



# The Senior Guide

Class of 2024

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## Counseling Department

Bremen Senior High School, 150290 (CEEB Code)

511 West Grant Street

Bremen, IN 46506

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” - Eleanor Roosevelt

## Overview

The Counseling Department is very aware of the many decisions you must make this year and how stressful it can be. We have compiled this booklet to help answer the many questions you might have about Employment, Military, College Admissions, Financial Aid and Scholarships. In addition, we would also like to invite you to make an appointment with your counselor to discuss the material in this booklet or any concerns you may have about your senior year and beyond. We hope the information included is helpful.

GOOD LUCK AND ENJOY YOUR SENIOR YEAR!

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## Senior Conferences

Beginning in August, the school counselors will be meeting individually with each senior to help them with what they need to be doing for their future. We will also meet again in January. Students can stop by or email us any time they have questions or need assistance.

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## Dual Credit and AP Exam Information

ACP Classes offer college credits through IUSB. In order to receive those college credits, students need to check their email regularly and pay close attention to the following deadlines:

August - create an IU IT Account if new to ACP and register for Term 1 only ACP classes

January - register for term 2 and 3 classes

Your college of choice will need an official transcript from IUSB for ACP classes and Ivy Tech for Agricultural classes. You must request a transcript from each college at the end of the year to have your credits transferred.

IUSB transcript request: <https://students.iusb.edu/registrar/transcript-requests.html>

IvyTech transcript request: <https://www.ivytech.edu/registrar/3449.html>

AP Exams will take place the first 2 weeks in May. Bremen High School will cover the cost of the exams that the state does not pay for. Please use your AP classroom and Khan Academy to prepare for the exams. Getting a 3, 4, or 5 can translate into college credits.

## Graduation

Graduation will be on Friday, May 24, 2024 at 7:00 PM. Seniors will need to bring in a baby picture after Christmas break for the Graduation Slideshow.

Jostens will be here on October 2, 2023 during Bonus to pass out information about ordering caps/gowns, announcements, etc.. They will return October 16 to collect orders during lunch.

All Seniors must have a picture taken by Lifetouch to be in the yearbook. They will be here on October 23 and 24 for those who did not get it taken this summer.

## Graduation Requirements

In the state of Indiana students have 4 diploma designation choices. The following chart shows a comparison of the requirements for each diploma type.

SUBJECT AREA	CREDITS REQUIRED FOR EACH DESIGNATION			
As of 8/17/21	General (40 Credits)	CORE 40 (47 Credits)	CORE 40 w/Technical Honors (47 Credits)	CORE 40 w/Academic Honors (50 Credits)
<b>ENGLISH</b>  8 credits	English 9 A & B English 10 A & B English 11 A & B English 12 A & B	English 9 A & B English 10 A & B English 11 A & B English 12 A & B	English 9 A & B English 10 A & B English 11 A & B English 12 A & B	English 9 A & B English 10 A & B English 11 A & B English 12 A & B
<b>MATH</b>  6 credits  (8 credits for Academic Honors)  (4 credits for General Diploma)	Algebra I A & B  Geometry A & B <b>OR</b> Algebra II A & B	Algebra I A & B  Geometry A & B  Algebra II A & B	Algebra I A & B  Geometry A & B  Algebra II A & B	Algebra I A & B  Geometry A & B  Algebra II A & B  2 additional math credits
<b>SCIENCE</b>  6 credits  (4 credits for General Diploma)	Biology I A & B  2 CORE 40 science credits	Biology I A & B  Chemistry <b>OR</b> Physics <b>OR</b> ICP  2 CORE 40 science credits	Biology I A & B  Chemistry <b>OR</b> Physics <b>OR</b> ICP  2 CORE 40 science credits	Biology I A & B  Chemistry <b>OR</b> Physics <b>OR</b> ICP  2 CORE 40 science credits
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>  6 credits  (4 credits for General Diploma)	US History A & B  Government  1 additional social studies credit	World History and Civilization A & B  US History A & B  Government  Economics	World History and Civilization A & B  US History A & B  Government  Economics	World History and Civilization A & B  US History A & B  Government  Economics

