Class of 2020
Planning Guide

Principal:
Tricia Corsetti
tcorsetti@bisd303.org
206-780-1387

Counselor:
Ann Brandner
abrandner@bisd303.org
206-855-0500

Registrar:
Jennifer Tuchel
jtuchel@bisd303.org
206-780-1646

High School Code
480096

9530 NE High School Road
Bainbridge Island, WA
98110
Fax: 206-855-0511
Introduction

To the students and parents/guardians of the Junior and Senior Classes:

The counselor (Ann Brandner) at Eagle Harbor High School is sharing this planning guide to be a resource for discovering the various post high school options. Because of the complexity of the process, much of this guide is focused on the four-year college and two-year community or technical college bound student. We hope that students and parents will feel comfortable about partnering with the teachers and counselor in helping with any of the options available during this highly anticipated transition.

There are many excellent choices that exist for all Eagle Harbor High School graduates. Some may choose to go directly to work, take a gap year, travel, enroll in a two-year community college transfer program, join the military, go to a technical college, participate in an apprenticeship program or matriculate at a four-year university.

No one path is best for all. This is an individual decision that must be made with the student’s interests, aptitudes, skills, attitudes and goals taken into consideration. At EHHS we focus on the student and his/her role and responsibility in making these life-planning decisions.

In addition to this guide, we urge students and parents to regularly read the monthly EHHS Bulletin. You may also access both the BHS newsletter and the daily bulletin online at: www.bisd303.org. This Planning Guide is available on the EHHS Counseling website under “College Planning.”

Planning for life after high school is an exciting, sometimes intense, process. We look forward to working with the students and their parents of Eagle Harbor High School as they determine the next steps after graduation!

Note: This guide was largely adapted from the information provided from the BHS Planning Guide. Parents and students are encouraged to regularly view the BHS website for additional current information. At this time EHHS only has limited access as a "guest" to Naviance (much of the Naviance information is not available) and EHHS also does NOT use Parchment in order to receive transcripts.
Topics Included in this Guide

Graduation Requirements ........................................................................................................... 5
Course Selection/NCAA ............................................................................................................. 5-6
Calendar/Cost ........................................................................................................................... 7-9
Processing Applications/Deadlines .......................................................................................... 10
College Application Process ..................................................................................................... 11-13
Letters of Recommendation (Parent Brag Sheet/Student Data Sheet) .............................. 14-16
Choices: .................................................................................................................................... 17-28
  Four Year Colleges .................................................................................................................. 19
  Washington Public Universities ............................................................................................... 20
  Private, Independent Four Year Colleges ................................................................................ 21
  Application Tips ..................................................................................................................... 23
  How to get the Most from a Campus Visit ............................................................................ 24
  Community/Technical Colleges ............................................................................................. 25
  Apprenticeship/Career Training/WOIS .................................................................................. 26
  Private Career Schools .......................................................................................................... 27
  Military .................................................................................................................................... 28
Financial Aid/ Scholarships. ..................................................................................................... 29-30
Testing ..................................................................................................................................... 31-34
College Entrance Test Dates: SAT. ........................................................................................ 35
  ACT. ....................................................................................................................................... 36
Information Resources ............................................................................................................. 37-38
  Important Washington Websites ........................................................................................... 39
Glossary ..................................................................................................................................... 40-42
Useful Websites ....................................................................................................................... 43-44

Every effort has been made to ensure that this handbook is accurate and up to date. However, information is subject to change without notice. The editor and institutions are not responsible for change or error. Readers are cautioned to consult the office of admissions at colleges, the colleges’ websites, college testing websites (College Board and ACT), the EHHS/ BHS counseling websites, and the counselor at EHHS.
Senior Year

- Requirements
- Course Selection
- NCAA Requirements
- Calendar
- Costs
Graduation Requirements

Students: It is your responsibility to ensure that you have met the minimum requirements for graduation as well as for the post high school program you plan to attend. In order to participate in commencement exercises in June, all graduation requirements must be completed and fines must be paid.

Course Selection for the Senior Year

Each spring, rising seniors will select their senior classes in a process which begins in February/March when students will receive an updated credit check sheet and academic history showing all courses and grades since the ninth grade. Instructions about registering will be made available from the EHHS counselor and registrar. We strongly urge students to take advantage of the curriculum available at EHHS/BHS in the senior year. This may be the last opportunity for a FREE education. We suggest that students think about what they have to take, what they ought to take and what they want to take.

The best course selection will vary from student to student. For some, it might mean attending West Sound Technical Skills Center in Bremerton in preparation for an articulated program at a community or technical college. For others, it may mean completing a rigorous college prep curriculum; some will select the Running Start program at a local community college and others may seek a combination of programs. Seniors are advised to read the Course Offerings and Registration Handbook (available on the EHHS/BHS Counseling websites) closely. The point is to maximize the opportunities to further prepare for the next step in education.

It is important to note that some colleges are placing more emphasis on an applicant’s senior course load as an indication of seriousness of purpose and preparation for college success. More recently, Washington state community colleges and the state legislature are concerned about students’ academic preparation for college. This includes public institutions like the University of Washington and Western Washington University, as well as the traditional highly selective independent schools. The community colleges are especially concerned about students’ math preparation. As the University of Oregon states, “You don’t stop preparing for a marathon nine months before the race.”

When seniors seek schedule changes, EHHS/BHS support the following policy, stated by one of the college admissions officers: “All admitted students, as well as those students who are still waiting to hear a definitive decision regarding their admission application, must notify us in writing or through email if they are considering a schedule change. The correspondence should include the current schedule, proposed new schedule, and reason for requesting the change. Requests will be reviewed by the admissions committee, and the student will receive a response in a timely manner. We strongly recommend that admitted and deferred students refrain from making any schedule changes until we grant permission in writing. Admitted students should be informed that a schedule change may result in reconsideration of an offer of admission.”
NCAA Division I & II Eligibility Requirements

Students who see themselves as possible NCAA Division I or II athletes should alert their counselor for information regarding the academic requirements for practicing, playing and receiving a scholarship as a first year college student. **There have been significant changes to the eligibility requirements.** Questions regarding independent study, correspondence and/or distance learning courses counting towards the core course requirements should be directed to the counselor.

Students must register with and be certified by the NCAA Clearinghouse. The online registration for NCAA is found at: [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). There is a fee to register and students may register as early as their sophomore year. Students who are not being actively recruited can postpone the registration process if they wish. Please see the EHHS/BHS Course Offerings and Registration Handbook (on the BHS Counseling website), or the NCAA Clearinghouse online for the list of BHS/EHHS courses which count for NCAA core-course requirements.

Because colleges sometimes change their status from sport to sport, students are urged to check the NCAA website at, [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org), to find out if their sport is a Division I, II or III, or a WIAA member at a particular college.
Calendar Guide & Checklist

JUNIOR YEAR

Spring
Register for senior year classes.
Know graduation/college entrance requirements.
Take college entrance exams (SAT, ACT) if applicable [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) or [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).
Collect information; Read this PLANNING GUIDE!
Investigate college websites; Purchase a college guidebook if desired.
Inquire about ROTC and Academy applications, if interested.
Visit colleges during Spring and Summer Break – Make sure your email is appropriate (business-like)
Check out summer enrichment programs in Career Center (located in BHS Library)
On the BHS website:
Sign up for the BHS Newsletter found under For Families
Explore the BHS Naviance link on the counseling web page. Use your Skyward user name and password in the “Email” and “Password” login. You may sign in as a guest at this time. Note: Much of the Naviance information is not available to you as a guest. Search and become familiar with all of the links on the “College Planning” page on the EHHS/BHS Counseling Tab found on the schools' websites.

Summer
Visit colleges (although best time is when college is in session); take a Campus Tour and go to Information Sessions. Be sure to register for tours in advance on the college admissions website.
Engage in employment, community service, enrichment activities.
Begin to build college interest list (“Colleges I’m thinking about”).
Investigate The Common Application; begin to gather college application data.
Build a working file with your academic history, activities, resume.
Get organized; develop timeline and deadlines. Use worksheet available on EHHS/BHS counseling website.
Explore, evaluate choices; Consult with your counselor in September/October.
SENIOR YEAR

Fall
Maintain quality academic performance.
Take/retake college entrance exams if needed.
Attend the National College Fair – at Washington State Convention Center -
November 1-2, 2019.
Sign up for college admissions representative meetings at BHS through the BHS counseling office.
Begin applications; follow the EHHS counseling center deadlines!
To request transcripts fill out a release form with the Registrar in the front office at EHHS.
Register for NCAA if you plan to play a sport for a college.
READ EHHS Bulletin and BHS Newsletter EVERY MONTH (www.bisd303.org /BHS and
EHHS websites)
Check out scholarships at the BHS Career Center (Library) and many websites.
Check out FAFSA online https://fafsa.ed.gov.
File FAFSA – after October 1, 2019 for the 2020-2021 college year.
Register for CSS-PROFILE - if necessary.
Pay fines and fees.

