller college with fewer choices but more personal attention? You can decide.

Home or Away? Attending a local college or somewhere in Indiana or even out of state-what's better? It depends. For some, residence hall life is an important part of the college experience, but commuting from home is less expensive. Some want to be close to family and others want to see other parts of the country. What's right for you?

Which Major? Figuring out what you like doing most, plus what you're best at can point to careers you should consider and what majors will help you reach your career goal. Not every college offers every major. Which ones have your interests?

The Right Place

Indiana Colleges: Indiana has a lot of two and four-year colleges. Check out [Indiana's map](http://www.learnmoreindiana.org/college/choosing/Pages/CollegeMap.aspx) (found at <http://www.learnmoreindiana.org/college/choosing/Pages/CollegeMap.aspx>). This map is a great resource for quick access to most of Indiana's two and four year accredited colleges and universities.

Outside Indiana: There are thousands of colleges in the United States. You can find more information provided by the U.S. Department of Education at <http://>

COLLEGE VISIT DURING THE SCHOOL WEEK?

- Bring in a note from your parent at least 2 days prior to your scheduled visit by 8:00am to Ms. Master in Guidance.
- Obtain a College Visit form to be signed by all of your teachers.
- Bring the signed form back to Ms. Master at the end of the day.
- Bring proof of the visit to Mrs. Hurst in the front office upon the day of your return (signed form from an admissions representative)
- A maximum of 2 visit days (seniors) and 1 visit day (Juniors) are permitted for the entire school year.
- TAKE NOTE: Visiting college campuses WILL count against the total number of days a student can be absent from school unless WRITTEN verification from the college is give to Mrs. Hurst.

nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/.

This search tool offers profiles of nearly 7,000 colleges and universities.

The Right Things

Facilities: Colleges usually have a wide variety of buildings that may be important for you. Do you want the most current computer labs, the largest library, the newest recreation center or the best equipped science labs? Check it all out on a visit to the college or on a virtual tour on the college web site.

Activities: Just because you will be studying hard at college doesn't mean you can't get

involved in student groups or activities. If you have a particular interest, there is probably a student group to join on campus.

Entertainment, leadership, community service projects, sports teams, intramurals, music and theatre...you name it. Find a place where you can enjoy being involved.

Special Programs: Want to study in another country? Do you want to do a business internship or an engineering co-op? Find a college with the unique things you want to experience.

FINANCIAL AID

Each college will have their own individual financial aid procedures. Consult admissions material for information.

There is a national form for the filing for Federal & the State of Indiana financial aid called Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Most institutions encourage students/parents to complete this. The FAFSA is not available until November of each year and due in Mid-March. You can, however, apply for your PIN and be ready to start the process.

Check out <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> The FAFSA deadline in Indiana is mid-march.

* www.fafsa.com is NOT the FREE application site— this is a site that charges money to complete the application.

Be very leery of any scholarship websites or seminars that charge you money and guarantees a scholarship...there are many FREE resources out there.

The Tests..... SAT & ACT Tests



College Go Week

During College GO Week some colleges/universities waive their application fee. A list of participating schools can be found on the website. The purpose of College GO Week is to encourage students to start taking steps to post- secondary planning. It includes activities for all grade levels. For more information visit: <http://collegegoweek.org> You can save the application fee if you are planning to apply to the following schools: Vincennes, Purdue College of Tech at South Bend, IPFW and Indiana State.

A WORD OF ADVICE

Filling out any college application can require a good deal of work. Take your time and allow enough time to complete it neatly. Give special attention to the particular questions that are

asked. Certainly, if an essay is required it will call for the most effort, requiring forethought and planning. Applicants are well advised to carefully complete all areas of the application; even the seemingly small questions can make a difference.

The admissions committee are looking for very polished, well-written, grammatically correct application essays. If your polished essay is surrounded by other responses that contain misspellings and careless writing, this will positively affect the school's impression of you.

For your essay, select the topic you like best and remember to observe the word limitation. A one sentence description of your essay topic should be clear and easy for others to understand. You should not start writing until you have a clear central idea and a good topic sentence!

Never submit a college essay without first having it read by an adult or possibly by an English teacher.

JUNIORS! MAY 3RD IS RECOMMENDED FOR YOU.

SAT	Oct. 5	Sept. 6
ACT	Oct. 26	Sept. 27
SAT	Nov. 2	Oct. 3
SAT	Dec. 7	Nov. 8
ACT	Dec. 14	Nov. 8
SAT	Jan. 25	Dec. 27
ACT	Feb. 8	Jan. 10
SAT	Mar. 8	Feb. 7
ACT	April 12	March 7
SAT	May 3	April 4
SAT	June 7	May 9
ACT	June 14	May 9

CULVER'S SCHOOL CODE FOR BOTH THE SAT AND ACT IS....
150693



SAT/ACT Prep aides: Preparation Booklets are now available in the Guidance Office for both the SAT and ACT.

SAT POINTER

When registering online be sure to include CHS as your school. Click on the link "Can't find your school?" then place 150693 for the code. **New** this year, you also have to submit a photo upon registration. If you need a photo, take one with your iPad!

ACT POINTER

When registering you have the option to take or not to take the ACT with the Writing Test. I will recommend that you **DO TAKE** the Writing Test. This is required by all Indiana Schools.

EXTENDED TIME

is available on both SAT and ACT for those who have accommodations/special needs. **YOU** are responsible for starting the paperwork.

SAT/ACT Fee Waivers

If financial situations at home warrant financial assistance you may qualify for fee waivers for these tests. See Guidance for further details.

YOU CAN AFFORD TO GET MORE TRAINING

The National Guard

is one possible choice to supplement your work. It can provide a safety net!

The National Guard offers real, tangible rewards for serving in defense of your country. The Guard provides you with the financial assistance to help pay for a college education. Yours will be a serious commitment and one that will be rewarded.

- A monthly paycheck.
- Up to \$20,000 in enlistment bonuses and up to \$20,000 in student loan repayment.
- College First Program.
- Up to 100% Tuition Assistance to cover tuition costs and fees, not to exceed \$4,500 per fiscal Year.

- Opportunity for home loans through the Veteran's Administration, if you qualify.
- Leadership training and career skills.
- Select States offer expanded educational benefits for National Guard members.

- The Selected Reserve Montgomery G.I. Bill, which pays up to \$11,124 for college (or other approved technical training).
- The National Guard GI. Bill Kicker, which pays up to an additional \$12,600 for Officers and \$7,200 for Enlisted Soldiers, for college (or other approved technical training).

Individual states may offer other benefits; see your local Recruiter for details.

The best way to find out what programs and opportunities you could qualify for as a member of the Guard team is to talk to your local National Guard Recruiter.



To Learn more, visit the web at:

www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com

or Call: 1-800-GO-GUARD (1-800-46-48273)

INDIANA CAREER CONNECT

- Search for a job, Find and Explore Careers.
- Find a career, close to home that matches your skills and experience.
- Explore training opportunities to help you get the job you want.
- Create a Resume.
- Locate many other helpful resources.



Visit: www.indianacareerconnect.com