<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>	PE I & II	PE I & II	PE I & II	PE I & II
<b>HEALTH</b>	Health	Health	Health	Health
<b>DIRECTED ELECTIVES</b>	Prep for College & Careers  Personal Finance  1 credit Fine Arts	Prep for College & Careers  Personal Finance  2 credit Fine Arts	Prep for College & Careers  Personal Finance  2 credit Fine Arts	Prep for College & Careers  Personal Finance  2 credit Fine Arts  6 credits in Foreign Language
<b>PATHWAY COURSES</b>	5 credits in college and career exploration courses	2 credits from business, industrial tech, ag, or FACS	6 credits in courses in a state approved pathway	2 credits from business, industrial tech, ag, or FACS
<b>ELECTIVES</b>	Various courses to complete the required credits to graduate	Various courses to complete the required credits to graduate	Various courses to complete the required credits to graduate	Various courses to complete the required credits to graduate
<b>OTHER REQUIREMENTS</b>  (Class of 2023 & beyond have to complete the Graduation Pathway)	Pass appropriate state assessments <b>OR</b> be a Graduation Pathway completer	Pass appropriate state assessments <b>OR</b> be a Graduation Pathway completer	Pass appropriate state assessments <b>OR</b> be a Graduation Pathway completer  C- or better in required courses and 3.0 GPA  Complete one option A-D	Pass appropriate state assessments <b>OR</b> be a Graduation Pathway completer  C- or better in required courses and 3.0 GPA  Complete one option A-F

The Academic and Technical Honors Diplomas have Additional Requirements beyond the required courses. Both require students to have an overall Grade Point Average of 3.0 or higher and students cannot receive below a C- in any course counting toward the diploma requirements. The final requirement allows students to choose an option from the lists below.

**CORE 40 with Academic Honors Options A-F**

Complete **ONE** of the following:

- A. Earn 4 credits in 2 or more AP courses and take corresponding AP exams
- B. Earn 6 verifiable transcribed college credits
- C. Earn two of the following:
  - 1. A minimum of 3 verifiable transcribed college credits from the approved dual credit list
  - 2. 2 credits in AP courses and corresponding AP exams
  - 3. 2 credits in IB standard level courses and corresponding IB exams
- D. The SAT test with a composite score of 1250 or higher with a minimum score of 560 on the math and a 590 on the evidence based reading and writing section.
- E. Earn an ACT composite score of 26 or higher and complete the written sections
- F. Earn 4 credits in IB courses and take corresponding IB exams

**CORE 40 with Technical Honors Options A-D**

Earn a Pathway designated industry-based certification/credential **OR** 6 transcribed Pathway dual credits from the approved list.

**AND**

Complete **ONE** of the following:

- A. Any one of the options (A-F) of the Core 40 with Academic Honors
- B. Earn the following scores or higher on WorkKeys; Reading for Information – Level 6, Applied Mathematics – Level 6, and Locating Information – Level 5.
- C. Earn the following minimum score (s) on Accuplacer: Writing 80, Reading 90, Math 75
- D. Earn the following minimum score (s) on Compass: Algebra 66, Writing 70, Reading 80.

## Graduation Pathways

### **Post-Secondary Readiness Requirement (Class of 2023 & Beyond)**

To demonstrate postsecondary-ready competencies a student must fulfill at least ONE of the following:

- Honors diploma: Fulfill all requirements of either the Academic or Technical Honors diploma; OR
- ACT: Earn the college-ready benchmark scores (English 18 or Reading 22/ Math 22 or Science 23); OR SAT: Earn the college-ready benchmarks scores (EBRW 480/ Math 530); OR
- ASVAB: Earn at least a minimum Armed Forces Qualification Test score to qualify for placement into a branch of the US military (Score of 31);OR
- State- and Industry-recognized Credential or Certification; OR State-, Federal-, or Industry-recognized Apprenticeship; OR
- Career-Technical Education Concentrator: Class of 2023 & 2024: Earn a C average or higher in two (2) courses in a career sequence//Class of 2025 & beyond: Take a principles course and 2 concentrator courses in a career sequence with a C average or higher; OR
- AP/Dual Credit courses: Earn a C average or higher in at least three (3) courses.