Winter
Finish applications; observe deadlines.
Attend FAFSA Night at BHS (usually October); explore FAFSA4CASTER website.
Maintain academics!
Check out scholarships on websites.
Inquire about waiting lists for 2 year or technical programs.
Confirm official name on diploma with counseling secretary. Make certain your legal name is reflected.

Spring
Maintain academics!
Expect to hear from colleges by mid-April.
Apply to 2 year/technical colleges if desired.
Tell the teachers and counselor who wrote your recommendations the outcomes of all your applications. Remember to write them a thank you note!
Notify college of choice by May 1st and send in deposit, or you may lose your acceptance.
Apply for local scholarships through websites or check the scholarship binder in the counseling office.
Thank teachers, coaches, parents, and counselor for their assistance.
Fill out final transcript release form, pay fines, fees and return all your books.
Pick up graduation tickets from the EH office.
Request your final transcript to be sent to the college you plan to attend.
Pick up your diploma from the EHHS office after graduation on June 15, 2019.
Summer Participate in Orientation activities for your college/program and get involved in your next educational journey.
Senior Year Costs

(All figures are approximate and subject to change)

**Application fees:**
- 2 year schools: $0 - $50
- 4 year schools: $50-$100

**Financial Aid:**
- FAFSA: FREE
- CSS PROFILE: $25.00 for initial application fee, $16.00 for each school

**Testing:**
- ASVAB: FREE
- ACCUPLACER: $20.00
- SAT I: $64.50

- SAT II Subject Test: $26.00 basic; $26 Language; $22 all other subjects per test
- ACT: $49.50
- ACT plus Writing: $58.50
- A.P. Test: $95.00

**Deposits:**
- $100 - $500. Usually applies to 4 year colleges and private vocational schools to hold your place. Usually non-refundable.

**Housing Deposit:**
- $50 - $200+. Applies to schools with on-campus housing.

**Orientation:**
Public universities often have summer activities for parents and students. Private colleges generally schedule a week prior to school starting. Costs vary from $0 - $200+. Some private colleges also have optional outings for first year students that involve more expense.

**Optional items:**
- **College visits.** Students can usually arrange in advance to stay and eat on campus for a nominal fee. Travel and lodging for parents is a major expense. **Test prep:** Each testing company offers free materials for test prep, including some available on the Internet. Private prep courses range from $200-$1200+. Hourly rates from $35-$60; books and software aids from $20-$75+.

**Test Prep through College Board and ACT sites – FREE**

**Other Senior Costs:**
These costs vary from year to year.

- Senior Pictures
- Caps/gowns
- Graduation announcements
- Senior Prom
- Grad Night Out
Class of 2020
College Application Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Application Deadline</th>
<th>*Forms Completed &amp; Meeting with Counselor Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 15, 2019</td>
<td>September 13, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2019</td>
<td>October 4, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 15, 2019</td>
<td>October 18, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1, 2019</td>
<td>November 1, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 15, 2019</td>
<td>November 15, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1, 2020</td>
<td>November 20, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 15, 2020</td>
<td>December 6, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1, 2020</td>
<td>January 6, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 15, 2020</td>
<td>January 17, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1, 2020</td>
<td>February 7, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Forms include: College Tracking Form, Student Data Sheet and Parent Brag Sheet

Please take note: EHHS does not give students (or parents) official transcripts or recommendations, not even in sealed envelopes. At least two (2) school weeks prior to your deadline, fill out a TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM with the Registrar and give her an addressed, stamped envelope so she can send your transcript. Some schools might receive transcripts through an email service. It is up to you to find out how the school that you are applying to would like to receive your transcript and to communicate this information to the Registrar and put the information on the College Tracking Form.

Once a student graduates from high school (or turns 18), only the student can release his/her information. Parents requesting diplomas, or other official forms etc. must have written permission from the student.
Greetings Seniors! I look forward to working with you as you apply to colleges and other post-high school opportunities. We have a process you need to follow to make sure everything is submitted in a timely manner.

Please Note: It is critical to follow these steps when applying to colleges as the details vary depending on the type of school. If you do not follow these steps, your applications could be incomplete and thus negatively impact your admissions decision.

Public Schools:

- Most public universities, including those in Washington State, will require an official transcript in the application process. Notable exceptions are the University of Washington and the University of California schools. These schools do not need a transcript until after you have been accepted. (For UW and UC applications, request an unofficial copy of your transcript from the front office to use when filling out the academic portion of these applications.)

- Most public schools do not need a letter of recommendation from a teacher or a counselor. If by chance yours does, please follow the private school instructions detailed in the next section. We recommend that you apply to each school using the Common Application (if it is accepted by the school) or their own online application. (Colleges prefer online apps rather than paper ones.)

Fill out College Tracking Form: List all the schools to which you are applying along with their deadlines and return it to the Registrar, Registrar, before your first deadline. You may add colleges later by filling out another form or updating the first one with the Registrar.

Send your EHHS transcript: Two (2) school weeks prior to your deadline, fill out a TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM with the Registrar and give her an addressed, stamped envelope so she can send your transcript. Some schools might receive transcripts through an email service. It is up to you to find out how the school that you are applying to would like to receive your transcript and to communicate this information to the Registrar and put the information on the College Tracking Form.

Test Scores: It is your responsibility to send official SAT, SAT II (subject tests), and/or ACT score reports to each college/university via the College Board or ACT website. Eagle Harbor High School does not send them. Pay attention to what each school requires. Most will require either the SAT or ACT. Subject tests may not be required.

For a complete list of schools that are ‘test optional’ or do not require standardized test scores, go to www.fairtest.org
Private Schools (including Common Application schools):

If you are applying to a private/independent college or university, the application will have a counselor/school section which requires a letter of recommendation from the counselor. (This is different from, and usually in addition to, a Teacher Recommendation.)

If you are using the Common Application, the school section of your application is called the School Report. Your counselor needs a minimum of 4 school weeks to review your academic record, collect teacher evaluation forms, and write a thoughtful letter of recommendation to complete all sections of the School Report. The following process is designed to ensure that the private universities/colleges receive all required information in a timely manner. Please read the following information and instructions carefully.

☐ Fill out a College Tracking form: This is available under ‘Forms’ in the "For Seniors" section of the EHHS website or in the Counseling Office. List all the schools to which you are applying along with their deadlines and return it to the Registrar, Counseling Office secretary, 4 school weeks before your first deadline. You may add colleges or update your list at any time with the Registrar. Paper clip your Parent Brag Sheet and Student Data Sheet to the College Tracking Form and hand deliver to the Registrar.

☐ Student Data Sheet is available under ‘Forms’ in the "For Seniors" section of the EHHS website. In order for me, as your counselor, to write an engaging and honest letter, please answer all sections and the questions at the end as completely as you can. Include details, examples and descriptions. Please submit the Student Data Sheet only to your counselor and not to your teachers who are writing your letter of recommendation. This form is due 4 school weeks prior to your first deadline.

☐ Parent Brag Sheet: This is your parents’ opportunity to give us some examples of how wonderful you are! Information in the Parent Brag Sheet may be used in the recommendation letter to dovetail with what the counselor knows about the student and what we have learned from teachers. It is helpful if parents share anecdotes that support their statements. The Parent Brag Sheet is available in the "For Seniors" section of the EHHS website and is also due 4 school weeks prior to the first college application deadline.

☐ Common Application: In order for your counselor and teachers to complete your letter of recommendation for schools using the Common Application, you must ASSIGN your counselor and teachers electronically via the www.commonapp.org online system. (This should be done after you ask them in person.) Make sure the email address is correct! If it is incorrect, recommenders will not receive your invitation, and thus will not be able to write your letter. Your counselor’s email is:

    Ann Brandner abrandner@bsd303.org

☐ Make an appointment with your counselor if you need a recommendation letter 4 school weeks prior to your first deadline.
School Report (only Common App. schools): For schools using the Common Application, please note:

The Common Application School Report requires a letter of recommendation from your counselor.

Make sure to check the bubble that waives your rights. In order to provide the most authentic and valuable letter of recommendation to admissions offices, the counselors ask that students waive their right to see letters of recommendation from counselors and teachers. If you have questions or concerns about waiving your rights, please consult your counselor.