### **Employability Skills Requirement (Class of 2023 & Beyond)**

To learn and demonstrate employability skills, a student must fulfill ONE of the following:

- Completion of a project-based learning experience: Examples include completion of a course capstone, completion of a research project, completion of the AP Capstone Assessment; OR



- Completion of a service-based learning experience: Examples include participation in a meaningful volunteer or civic engagement experience, engagement in a school-based activity, such as a co-curricular or extracurricular activity or sport; OR
- Completion of a work-based learning experience: Examples include completion of a course capstone, completion of an internship, obtaining the Governor's Work Ethic Certificate, employment outside of the school day

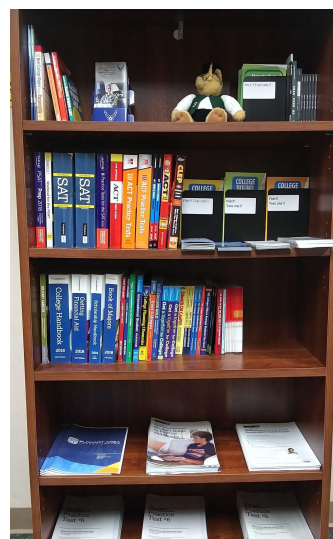
## Counseling Office Resources

The counseling office has many free information pamphlets available on a variety of topics from career options and college to mental health and academic success.

We also have a variety of books that can be checked out. We have SAT and ACT Prep, Financial Aid help, Choosing a College Major, etc.

The counseling department also has a website that contains current information and resources for all four years of high school. You can find us at

<https://bremenlionsguidance.weebly.com/>



## College Campus Visits

Campus visits are very important in helping you decide which school is right for you. You would not buy a car without first seeing it and taking it for a test drive. College is a big financial investment, and you do not want to waste money on something you do not like.

To schedule a visit you can either call the admissions office or sign up on the college website. Below is a link containing the contact information for all of the campuses in Indiana.

<https://learnmoreindiana.org/college/choosing-a-college/indiana-colleges/>

Visit the Counseling website for a sample checklist to make the most out of your visit.

## College Application Information

The college application is the first time a college is introduced to students, so it is important to follow these guidelines:

1. Read all instructions carefully and fill out the application completely.
2. Be honest and take the time to include anything that will set you apart. Colleges get thousands of applications each year and only have a few hundred spots to fill.
3. Have your college essay proofread by an English teacher.
4. If you are on free or reduced lunches, see your counselor for information on how to waive the application fees.
5. The following article from US News is a worthwhile read:

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/2018-09-12/6-tips-from-college-admissions-pros-on-standing-out>

College Go/College Application Week this year is September 26th to September 30th. This is a time to apply to various colleges for free. Some waive their fees for the week and some for the month. See the complete list at the following link:

<https://learnmoreindiana.org/resource-library/college-go-campaign/>

IUSB will be in the counseling office on September 27th and January 17th from 8 until 3 for an Onsite Admissions day. They waive the application fee and give you an admission decision that day. You can also receive various scholarships. Sign up with Mrs. Atkins.

### College Application Types

You need to know the difference between the different types of applications. There are several benefits and drawbacks to each type. Make sure you understand what you are signing up for. The following chart will help you.

<https://www.collegecovered.com/resource/9965/>

### Common App and The Coalition

How does The Common App work? Colleges request a large amount of information from applicants, and they simplify the process by collecting much of that information all in one place. This prevents students from repeating the details of their background, education, activities, and testing over and over again, for every school on their list. It also enables students to stay on top of deadlines and manage school-specific tasks – without leaving the system.