Send your EHHS transcript: Four (4) school weeks prior to your deadline, fill out a transcript release form with the Registrar. She will then upload the transcript and we will attach the transcript to your Common Application. If it is a private school that is not on Common Application, it is up to you to communicate to the Registrar how we should send your transcript. Fines must be paid before we will release transcripts.

Test Scores: It is your responsibility to send official SAT, SAT II (subject tests), and/or ACT score reports to each college/university. Eagle Harbor High School does not send them. Pay attention to what each college requires. Most will require either the SAT or ACT. Subject tests may not be required. For a complete list of schools that are ‘test optional’ or do not require standardized test scores, go to www.fairtest.org

Teacher Letters of Recommendation: Make certain to find out which schools need a letter from teacher(s). Ask one or two teachers in person, preferably from junior year, if they would be willing to write a letter of recommendation for you. Give them at least four school weeks notice to do so. Each teacher will have a different process for obtaining a letter from them. Be sure to write them a thank you note after they have completed your letter(s). Also let them know where you have been accepted in the spring of senior year!

Mid-Year Report: Most schools will want to see your fall semester senior grades. The Common Application requires the Mid-Year Report for each school. The Counselor will submit the Common Application Mid-Year Report with your updated mid-year transcript in early February. For any other school needing your transcript with fall semester grades, you must follow the transcript request process with the Registrar.

Final Transcript: You must order and have sent a Final Transcript to the college you plan to attend. Please complete another release form with the Registrar as needed.

The EHHS counselor and staff wish you all the best in your college application process.
Let me know how I can help you!
Parent Brag Sheet
for
Counselor Letter of Recommendation

Please complete on separate sheets of paper
and submit 4 weeks before the first application deadline

Name of Student ____________________________ Counselor ____________________________

Parent’s Email address (optional) ____________________________

1. What do you consider to be the outstanding accomplishments of your child during his/her high school years? Why did you select these as most important?

2. In what areas has your child shown the most development and growth during the past three or four years?

3. If you were to describe your son/daughter in five words, which would be the first to come to mind?

4. Are there any unusual or personal circumstances that have affected your son or daughter’s educational or personal experiences? Any particular challenges or obstacles with which he/she has had to cope?

5. When were you most proud of your son/daughter?

6. What tasks or activities have your son/daughter engaged in that you feel are helping prepare him/her for life after high school?

________________________________________________________________________
Print Parent Name(s) & Parent Signature(s)
(i.e. who is writing the Parent Brag Sheet?)

Thank you for your thoughtful responses; your information helps the counselor distinguish your son or daughter from other talented students. If you would like to discuss this recommendation with your child’s counselor, please call Ann at 206-855-0500.
Employers, colleges, or scholarship donors often ask applicants to submit letters of recommendation. The purpose of this form is to help you organize information that is needed by the letter writer. While not all of this may be necessary for each situation, it is better to have more information than less. This form should be submitted only to the student’s counselor (not to teachers, who will have their own requirements). Also submit the Parent Brag Sheet to the counselor.

GUIDELINES
When requesting a letter of recommendation be sure to:
• Think of someone who knows you well; someone who knows your strengths.
• Ask him/her in person: Would you be comfortable writing a letter for me?
• Make an appointment to give the writer your completed worksheet and answer any questions.
• Clarify the purpose of the recommendation.
• Provide plenty of time; make certain the writer knows the deadline.

The counseling office requires 4 school weeks’ notice to write a recommendation letter
• If not an online rec, provide the writer with a stamped envelope, already addressed. Can serve as a reminder.
• Be courteous; always follow-up with a thank you note to show appreciation. These letters take time.
• Let the writer know how things turned out for you. The writer cares about you!

Today’s Date ___________________ 1st Recommendation Deadline Date ___________________

Full legal name ________________________________ Home telephone __________________________

Street Address ___________________ City __________ Zip __________

Email Address ______________________________

Names of Parents ____________________________ Live with both biological? _______ If not, with whom? _______

Father’s occupation ___________________________ Employer ____________________________ Telephone __________

Mother’s occupation ___________________________ Employer ____________________________ Telephone __________

Number of children in family ____________ Number in college (not counting you) ____________

Test scores: PSAT V _______ M; SAT V _______ M _______ WR; _______ ACT _______ Composite __________

AP Tests & Scores __________________________________________________________________________

What courses interest you most and why? _______________________________________________________

What courses interest you least and why? _______________________________________________________

What careers are you considering? ___________________________________________________________

Colleges or training programs you are applying to: ______________________________________________

List three faculty members who could be contacted as a reference for you: ___________________________

1. __________________________  2. __________________________  3. __________________________

Who is writing your teacher recommendation letter(s) if needed? __________________________________

If you were asked to describe yourself, what five words would first come to mind? ___________________
Please list your courses for Fall and Spring Semesters: ________________________________

Activities: Note below the SCHOOL and COMMUNITY activities that you have been involved with in high school. Include VOLUNTEER WORK. List the activity, the grade level(s) you were involved, and give details, such as office, position, role etc. (Can attach more paper.)

1. __________________________ Grade ______ Position ________________________________
2. __________________________ Grade ______ Position ________________________________
3. __________________________ Grade ______ Position ________________________________
4. __________________________ Grade ______ Position ________________________________
5. __________________________ Grade ______ Position ________________________________
6. __________________________ Grade ______ Position ________________________________

Work experience: Note any work experience you have had during high school below (including summers).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job/Position</th>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Length of time (Months/Year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Awards: List any awards or honors that you have received during high school. Please explain what they are if you think your counselor may be unfamiliar with the award or honor. (Can attach more paper.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Award/Honor</th>
<th>Date Received</th>
<th>Sponsoring Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer these questions in essay form (Required):  

1. What achievements in your life are you most proud of and why?  
2. What do you consider your greatest strengths and weaknesses?  
3. Do you have interests (academic or nonacademic) that you are passionate enough about to explore and study on your own?  
4. Is your high school record an accurate measure of your ability and potential? If not, what do you consider the best indicator of your potential for success in college work?  
5. Relate a work, volunteer, study or travel experience of significance to you.  
6. Please share any other information that you feel colleges need to know about you.
Choices

- Four Year Colleges
- Community and Technical Colleges
- Vocational Program Offerings in Washington State
- Apprenticeship
- Military
- Job Corps
- Gap year--Travel, Work away
USEFUL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

ASK YOURSELF

What is important to you? What occupies most of your energy, time or thoughts?

How do you define success? Are you satisfied with your achievements? What do you want to achieve in the next four years? The next ten years?

What are your strengths and qualities? What kind of a person do you hope to be? What would you most like to change about yourself?

What events, experiences, people have shaped your growth and way of thinking?

What hobbies, interests, (career or otherwise), and talents do you wish to develop in the next few years? Do these demand special facilities, location, and program?

What aspects of the past three years have you enjoyed the most? If you could live this period again, what would you do differently?

CONSIDER YOUR EDUCATION

What are your academic interests? What courses have interested you the most? Which have been the most difficult and why? What areas of knowledge or skills would you like to strengthen?

What do you choose to learn when you can learn on your own? What do your choices show about your interests and how you like to learn?

How do you learn best? What methods or style of teaching engage your interests and effort the most? What has been your most stimulating educational experience in recent years? Have you considered options other than going to college next year?

What kind of academic record do you have? (Try to look at your transcript as an objective observer would see it.) Do your grades and standard test scores correspond? How would you explain any discrepancies there? Have outside circumstances affected your academic performance?
Four Year Colleges

Colleges and universities fall into two categories:

1. **STATE SUPPORTED --- (Public)** both two year and four year
2. **INDEPENDENT --- (Private)** may be church-related or totally separate from both state and church support

There is no simple formula for choosing the college that is right for you. It is likely that there are several schools that will fit a student’s needs, goals and pocketbook. How does one choose? Get the best information; evaluate it carefully, then decide.

1. **Know your options.** Find out what’s available. Assess your skills, strengths and weaknesses. Check out the resources in the career and counseling centers (EHHS and BHS). Explore the college search comparison sites. Invest in a comprehensive college guidebook, if desired.

   Talk with friends who are in college; ask them about their school. Attend the college rep sessions when they visit BHS. Browse through college websites. Explore the websites listed in Information Resources.

2. **Assess your needs.** Ask yourself what you really want from a college education. If you have a career interest, research it. Often the academic major is just one of many important considerations. What about social and recreational opportunities? Does the school fit your style?

3. **Apply to a range of schools.** Students should check the applicant profile for their schools of interest.

   If grades and test scores are above yours, the school will fall in the “reach” category. Similar grades and test scores place the school in the “possible” range and schools whose applicant profile reflects grades and test scores below yours should fall in the “probable” or safety net range. While few schools accept or reject based solely on test scores and grades, these profiles give an approximate sense of where you place. Students are advised to include reaches, possible, and a probable (or a safety net college) in their college applications.

4. **Visit the School.** You wouldn’t think about buying a car without taking it for a test spin or a pair of shoes without trying them on first. For some, college expenses are second only to a home purchase. Check out the college you are considering! Look at the college’s website; take a virtual tour. Contact the Admissions office and let them know when you plan to visit. Many schools have special weekend visitations. You can arrange to stay in the dorm, eat in the cafeteria and visit classes if you wish. Sign up for an official tour and attend the information session. It is always safe to assume that these visits are evaluative; you should prepare and respond accordingly. Parents are welcome on visits, but students should do some exploring on their own. Parents should not participate in an interview unless invited to do so by the college. Look for “Visit” information on the Admissions page of a college’s website.

5. **Find a strong, well-rounded curriculum.** For most students, the best school is one that has many solid academic areas. There’s a good chance you won’t know exactly what you’ll be majoring in. It might surprise you to know that by the time most students finish college, they’ve changed their major about four times!

6. **Check out the housing situation.** Does the school guarantee and/or require that first year students live on campus? What options do you have? Co-ed? Greek houses? Theme houses? Is it a residential or commuter campus? Do you have to apply for housing separately from admissions? Does applying earlier than the deadline give you an advantage in housing opportunity at the campus?

7. **Look for support systems.** Find out about the commitment that the school makes to you. Some schools make a strong effort to ensure the success of every admitted student. The college may provide academic and psychological counseling, career guidance, writing labs, tutoring, an exceptional residential life program, and other support to help you adjust and succeed.

8. **Find out about financing.** Four-year colleges, especially independent ones, are expensive. There is help available if you qualify for financial aid. Go to the school’s financial aid office or web page and inquire about what resources might be available to you.

   **Did you know?** Colleges are required to maintain statistics on issues such as graduation rates and on-campus crime rates? Ask them.
General Information—Washington Public Universities

Students selecting a four-year university or college education usually have a goal of completing a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. Students who start their degree program at a community college may finish a two-year Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree and then transfer to a four-year college to achieve the Bachelor degree.

The minimum entrance requirements for the four-year public colleges in Washington include graduation from an accredited high school with a satisfactory grade point average, college entrance exam scores and required course pattern. The required high school courses are listed on the Admissions page of most college websites.

For many years, Washington’s six public universities used an Admissions Index system to determine admissibility of applicants. Each applicant was assigned an AI number derived from his/her GPA and SAT/ACT score. Grades figured roughly three times as important as the test scores in weighing the student’s AI. While one minimum AI was required for consideration at the regional colleges (Central Washington, Western Washington, Eastern Washington and the Evergreen State College) and another was required for the research colleges (University of Washington and Washington State University), some schools had an automatic AI number that a student could count on for admission. THAT IS NO LONGER THE CASE.

Three universities, the University of Washington, Western Washington and Washington State, have made significant moves away from using the AI as a determiner of admissibility. Instead, they have adopted a more holistic approach that emphasizes a number of factors, such as strength/rigor of high school courses, grade trends, achievement, special talents, interests, experiences and personal statement. The other three institutions, Central Washington, Eastern Washington and The Evergreen State College are moving in this direction as well, looking beyond just the AI number.

Whether required or not, we encourage all students to submit a thoughtful personal statement with their college applications as well as information about any meaningful involvement that they have been engaged in during their high school years. Activities/experiences need not be school-based to have value. None of the Washington state schools require a teacher or counselor recommendation.

The U.W. Catalog states:

The University of Washington seeks students who can benefit from its wealth of academic and cultural opportunities and contribute to its amazing energy and rich diversity of experience. Choosing students from a very able group of applicants requires a selection process that looks beyond grades and standardized tests...

While these factors are important, they tell only part of an applicant’s story. The University uses an individualized application review more typically found at smaller private universities and colleges. In addition to grade-point average (GPA) and test scores, the University takes into account many aspects of an applicant’s achievements and personal history.

See more details at: www.washington.edu/Admission/Freshmen/Review

Students can apply to the state schools as early as November for the following Fall enrollment. In some cases, December 1st is a priority deadline for scholarships. Students should consult the college’s website for school specific requirements. The University of Washington application deadline is November 15th.

Housing: Students need to check with individual colleges about deadlines for housing applications and deposits. Did you know: Research shows students who live in campus housing their first year are more likely to graduate.
Out of State Public Universities

Many EHHS students are interested in public universities in other states. Arizona, Montana, Oregon, Colorado and California are popular choices for our students. It is the student’s responsibility to check the requirements and deadlines for these colleges. Important note: The University of California system (Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Merced, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, etc.) only accepts applications between the dates of Nov. 1-30.

The California State University system recommends the same time line; some campuses require it. Find out. Students interested in satisfying requirements for the University of California System should consult their website at: [www.admission.universityofcalifornia.edu](http://www.admission.universityofcalifornia.edu). Learn about their “a-g requirements.”

A major change in the Visual and Performing Arts requirements for UC and CSU schools began with the Class of 2008. Students must complete a year-long sequence in a single area, i.e.; Drawing 1-2, Choir 1-2, Photo 1-2, although not necessarily in the same school year.

Other popular public universities for EHHS students that have entrance requirements which exceed that of the Washington publics include Colorado and Arizona. The State universities in Arizona require three years of science for entrance. The University of Colorado requires 3 years of science and 3 years of foreign language (for most programs).

The Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) is a program through which students in participating states may enroll in designated two-year and four-year institutions and programs in other participating states at a special, reduced tuition level. Each state determines which institutions and courses of study it will make available to students in the Western Undergraduate Exchange. Each cooperating institution determines eligibility for admission and for WUE tuition. The student must mark prominently on the application for admission that he/she seeks admission as a WUE student. For more information visit the website at: [http://wue.wiche.edu](http://wue.wiche.edu). Some colleges award automatic WUE scholarships based on a student’s high school GPA. See the college’s admissions or scholarship website for specific information.

Private, Independent Four Year Colleges

Ranging from open enrollment (accepting all high school graduates) to the very highly selective (accepting fewer than 10% of applicants), independent colleges typically share these features: similar expenses for both in/out of state applicants, an evaluation of the total student (not just GPA and test scores) and recommended rather than required course patterns. (The minimum course requirements for the Washington public colleges are a good guideline.) Many factors will be considered in a student’s application: GPA, test scores, class rank, strength of courses, essay, letters of recommendation, special talents, interests, community involvement, diversity and geographic factors, activities, alumni children, special challenges and interviews. It can be a very subjective process. Selective colleges are looking for a well-rounded class, not necessarily a well-rounded individual. The most selective schools seek students who have maximized the available curriculum and have developed a passion—whether a talent, skill or interest. They want students who will enrich their college community. The depth and quality of the list of achievements and interests is usually more important than the length.

Independent colleges all have different application deadlines, mostly ranging from December to March. It is the student's responsibility to record and meet those application and financial aid deadlines.
Some features of independent college admissions:

**Common Application**: More than 800 colleges and universities accept the Common Application. These institutions have pledged to honor the Common Application as they would their own. Students are encouraged to apply online and carefully follow the instructions from the counseling office. [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

**Early Decision**: Many colleges have an Early Decision option for students who clearly know that that is their first choice. Students may apply Early Decision to only one college and it is a binding agreement. Students must sign an agreement with the E.D. college that if accepted they will withdraw all other applications and attend that college. E.D. deadlines can be early October or as late as January 1. We recommend students visit a school before applying. This option is not for students who want to compare financial aid packages.

**Early Action**: This is an early decision option without obligation. A college will offer Early Action or Early Decision, not both. Some colleges restrict the number of Early Action applications students can make. Students can be accepted, denied or deferred with Early Action or Early Decision. “Deferred” means the application will be considered with the regular applicant pool.

**Student Essay**: Most independent schools require one or more essays. (The U.W., WWU, WSU, and the University of California system do also.) The more selective the school and the more borderline the candidate, the more important the essay is for the application. Some essays are open-ended, some structured. If given a question, it is important to address the prompt specifically. Students most often err in not allowing sufficient time to work on essays. The admissions readers are professionals; they are looking for sincerity and authenticity. The essay provides the college with a window to an applicant’s character, passions, values, experiences. It can distinguish an applicant from others who have similar grades and test scores. Each fall the EHHS English teacher offers assistance in senior English classes. Good tips are also found on the web at College Board’s Big Future site and many others.