<http://www.commonapp.org>

**Indiana Schools that accept Common App:****Anderson University (IN)**

Anderson, IN

**Ball State University**

Muncie, IN

**Butler University**

Indianapolis, IN

**Calumet College of St. Joseph**

Whiting, IN

**DePauw University**

Greencastle, IN

**Earlham College**

Richmond, IN

**Franklin College**

Franklin, IN

**Goshen College**

Goshen, IN

**Grace College**

Winona Lake, IN

**Hanover College**

Hanover, IN

**Holy Cross College**

Notre Dame, IN

**Huntington University**

Huntington, IN

**Indiana State University**

Terre Haute, IN

**Indiana Tech**

Fort Wayne, IN

**Indiana University Bloomington**

Bloomington, IN

**Indiana University Northwest**

Gary, IN

**Indiana University Indianapolis**

Indianapolis, IN

**Manchester University**

North Manchester, IN

**Marian University - Indiana**

Indianapolis, IN

**Purdue University**

West Lafayette, IN

**Purdue University Fort Wayne**

Fort Wayne, IN

**Rose-Hulman Institute of  
Technology**

Terre Haute, IN

**Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame,  
Indiana**

Notre Dame, IN

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College

Saint Mary of the Woods, IN

Taylor University

Upland, IN

Trine University

Angola, IN

University of Evansville

Evansville, IN

University of Indianapolis

Indianapolis, IN

University of Indianapolis

Indianapolis, IN

University of Notre Dame

Notre Dame, IN

University of Saint Francis

Fort Wayne, IN

University of Southern Indiana

Evansville, IN

Valparaiso University

Valparaiso, IN

Vincennes University

Vincennes, IN

Wabash College

Crawfordsville, IN

The Coalition is a diverse group of more than 150 distinguished colleges and universities that is committed to making college a reality for all high school students through our set of free online college planning tools that helps students learn about, prepare for, and apply to college.

<https://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/>

**Indiana Schools that accept The Coalition:**DePauw University

Greencastle, IN

Hanover College

Hanover, IN

Indiana University Bloomington

Bloomington, IN

Rose-Hulman Institute of  
Technology

Terre Haute, IN

University of Notre Dame

Notre Dame, IN

## Applying to Vocational/Trade School

The application process for trade schools is the same as other colleges and universities. See above for information.

## Apprenticeships

Apprenticeship is an industry-driven, high-quality career pathway where employers can develop and prepare their future workforce, and individuals can obtain paid work experience, classroom instruction, and a portable, nationally-recognized credential.



### PAID JOB

Earn a competitive wage from day one



### EDUCATION

Gain knowledge from on-the-job learning and job-related classroom training



### CREDENTIALS

Earn a portable credential within your industry

One place that offers apprenticeships is IvyTech. The Apprenticeship Technology programs are a working partnership between Ivy Tech Community College and individual Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committees (JATC) that are approved by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Office of Apprenticeship. This joining together of higher education and the technical training expertise of the JATC provides the apprentice with an opportunity to enjoy the educational strengths of both the College and JATC. Upon completion of the general education and technical courses, they will then be awarded an USDOL, Office of Apprenticeship certificate and an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree from Ivy Tech.

You can also use the following website to search for apprenticeships by location.

<https://www.apprenticeship.gov/apprenticeship-job-finder>

## Employment

It is never too early to start applying for employment after high school. You must go through many of the same processes as applying to college.

1. You must fill out an application and it is the first impression you give to an employer. It must be neat, accurate, and honest.
2. You must set yourself apart from other applicants by what you place on your application.
3. Christos in Plymouth and various places in South Bend regularly have job fairs.

## Letters of Recommendation/References

Colleges often ask for two or three recommendation letters from people who know you well. These letters should be written by someone who can describe your skills, accomplishments and personality.

Colleges value recommendations because they:

- Reveal things about you that grades and test scores can't
- Provide personal opinions of your character
- Show who is willing to speak on your behalf

Letters of recommendation work for you when they present you in the best possible light, showcasing your skills and abilities.

Make sure to give your references at least one month before your earliest deadline to complete and send your letters. The earlier you ask, the better. Many teachers like to write recommendations during the summer. If you apply under early decision or early action plans, you'll definitely need to ask for recommendations by the start of your senior year or before.

Remember that some teachers will be writing whole stacks of letters, which takes time. Your teachers will do a better job on your letter if they don't have to rush.

It's your job to find people to write letters of recommendation for you. Follow these steps to start the process:

- Read each of your college applications carefully. Schools often ask for letters of recommendation from an academic teacher — sometimes in a specific subject — or a school counselor or both.
- Ask a counselor, teachers and your family who they think would make good references.
- Choose one of your teachers from junior year or a current teacher who has known you for a while. Colleges want a current perspective on you, so a teacher from several years ago isn't the best choice.
- Consider asking a teacher who also knows you outside the classroom. For example, a teacher who directed you in a play or advised your debate club can make a great reference.
- Consider other adults — such as an employer, a coach or an adviser from an activity outside of school — who have a good understanding of you and your strengths.
- Perhaps most important, pick someone who will be enthusiastic about writing the letter for you.
- If you're unsure about asking someone in particular, politely ask if he or she feels comfortable recommending you. That's a good way to avoid weak letters.

Even if they know you well, it's a good idea to take some time to speak with your recommender. Make it easy for them to give positive, detailed information about your achievements and your potential by refreshing their memory.

- Talk to them about your class participation.
- Remind them of specific work or projects you're proud of.
- Tell them what you learned in class.
- Mention any challenges you overcame.
- Give them the information they need to provide specific examples of your work.
- If you need a recommendation letter from a counselor or other school official, follow these guidelines:
- Make an appointment ahead of time.
- Talk about your accomplishments, hobbies and plans for college and the future.
- If you need to discuss part of your transcript — low grades during your sophomore year, for example — do so. Explain why you had difficulty and discuss how you've changed and improved since then.

Whether approaching teachers, a counselor or another reference, you may want to provide them with a resume that briefly outlines your activities, both in and outside the classroom, and your goals.

The following advice is easy to follow and can really pay off:

- Waive your right to view recommendation letters on your application forms. Admission officers will trust them more if you haven't seen them.
- Make sure your references know the deadlines for each college.
- Follow up with your references a week or so before recommendations are due to make sure your letters have been sent.
- Once you've decided which college to attend, write thank-you notes. Tell your references where you're going and let them know how much you appreciate their support.

## SAT/ACT

Many colleges and universities have gone test optional over the last few years but scholarships such as the Lilly and the athletic organizations NCAA and NAIA have not. It is important to take one or both of these tests at least once and utilize the free score sending service when you sign up. Colleges and scholarships will want original reports from CollegeBoard or ACT, not scores on the bottom of your transcript.

All test scores will be placed on your transcript and will remain there. We have had students ask to remove those scores, but it is Bremen High School's policy that they are to remain on the transcript.

## Transcript Requests and Parchment

Transcripts are now requested through a program called Parchment and it is free. Here are the guidelines to ordering transcripts for college, scholarships, and places of employment. If you have an email address for where a transcript is to be sent, you can use Parchment to send your official transcript from Bremen High School.

1. Got to [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com)
2. Sign in or create an account if you do not have one. (DO NOT USE YOUR SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS)
3. Once you have entered your verification code and you are on the personal information screen, click the word dashboard at the top.
4. Click the + sign in the middle of the screen to select your school.
5. Type in "Bremen High School", click search, and then click add.
6. Fill out the enrollment information.
7. Click whether you waive or do not waive your right to access your information.
8. Make sure the authorization box remains checked and click "Consent and Request"
9. Your account is created.
10. Click order in the middle of the screen.
11. You will see 2 destination options. Select the one you want. Either search for and select the school or, continue if ordering for yourself.



12. Continue filling in the fields to place your order.
13. On the Provide Consent page, you or a parent authorizes Parchment to release your transcript from BHS. You can sign with your mouse or finger.

## Financial Aid and the FAFSA

CHANGES TO THE FAFSA ARE HERE for the 2024-2025 award year. The FAFSA will not be available until sometime in December 2023. See the following link for details:

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/dear-colleague-letters/2023-08-04/fafsa-simplification-act-changes-implementation-2024-25>

Financial Aid is...

- Money used to help pay college expenses
- Grants, work-study, student loans, scholarships
- Almost every student is eligible for some type of financial aid
- Students must apply every year they will need aid for educational expenses

The FAFSA is every students' first step in applying for financial aid. By completing the FAFSA, you'll be applying for most types of federal and state financial aid. Families should take note of the FAFSA start date and complete this form shortly after October 1. Always use **FAFSA.gov** to file and never pay to file the FAFSA.

The first step is for one parent and the student to get a FAFSA ID. The FSA ID allows you to sign your FAFSA electronically. It also can be used to sign student loan paperwork and access financial aid information. Parents without SSNs will not be able to get an FSA ID. They'll have to print a signature page and mail it to Federal Student Aid (FSA) to complete the application. This option is presented at the end of the FAFSA. Visit **fsaid.ed.gov** to create your ID.

Once you create your ID you are ready to file your FAFSA. Here are some tips and tidbits to help you.

- Make sure you choose the 2024-2025 FAFSA.
- You must create a "Save Key" in case you do not complete the FAFSA all at once.
- Your name and date of birth must match what is shown on your Social Security Card or your FAFSA will be rejected.
- List your marital status as of the day you submit the FAFSA.
- Dependent students must provide parental information.
- Independent students are not required to provide parental information.
- A Legal Parent is the biological or adoptive parent or a person the state has determined to be a parent. A legal parent is NOT a foster parent, relative or legal guardian.