**Recommendations**: Most selective colleges require a counselor and/or teacher recommendation(s). For EHHS guidelines, please read the College Application Process document carefully. If a student has a noticeable weakness, such as low SAT verbal score, it would be wise to ask a teacher who is aware of the student’s skills and improvement to write a letter of support. Request the letter of recommendation from the counselor and teachers at least FOUR WEEKS before it should be submitted.

**Waiting Lists**: Many colleges (again mostly private) create waiting lists to fill the class if they do not get the desired “yield” from their admit group. If a student is wait-listed by the first choice school, we recommend a conference with your counselor. Since most notifications go out in April and students do not have to respond until May 1st, wait-listed students who really want to go to the first choice school may have to pay a deposit to their second choice to assure them of a place to attend. If selected off the wait-list, the student will most likely lose the deposit at the first school. It’s not uncommon for the colleges to request spring mid-term grades from wait-listed candidates.

**Internet Information**: With the popularity of social networking sites, there have been some rumors that colleges and employers are seeking information on applicants. It’s unclear the extent to which this may occur, especially given time constraints. However, students are encouraged to consider the following advice from a Midwestern admissions officer:
Students: Be careful what you put out there in the public eye. We at University will not go looking for it, but if it ends up in our lap, it will be hard to ignore. Exposing oneself or being passed out with one eyebrow shaved off doesn’t make a real good impression of one’s character. I think it also worth mentioning that a lot of strange and nasty things go on. Example: Other vindictive students/parents forwarding things on that they’ve found out about others. Yes, it’s nasty out there. Also, give a thought to your email address.

Other application tips:

- Be neat; use proper grammar and correct spelling.
- Ask someone to proofread your application essay before submitting.
- Respond to the essay prompt.
- Type or write legibly with pen. Apply online whenever possible.
- Label clearly Honors, A.P. and double period courses if asked to list classes.
- Sign application; enclose check if mailed.
- Don’t pad with unrequested materials; talk to your counselor about supporting documents.
- Honor deadlines!
- Give your counselor and/or teacher four school weeks to do a quality job on rec letters for you.
- Check out the questions your counselor or teacher must answer about you in the Secondary School Report. Concerned? Talk to them.
- Be sure your email address is businesslike.
- Make certain that you and teachers and counselor are using your legal name to avoid duplicate, sometimes incomplete files at the colleges.
- Have the application proofread and print a copy for your file before clicking to “submit.”
- Keep track of passwords used to access your applications. Use only one email address (the student’s and NOT the parent’s email). Duplicate emails or duplicate accounts cause problems and delays.
- Do not wait until the last minute!! Applications and essays take time and careful thought, and more than once, Bainbridge Island has lost power the day before the deadline. A missed deadline due to power failure is not the college’s problem.

Important Note: Each fall there are updates and changes from colleges regarding application procedures and deadlines. It is critical for parents and students to read the EHHS Bulletin/BHS newsletter each month to keep current. Check out information; don’t rely on a friend or neighbor. You can find the Bulletin and Newsletter by going to the school websites at: www.bisd303.org.
How to Get the Most from a Campus Visit

- At most campuses weekdays are the best days to visit so you can see the day-to-day campus life.

- Contact the admissions office in advance, informing them of the day and time of your arrival on campus. Request appointments and activities that you would like arranged for you (such as those listed below). Be sure to register for the tour and information session prior to your visit. Look for “Visits” on the college’s Admission web page.

- College personnel are happy to talk with you about their school. Make the most of this and other appointments by asking questions. If you tend to be shy, prepare some questions in advance. If you don't understand something, don't be afraid to ask why or request further explanations. Check into special programs in which you may have an interest such as honors, credit by exam, clubs, sports, or support programs.

- If you have a specific question about a particular program, major or sport, request an appointment with an appropriate faculty advisor or coach.

- Request a tour of the campus, including the dormitories and library. Talk to students you encounter. Parents should let their student take the lead.

- Check with the financial aid office during your campus visit if you have questions about financial aid.

- Arrange to visit classes to get an idea of what college classes might be like.

- If you would like to stay overnight, see if there are lodging arrangements available for visitors. Often inexpensive visits can be arranged in dormitories, fraternities or sororities. Sometimes local hotels have reduced fees for college visitors. Be sure to mention that you are visiting the college!

- Ask if you can buy lunch in a dormitory or dining hall. It's cool for students to complain about dormitory food. Actually, though, it's usually pretty good. See for yourself.

- Have fun and, if you do encounter a problem, don't be afraid to ask for help.
Washington has 34 community and technical colleges that offer a wide range of programs including college transfer, job training and many others. These colleges provide an “open door” to education. They are committed to giving every person the opportunity and encouragement to succeed, regardless of age, income, background or previous educational experience. Several features set these institutions apart from other higher education schools. Students interested in two-year schools in other western states should read about the Western Undergraduate Exchange (for financial scholarship information) in the section under Out of State Public Universities.

**Convenience:** There are community and technical colleges throughout Washington state; most are within easy commuting distance and are served by public transportation. (Bus passes may be reduced for students.)

**Cost:** Tuition and fees are much less than those charged by public or private four-year colleges. Many students live at home and avoid the costs of room and board.

**Variety:** A wide range of vocational and academic programs is available.

**Job training:** Community and technical colleges are the state’s premier job training institutions. The college system offers hundreds of programs and counseling services designed to ensure that students learn the skills that will help obtain good jobs.

**Accessibility:** Community and technical colleges are open to anyone who has a high school diploma; there are no grade point or test-score requirements for entrance. Students range in ability from brightest to those who did poorly in high school but who want another chance to prove themselves. These college students tend to be more diverse in age, interests, background, and income than those at other colleges. Many students work full or part-time.

**Instruction:** Faculty at community and technical colleges are employed for their ability to teach; vocational instructors are required to have substantial, successful experience in the subject they teach. Many faculty members remain in their professional field and teach part-time, thereby keeping students up-to-date with real-life applications.

**Campus life:** Community colleges offer many of the amenities of other campuses with student organizations, athletic teams, music, theater, and arts programs. A few community colleges operate dormitories, providing residential life programs (Peninsula, Big Bend, Green River and Yakima.) Others provide information about student housing options.

**Degrees:** Community and technical colleges offer associate degrees, certificates or diplomas to students who successfully complete academic or vocational programs. The public universities in Washington have an articulation agreement with the community colleges for students who complete appropriate course work to earn an AA degree. You should consult the transfer agreement for the university that you hope to attend.

**Community Technical Colleges Admissions:** Open enrollment for high school graduates. (Some training programs may have a waiting list.)

**Testing:** ASSET/COMPASS/ACCUPLACER for placement offered at the college.

**Application:** Students should apply in spring for fall enrollment.

**Applications online:** See the section on Useful Guidance Websites.

**Special note:** Certain programs, like health careers for example, with selective/limited enrollment, may have specific deadlines and procedures. It is your responsibility as an applicant to meet those requirements.
APPRENTICESHIP

Apprenticeship is another way to train for a career, especially in the trades. Apprenticeship combines on-the-job training with classroom instruction. Formal apprenticeship arrangements are possible in certain occupations. In these cases, a student enters into a written agreement with an employer to provide training. Community and technical college students enrolled in apprenticeship training receive up to two years of credit through the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee.

For more information on apprenticeship programs, you should contact the Apprenticeship and Training Section of the Department of Labor and Industries at: www.Lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship. Another source is the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, United States Department of Labor: http://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/.

CAREER TRAINING

CareerScope

CareerScope is a career assessment system. This computer program takes career and educational planning to a new level. The proven career assessment and reporting system from Vocational Research Institute is a powerful, yet easy-to-use program. With more than 40 years of experience developing world class assessment programs, VRI has designed a self-administered system that measures both aptitude and interest through valid and reliable assessment tasks. The results are instrumental in helping an individual begin the career or educational planning process.

WOIS

WOIS/The Career Information System is a private, nonprofit organization that researches and distributes information about WASHINGTON careers, post-secondary schools and training programs to BHS and other high schools and agencies in the state. It was established in 1974 and is the most widely used career information system in Washington. The WOIS information is updated annually and available for Windows and Macintosh computers on the Internet, and in printed book form. The WOIS staff, located in Olympia, is made up of professionals who have many years of experience in the field of career information development and delivery. Check out their website at: www.wois.org. Ask for the “site key” in the BHS library.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Look up scholarship information in WOIS, specific college websites and scholarship websites under Financial Aid and Scholarships and Useful Guidance Websites at the end of this Planning Guide.