- If your parents are legally separated or divorced, list the parent you lived with the most during the last 12 months. If you lived with both parents equally; list the parent who provided the most financial support in the last 12 months. If your divorced parent is remarried, list parent and step-parent, and if parents are unmarried, but living together list information for both parents.
- Using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool simplifies the FAFSA process for students now and when they begin college.
- Review answers
- Make changes on the Summary page before submitting your FAFSA
- Click 'View or Print Your FAFSA Information' to review all your answers for accuracy before the FAFSA is submitted.
- Student and parent will enter their FSA ID information to electronically sign their FAFSA application.
- Don't forget to hit 'Submit My FAFSA Now' when you're done.
- After you hit 'Submit My FAFSA Now' you'll receive a Confirmation Page.
- You will see an estimate of your eligibility for the Pell Grant and Federal Student Loans.
- You will also see an estimate of your Expected Family Contribution, or EFC.
- Please keep in mind this is an estimate. Financial Aid offices make the final determination and notification of eligibility.

**Someone from InvestEd will be at Bremen on:**

- **Sunday, Nov 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Financial Aid presentation – starting at 2:30pm**
- **Monday, Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – FAFSA Completion workshop – from 5-7pm**
- **Tuesday, Mar 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – FAFSA Completion workshop – from 5-7pm**

**Bring the following with you in January and/or March for hands on help completing the FAFSA:**

To complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form, you will need

- your Social Security number or
- your Alien Registration number (if you aren't a U.S. citizen);
- your federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned;

Note: You may be able to transfer your federal tax return information into your FAFSA form using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.

- bank statements and records of investments (if applicable);
- records of untaxed income (if applicable); and
- an account username and password (FSA ID) so you can electronically sign the FAFSA form.

If you're a dependent student, then you'll also need most of the above information for your parent(s).

## Big FAFSA® changes are here

Different doesn't mean bad: we've got your back so you don't miss a beat.

Completing and submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) just got easier, but you will want to know about changes too so you're prepared!

### What do you need?

If you're a dependent student, you'll need this information for you and your parents.

- ✓ You and your parents will need an FSA (Federal Student Aid) ID to access the FAFSA® and sign the form electronically. The FSA ID must be obtained at **studentaid.gov** before you start the FAFSA®, and we recommend applying 3-5 days before you plan on starting the FAFSA®.
- ✓ Your Social Security number
- ✓ Your parents' Social Security numbers
- ✓ **What do you no longer need?** Student and parent tax documents. All of this information will be automatically accessed from the IRS through the FUTURE Act Direct Data Exchange (FADDX).



Keep in mind that filing the FAFSA® is free—you should never be asked to pay to complete the form.



If your financial aid status has changed, you must complete the FAFSA® with the information required, and then follow up with your school's financial aid office for further advice.



To be eligible for federal financial aid, you must file the FAFSA® for each year you'll be in school.

\*Source: FAFSA application submission time frames and required tax information are projected based on information provided at <https://studentaid.gov>

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Don't miss out on financial aid.  
Get more information at  
[salliemae.com/gofafsa](https://salliemae.com/gofafsa)

### Submission time frames

Academic year  
**2024 – 2025**

Submit your FAFSA® beginning  
**December 2023**

Academic year  
**2025 – 2026**

Submit your FAFSA® beginning  
**October 1, 2024**

Academic year  
**2026 – 2027**

Submit your FAFSA® beginning  
**October 1, 2025**



## 21st Century Scholarships

### What steps must I, as an eligible 21st Century Scholar, take to use my Scholarship?

- Complete all 12 Scholar Success Program requirements and track them in ScholarTrack by June 30, 2021.
- Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by April 15 of your senior year of high school.
- Graduate from high school with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Earn a Core 40 Diploma.
- Maintain Indiana residency, as determined by the permanent residence of your parent or legal guardian.
- Apply to and be admitted to an eligible Indiana college, university or proprietary school as a high school senior.
- Continue to maintain the 21st Century Scholars Pledge.
- Respond to any requests for additional information from the 21st Century Scholars program, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education or your college by stated deadlines.