JOB CORPS

Job Corps, a federally funded residential employment training program, offers a variety of career readiness opportunities at eleven sites in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. To be eligible a student must be between 16-24 years of age, meet income guidelines, be a U.S. citizen or legal resident, support the Job Corps Zero Tolerance Policy (no violence, harassment, drugs/alcohol) and be motivated to learn. Students who do not have a high school diploma can finish their requirements or earn a GED.
PRIVATE CAREER SCHOOLS

Private vocational schools offer programs similar to the public technical colleges. Many of these career schools are profit businesses and thus usually much more expensive than the public institutions. They often are more aggressive in their marketing. Private career schools will offer certificate programs and some will offer associate degrees. Be sure to check their accreditation. While most are reputable schools, it is advisable to call the local Better Business Bureau to find out if there have been any complaints about the school. Students at many of these schools are eligible for financial aid; call the Student Aid Information Center (toll-free 1-800-4-FED-AID) if you have any questions about financial aid at the school.

Students looking at these schools should check out more than one and also compare with programs at their local community/technical colleges. Don’t hesitate to ask questions about the programs. Inquire about the students; how many graduate? How many get jobs because of the training they receive? Ask about the job placement services it offers. Visit the school and check out the facilities. Talk to other students. Make sure that the school gives a clear statement of the tuition and fees it charges. (Many of these schools charge for the entire program at the beginning of the program.) Read the enrollment contract carefully; make certain that all promises are in writing. Find out if they refund monies if a student drops out before finishing the program. Every school that administers federal student aid must have a written refund policy and must give students a copy of that policy if requested.
MILITARY

SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRATION: All 18-year-old males are required by law to register with the selective service within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Students applying for financial aid can register on the FAFSA.

SERVICE ACADEMIES: Students interested in an academy appointment (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, Navy) should request a pre-candidate questionnaire in the spring of the junior year. Take the ACT or SAT in May or June. Grades and test scores are important criteria but leadership, community involvement, athletic achievement, recommendations and physical fitness are also considered. Eligible candidates must have an appointment from their local Congress representative. This is very competitive.

ROTC: (Reserve Officer Training Corps—all services) Scholarships are available for eligible students interested in combining academic studies with military training. These scholarships are also competitive and may be limited to certain majors, depending on the needs of the service. Scholarship recipients must spend some time on active duty (usually four years) and/or time in the reserves.

ENLISTMENT: Students with a high school diploma, in good physical condition and with a qualifying score on their ASVAB test (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery given once a year at BHS—Free) can enter the military and take advantage of some valuable career training programs. Eighty percent of the training specialties have a direct civilian occupational counterpart. The Department of Defense and the Department of Labor have a joint agreement that provides service persons an opportunity to complete an apprenticeship program in certain specific occupations, obtaining a journeyman level rating. All of the Armed Services are interested in their personnel continuing their education. Service members are eligible to participate in programs such as the Montgomery GI Bill and tuition assistance. Individual services may also offer other educational incentives such as a loan repayment program and college assistance programs. Military service can offer a high school graduate a chance to travel, sort out life choices for the future and also develop a marketable skill.

A BHS alum who enlisted prior to attending college, offers some helpful tips:

DO:

- Bring a parent or friend with you to talk to a recruiter
- Talk the agreement over with parent, relative, counselor before you sign
- Check out more than one service—make comparisons
- Research the job they offer (read about it, try to talk with someone in the field)
- Get copies of everything you sign

DON’T:

- Sign anything on the first visit
- Be rushed or pressured
- Believe an oral promise
- Hide a police or medical record
- Sign until you can have a parent, friend, etc. go over the agreement with you
Financial Aid
and
Scholarships
What if you aren’t certain that you qualify for need-based aid?

If you think that you will need assistance in paying for college, then you should apply. Before completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), college-bound students and their families can log onto www.collegeanswer.com or www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov or www.salliemae.com to estimate their Expected Family Contribution (EFC), or the costs they’ll be expected to bear, based on their financial situation. The EFC Estimator determines this amount based on several factors, including assets and income, marital status and family size.

The Washington Scholarship Coalition has developed a NEW online scholarship search engine specifically for students in Washington State. We encourage students to register at www.thewashboard.org, a clearinghouse for hundreds of scholarship opportunities for Washington residents.

SCHOLARSHIPS

As stated above, some colleges may offer scholarships as part of a financial aid package. (One note: if a student is awarded need-based aid by a college, and then receives an “outside” scholarship in addition, that money must be reported to the college. It is likely that the financial aid package will be revised. Check with the college to find out their policy.) Each spring, all seniors are invited to submit a local scholarship application for the scholarships that are managed by the BHS Scholarship Committee. This application is available in the BHS counseling office around spring break. Some scholarships have very specific criteria; some are earmarked for technical/vocational students, some for four-year college students. Some consider need; some don’t. We encourage all seniors to apply for the local scholarships by filling out the “BHS/EHHS Senior Scholarship Application” which needs to be completed in paper form by the week following Spring Break.

A word about scholarship searches: It is likely that you will receive a mail-order offer encouraging you to fill out a student profile in order to receive, usually for a fee, a customized print-out on scholarships just for you. These searches do not secure a scholarship. The information received is readily available, for free, on the Internet.

There are reputable sites such as: www.finaid.org/finaid or www.fastweb.com, www.thewashboard.org and others.
TESTING

Testing

testing
ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS: BHS and EHHS administer AP tests for the courses we offer: Calculus, Statistics, Computer Science, Economics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Science, U.S. History, U.S. Government, European History, Psychology, English Literature and Composition, Human Geography, Spanish, and AP Studio Art. BHS students enrolled in these courses are required to take the AP exam, but the exams are also available to EHHS students wanting to test their knowledge and earn college credit. The AP exam is designed to assess whether the student has acquired a level of knowledge equivalent to a college course. Many colleges will award credit or exempt a student from an introductory course based on an AP grade of usually a 4 or better, sometimes a 3, (scale 1-5), but schools, and departments within a school, will differ. For information about specific college credit, go to collegesearch.collegeboard.com/apcreditpolicy/index.jsp. Tests are scheduled nationally in early May. Students must pay a fee in advance (approximately $95 per test). Scholarship funds are available for students who are eligible for support.

ASSET/COMPASS/ACCUPLACER: These tests measure reading, writing, and math skills. They are required by most community colleges for placement and administered at the college. Students should contact the community college admissions office.

ASVAB: Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery. This aptitude test measures basic skills and vocational aptitude and is administered by the military at BHS each fall. It is required for placement in military training programs. No charge. No obligation. A great career exploration tool regardless of a student’s post high school education plans. Contact the BHS counseling office or career center with any questions.

ACT: This is one of two national college entrance exams that satisfy the testing requirements of most four-year colleges. The ACT is a curriculum-based test with 4 subsections: reading, English, math and science reasoning. There is also an optional Writing Test that measures skill in planning and writing a short essay. Students will decide whether to take the Writing Test based on the requirements of the institutions they are considering. (Most recommend it.) This is not administered at EHHS or BHS (unless you have approved accommodations). Testing time is 2 hours and 55 minutes plus breaks, instructions and 30 minutes for the optional writing test. Each subsection is scored from 1-36 and a composite score, which is the average of the four, is given.

SAT Reasoning Test: One of two national college entrance exams accepted by the vast majority of four-year colleges. Described as a measure of critical thinking skills that students will need for academic success in college, it assesses how well students analyze and solve problems. The test consists of two sections; Evidence-Based Reading & Writing (EBRW) and Math. Testing time is 3 hours 45 minutes plus breaks and time for instructions. Students receive an EBRW and Math score on a continuum of 200-800. A calculator can be used; students will have to generate their own answers on parts of the math section. This test is not administered at EHHS or BHS (unless you have approved accommodations). For more details www.collegereadiness.collegeboard.org Scroll down to SAT→Scores→Understanding scores.
**SAT Subject Tests**: Offered in 20 different subjects across the core courses. The subject tests are hour-long exams, usually given at the same time as the SAT Reasoning Test, although both cannot be taken on the same day. Subject Tests are designed to assess a student’s depth of knowledge. Relatively few colleges require them; none in Washington. Some schools do not specify which subject tests are required, but many request Math (level I or II) and an additional one or two of the student’s choosing. Students can elect to take one, two, or three at one time. Check the college’s requirements before deciding to take SAT Subject Tests and which subject tests the college requires. Timing is important with these subject tests; students should schedule them when they are most prepared, usually right after finishing a course. SAT Subject Tests are not administered at EHHS or BHS (unless you have approved accommodations).
Questions about Testing

- **What are the differences between the ACT and the SAT?** The ACT consists of four sections plus an optional writing test. The SAT consists of two sections, Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math. You receive NO penalty for incorrect answers on the ACT or the SAT. The ACT includes a career interest inventory whereas the SAT does not.

- **Do I need to take any tests if I am going to a community /technical college?** Most community colleges will require the ASSET/ACCUPLACER or computer based COMPASS for placement; some training programs may have their own proficiency tests they administer prior to placement. You don’t need to take the SAT or ACT unless you plan to transfer to a four year-school before you complete your AA degree. However, some out of state community colleges require SAT or ACT.

- **How do I register for the SAT or ACT?** Register online at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) or [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). Have credit card available.

- **What is my high school code?** For EHHS to receive your test scores, you must use our code. Many schools will ask us for your scores and we need an official copy. Failure to include the high school code could impede your college application.

- **When do I take them?** It usually isn’t necessary to take any entrance exams before March of your junior year. You can retake, if needed, in the fall of your senior year. We recommend all testing be completed by December of senior year. Check your college to see when they need your scores.

- **Where do I take them?** Most EHHS students take them at Olympic College or in Seattle; locations are listed in registration materials. It is important to register early in case a nearby site fills up.

- **When are they given?** There is a chart in this guide; dates are posted in the counseling office, on registration materials and on their websites.

- **Can tests be retaken?** Yes. You should realize that not all scores go up the next time. Each test is a part of your testing history, which is sent each time a request for scores is made, unless you choose the SAT score choice (explained later). ACT only sends the most recent test scores unless otherwise requested.

- **Can I study for these tests?** Every student should familiarize himself or herself with the test and go over the free test prep materials offered with each registration packet and on the website. The best preparation is a solid high school course load. Some students elect to take a test prep course; these are generally expensive. Some colleges now ask on the application if you have taken a test prep course; you need to check to see if you really require higher scores to accomplish your goal.

- **How important are these tests?** It varies from school to school, but test scores are generally less important than the media and public think. In most cases, the high school record of courses and grades weighs heavier than tests in the admission process.

- **How do colleges receive my scores?** Send scores directly from the test company; you can sign up for 3 free ACT and 4 free SAT at the time of registration. Any scores requested after that are $11.00 for each report sent.

- **Can I qualify for special testing arrangements?** If you have an IEP or 504 Plan, you may be eligible for extended time or special testing conditions. Contact your counselor well ahead of the registration deadline if this applies to you. Testing agencies can take months to approve or deny accommodations.

- **What if I can’t afford the tests?** Contact your counselor, especially if you receive free or reduced lunches. You may qualify for a fee waiver.

- **What do I take to the tests?** Admission ticket, picture I.D., two sharpened #2 pencils, eraser, watch, calculator. No food permitted in test room but you may want to bring some for the break. You may want to dress in layers in case the room is cold or overheated. Be well rested and enjoy a hearty and healthy breakfast!
Beginning with the March, 2009 SAT administration, the College Board approved Score Choice, a score-reporting feature that gives students the option to choose the SAT scores by test date and SAT Subject Test scores by individual test that they send to colleges, in accordance with each institution's individual score-use practice. Colleges will continue to set their own score-use practices, which may vary from college to college. Students will be encouraged to follow the score-reporting requirements of each college to which they apply, but their scores will not be released for admission purposes without their specific consent. Colleges and universities will only receive the scores that students send them.

College Board Test Dates
www.collegeboard.org

Examination and Test Dates
2019-2020

Check the CollegeBoard website for the most current information.

SAT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAT Anticipated Test Date</th>
<th>Regular Registration Deadline</th>
<th>SAT Tests Given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 24, 2019</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>SAT EBRW &amp; Math and Subject Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 5, 2019</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>SAT EBRW &amp; Math and Subject Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2, 2019</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>SAT EBRW &amp; Math and Subject Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 7, 2019</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>SAT EBRW &amp; Math and Subject Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14, 2020</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>No Subject Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2, 2020</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>SAT EBRW &amp; Math and Subject Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 6, 2020</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>SAT EBRW &amp; Math and Subject Tests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced Placement Program Exams

May 4 – May 15, 2020

Different AP exams are offered on different days. The entire testing schedule is available. For more information, go to: www.collegeboard.org and see; AP for Students, for Educators, or for AP Coordinators.

https://professionals.collegeboard.org/testing/ap/about/dates
ACT Program Tests  
www.act.org  www.actstudent.org

2019-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
<th>Late Fee Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 14, 2019</td>
<td>August 16, 2019</td>
<td>August 17-30, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26, 2019</td>
<td>September 20, 2019</td>
<td>September 21-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 14, 2019</td>
<td>November 8, 2019</td>
<td>November 9-22, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 8, 2020</td>
<td>January 10, 2020</td>
<td>January 11-17, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4, 2020</td>
<td>Feb 28, 2020</td>
<td>Feb 29-Mar 13, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13, 2020</td>
<td>May 8, 2020</td>
<td>May 9-22, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18, 2020</td>
<td>June 19, 2020</td>
<td>June 20-26, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Most colleges/universities will accept either the SAT/ACT for admission purposes.

Things to know about SAT and ACT

- Most colleges/universities will accept either the SAT or ACT for admission purposes.
- To find out about schools which do not require test scores, check out the following website:  www.fairtest.org
- You can take the SAT or ACT as many times as you want.
- Some scholarship programs, such as ROTC, will average scores if multiple scores are submitted.
- Schools that require the SAT Subject Tests may require two or three tests. Make sure you know which SAT Subject Tests are required by the schools to which you are applying.
Information    Resources
INFORMATION RESOURCES

The counselor, teachers and staff at Eagle Harbor High School are available to share ideas, support and information about where to find additional resources as you plan your future.

BHS Career Center (CTE Director--Sean Eaton), EH Counseling Center, and Teachers:

- Computer access to websites for colleges, testing companies, financial aid
- Washington Occupation Informational System database for jobs information (WOIS)
- Career and College exploration software programs
- Scholarship applications (academic and vocational)
- Schedule of career speakers
- Career field trips
- Files, books, publications on careers and the decision-making process
- Tips on job searches and resume writing
- Job shadowing opportunities
- Information on Apprenticeship programs
- Interest inventories
- Videos on various colleges, careers
- File on summer enrichment programs

COLLEGE FAIRS and College Rep visits

Dates, times and locations of college visits to BHS in the Fall, 2019 are on the BHS Counseling website!

OTHER: Parents, Teachers, Counselors, Coaches, Neighbors, EHHS alum, people who work in your field of interest all have information that could be helpful to you in planning your future. Reach out. You are not alone!
Quick Reference

College & University Websites

http://www.wsac.wa.gov/ - General information about higher education in Washington State

**Washington Public Baccalaureate Colleges & Universities**

Central Washington University  www.cwu.edu
Eastern Washington University  www.ewu.edu
Evergreen State University  www.evergreen.edu
University of Washington  www.washington.edu
Washington State University  www.wsu.edu
Western Washington University  www.wwu.edu

**Washington Independent Baccalaureate Colleges & Universities**

Cornish College of the Arts  www.cornish.edu
Digipen Institute of Technology  www.digipen.edu
Gonzaga University  www.gonzaga.edu
Heritage College  www.heritage.edu
Trinity Lutheran College  www.tlc.edu
Northwest College of Art & Design  www.ncad.edu
Pacific Lutheran University  www.plu.edu
St. Martin’s University  www.stmartin.edu
Seattle Pacific University  www.spu.edu
Seattle University  www.seattleu.edu
University of Puget Sound  www.pugetsound.edu
Walla Walla University  www.wallawalla.edu
Whitman College  www.whitman.edu
Whitworth University  www.whitworth.edu

**WUE Information**

Western Undergraduate Exchange Program  www.wiche.edu
Glossary

Certain words used in connection with college handbooks, college representatives’ presentations and the college counseling handouts may not be familiar to you. Most of these words pertain to the college application process and various procedures followed at colleges and universities. Here is a brief run-down of their meanings:

- **A-G requirements** - The seven required areas of study that one must complete in order to be considered for University of California admission. These courses must be graded.

- **Advanced Placement Courses** - Courses available to students at their high school, which may give them college credit.

- **Advanced Placement Tests** - The tests given during the month of May to students who have taken the Advanced Placement class or students who have a desire to obtain college credit for a particular class.