## Searching for and Applying for Scholarships

- Usually begins around November
- We list all that come through BHS in the *Counselor Corner* emailed each Thursday to students and parents.
- Most applications are on-line now
- Fill them out completely! Keep track of usernames and passwords
- Check out websites!
- MEET DEADLINES / WATCH MAILING DATES!

Check out our website for a list of scholarship search sites.

## Bremen Dollars for Scholars

This is where most of our local scholarships are found and applied for. Please make sure to utilize this program. There is at least one scholarship for almost everyone.

Students need to complete their entire profile.

You MUST click the “Apply” button next to each scholarship you are matched to in order to be eligible to receive that scholarship.

Be sure to check the “My Scholarships” and “My Opportunities” sections often as scholarships open and close all the time.

## Senior Checklist

### AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

Review career plans and make sure your college choices offer that degree. Good resource is [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

Continue attending and signing up for official campus tours offered by your college choice.

Plan on taking/retaking the SAT/ACT to raise your score. Check test dates and deadlines.

Search for scholarships on sites like [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) or [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

Meet with your counselor if you are still unsure about where you want to apply or what you want to study.

Begin asking teachers, counselors, employers, pastors, coaches, or administrators for letters of recommendation. Give them a copy of your academic resume.

Take advantage of free college applications during "College GO! Week"

Request your transcript be sent to the colleges you have applied to, using Parchment.

Continue to meet with your counselor to answer questions and go over your transcript to make sure you meet all graduation requirements.

### OCTOBER

File your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon after Oct. 1 as possible. In addition to determining your eligibility for federal funds, many colleges and states use the form when distributing grants, so don't delay. [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Continue working on college applications, pay attention to deadlines.

Finalize your college essay. Many schools will require that you submit at least one essay with your application.



Continue searching for scholarships online.

Collect those recommendation letters.

Continue meeting with the counselor if you have questions.

### NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Continue applying for scholarships.

Finish all college applications and be mindful of deadlines. Have a parent, teacher, counselor, or other adult review the application before it is submitted.

Take the SAT/ACT if you registered and Make sure testing companies have sent your scores directly to the colleges to which you are applying.

Every college will require a copy of your transcript from your high school. Use Parchment.

If needed, register for the January SAT. It is the last one colleges will be able to consider for a senior.

Parents save your end of the year payroll stub if it shows the earnings for the year. Some schools may use it as a review for financial aid eligibility.

### JANUARY through APRIL

Complete the FAFSA application for financial aid before April 15. Submit online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Complete your Dollars for Scholars profile and start applying for local scholarships.

Attend a College Goal Sunday event in February if you need additional help with the FAFSA. Visit [www.collegoal.org](http://www.collegoal.org) for a list of locations.

If you submitted the FAFSA, you will receive information about how to access your SAR (Student Aid Report) via email within 5-7 days. You can also check the status of the FAFSA at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) or by calling the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243.

Make your final college decision by the deadline of May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Notify other schools that you will not be attending.

Watch for important deadlines at your college for housing, financial aid, etc.

## MAY

May 1 is the deadline for acceptance or rejection of admission to the college you chose.

If you are waitlisted, contact the college. Ask them how to strengthen your application.

Take AP exams if you are enrolled in AP classes.

REQUEST THAT THE COUNSELING OFFICE SEND YOUR FINAL TRANSCRIPTS TO THE COLLEGE OF YOUR CHOICE.

## ONGOING/SENIOR EVENTS

Email, call, or set up a meeting with your counselor to answer any questions or address any concerns you have. We are here for you!

Ms. King (A-L) tking@bps.k12.in.us 546-3511

Mrs. Witmer (M-Z) twitmer@bps.k12.in.us 546-3511

Clean up your cyber profile. Colleges can (and will) search for online information about you.

Check Counselor Corner (emailed every Thursday to you).

Meet with college reps when they visit BHS.

Order announcements, cap and gowns. Watch for email.

FINISH STRONG, Stay involved and keep your grades up. You don't want to lose what you have worked so hard for.

## **Appendix**

Check the following websites for helpful PDF pages for further information.

[https://www.collegecovered.com/resources-for-counselors/?acmpgn=E\\_EAW\\_CSEM\\_BM\\_X\\_BMHS5](https://www.collegecovered.com/resources-for-counselors/?acmpgn=E_EAW_CSEM_BM_X_BMHS5)

<https://bremenlionsguidance.weebly.com/>