- **Alumni Interview** - Admissions interview conducted by graduates of colleges to which you have applied. Often done locally when a student is unable to travel to a distant college.

- **ACT** - a test consisting of four academic areas that is meant to measure educational development, it is one of the options students have for sending colleges a standardized test to most colleges and universities. ACT can be taken with or without an optimal writing test.

- **Associate degree (AA, AS)** - the degree given for completing a two-year program of college work, usually at a junior, community or two year college.

  - **Bachelor’s degree (BA, BS)** - the degree given for completing a college program of at least four years of academic work (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science).

- **Candidate reply date** - Establishes a common date, May 1, that is the earliest a subscribing college may require an accepted student to say whether he or she plans to attend.

- **Class profile** - the statistics which are related to a particular year of students.

- **College Fair** - a gathering of college representatives at a central location. Often accompanied by presentation on admissions, financial aid etc.

- **Common Application** - A form devised and accepted by more than 700 colleges to allow students to use one application in applying to college. Applications are available online at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) after August 1st.

- **Conditional Acceptance** - Acceptance to a college on a conditional basis. Often an applicant will have to complete course work before a particular institution will confirm a placement.

  - **Consortium** - Several colleges and universities in an area which join together in a cooperative association, giving students opportunities to use a variety of each other’s programs, courses, libraries, lectures, etc.

- **Core curriculum** - a group of classes from a range of academic areas that are required on a particular college campus before a student will be awarded a degree. At some institutions many of these classes may serve as prerequisites for higher classes.

  - **Early Action** - a college or university admission policy which allows students to apply early, be notified early, but does not ask for a student’s commitment until May 1.

  - **Early Decision** - a college or university admission policy which asks a student to apply early (usually between Nov 1st – Dec. 15th) in order to be notified early of admission decisions. If a student is accepted ED they are then obligated to attend that institution and withdraw all other applications.

- **Educational Testing Service (ETS)** - The operational phase of many of the College Board programs.

- **Fee Waivers** - Fee waivers are forms (or letters from counselor), which waive the fees of tests and application fees for students.
Financial Aid - a variety of forms of money given to student to attend a college or university. The forms usually are the following: grants, loans, scholarships or work-study.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) - a free application which students (and parents) use to apply for financial assistance from colleges and universities.

Financial Aid Package - the variety of forms of financial aid that is awarded a student.

Full-time student - a student who generally takes a minimum of 12 quarter or semester units (3-5 classes) per quarter or semester. In other words there are a certain number of courses one must take to be considered attending an institution full time. This is usually required if a student is receiving financial assistance.

Grant - a part of the financial aid package which is money given to a student that does not have to be paid back.

Impacted program or major - an overcrowded program or major in which there are many more applications than available spaces.

Loan - a form of financial aid that has a student or parent borrowing funds for college expenses.

Need Blind - A process whereby a college admission office does not consider a family’s financial situation when making an admission decision. (A student may not receive financial assistance to make it possible for them to attend school).

Need Conscious - A process whereby college admission decisions consider a family’s financial situation before offering admission. (Institutions that follow this procedure feel that unless they can fully meet the need of the family, it is not fair to admit the student).

Profile - A financial aid document which many independent colleges require when a student applies for financial aid. This form is available from College Scholarship Services (CSS).

Rolling Admissions - the admission process which notifies students of their decision as they apply. Students are told of decision two to four weeks after applicant’s file is complete.

SAT Test - the major test given by the College Board to students who are applying to colleges and universities.

SAT Subject Tests - The individual subject tests given by the College Board to measure achievement in a particular subject. Twenty one-hour exams are offered, scored on a scale from 200-800. It is advisable to take the SAT II test(s) while studying or immediately upon completing study of that subject.

Scholarship - a part of financial aid package, which is awarded to a student based on a specific skill or achievement.

Secondary School Report (SSR) - the report required by some applications to college/university which asks the counselor or school administrator to fill out various statistics about the student and the school. This is often done electronically, although some colleges still use paper forms. Most SSRs require a counselor Letter of Recommendation.

Technical program or school – a program that allows the student to gain a particular skill. These programs are usually associate or certificate programs.

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) - a standardized test similar to the SAT for students who do not have English as their first language. Often required or recommended for students who have studied fewer than two years in the United States.

Transcript - an official document showing all your courses, grades and testing record.

Tuition - the fee for instruction at a college or university.

Waiting List - a decision that an applicant may receive from a private college or university. After May 1, the college or university will notify the applicant as to whether or not a space has opened up in the class.

Work-study - a part of the financial aid package which has a student working to gain funds for college expenses. These jobs are usually during the school year and on campus.

Yield - the number of students admitted to a college who in turn decide to attend that college.
Financial Aid Terms

- **FAFSA** - Free Application for Federal Student Aid (basic financial aid form)
- **PROFILE** - A supplemental form required by some colleges
- **CSS** - College Scholarship Service - they bring you the PROFILE
- **FAA** - Financial Aid Administrator at a college
- **EFC** - Expected Family Contribution (what parents and student can pay toward college for the year according to one's FAFSA)
- **Gift Aid** - Financial aid you do not have to pay back - grants or scholarships
- **Self Help Aid** - Money you have to pay back or earn - loans and jobs
- **Federal Pell Grant** - The primary federal grant program (formerly just Pell Grant)
- **Federal Perkins Loan** - Low interest federal loan program (need based) offered through colleges
- **Federal Stafford Loan** - Federal program available in both subsidized (need based) and unsubsidized (not need based) programs. Low interest; the interest is paid while the student is in school. These loans are obtained from a variety of lenders ranging from banks to the colleges themselves.
- **Federal Plus Loan** - Loan program for parents - not need based - apply to commercial lender
- **Federal Work Study** - Need based work program administered by the college
- **GET** – Guaranteed Education Tuition. Families can buy tomorrow’s college tuition today.
Useful Guidance Websites

WEBSITES CHANGE AND IT IS DIFFICULT TO KEEP UP WITH THE EVOLVING ADDRESSES AND INFORMATION. INCLUSION IN THIS LIST DOES NOT INDICATE EAGLE HARBOR HIGH SCHOOL ENDORSEMENT.

Exploring College/Vocational Options

www.wsac.wa.gov – Washington Student Achievement Council website
www.petersons.com - * Provides Vocational and Technical school information as well as 4-yr and graduate college search.
www.collegeboard.org - *College Board’s Homepage – Contains college search engine, testing information and financial aid calculator.
www.collegeview.com - *College View online college search, electronic applications, financial aid information and more.
www.princetonreview.com - *Info on getting into college, finding a school, and access to college ranked by category.
www.embark.com - College Search
www.usnews.com/sections/education - *U.S. News College Info
www.ncaa.org - *NCAA requirements for Division I & II
www.eligibilitycenter.org - *NCAA eligibility website
www.collegeapps.about.com - latest information in college admissions
www.rwm.org/rwm - list of accredited vocational schools by state and/or program
www.nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/ - helps navigate a college that may fit your needs
www.mycollegeoptions.org - helps navigate a college that may fit your needs
www.youniversitytv.com – college video tours, college tips, scholarship information and more.

Exploring Financial Aid

www.studentaid.ed.gov - *Provides help with the FAFSA
www.fafsa.ed.gov - The official government financial aid website
www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov - Start here to learn about FAFSA and use their calculator
www.finaid.org
www.fastweb.com
www.collegeanswer.com
www.salliemae.com - *Includes interactive calculators to help estimate eligibility and loan payments.
www.simpletuition.com
www.ecmc.org – Managing student loans
www.cappex.org
Exploring Scholarship Opportunities

www.thewashboard.org – Washington State Scholarship Search
www.StudentScholarshipSearch.com A free scholarship search directory – no registration required
www.FinAid.com
www.meritaid.com
www.FastWeb.com
www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov
www.mycollegeoptions.org – receive college suggestions based on your profile find scholarships available
www.gocollege.com - * Scholarship and college searches.
www.usa.gov – scholarships available

Test/Essay Preparation

www.review.com * Princeton Review site
www.kaplan.com * Kaplan site
www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays
www.collegeboard.org
www.actstudent.org/
www.number2.com * Free SAT and ACT test prep on the Internet
www.cliffnotes.com

Comprehensive Guidance Website

www.wois.org Washington Occupational Information System provides interest inventories, occupational forecasts, college/training programs search in Washington practice tests for SAT, ACT, GED.
www.nacacnet.org/PublicationsResources/steps/Articles/Pages/CollegeEssay.aspx
collegeapps.about.com/od/essays/a/essay-tips.htm