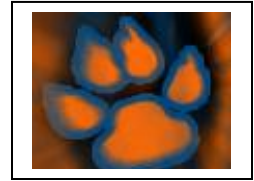


WATKINS MILL HIGH SCHOOL
COLLEGE/CAREER CENTER NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2009



IMPORTANT DATES

November 19

Financial Aid Night at WMHS

SPECIAL COLLEGE MEETING DATES

Hispanic College Fair	November 10 9:30 am – 11:30 am	Universities at Shady Grove, Rockville
Hispanic College Fair Information Session	November 9 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	The Universities at Shady Grove, Rockville
Congresswoman Edward’s College Fair	November 14 8:30 am – 2:30 pm	Bowie State University
Academic Fair	November 14 11 am – 2 pm	MC Germantown
Preparing for Success Seminar	November 21 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Montgomery College Rockville campus

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

A financial aid workshop will be held at Watkins Mill High School on Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. This workshop is very important for parents of 12th grade college-bound students. Melissa Gregory, a financial aid representative from Montgomery College, will present the workshop. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be discussed along with other pertinent financial aid information. The FAFSA form should be completed for all seniors planning to attend college or a career school regardless of family income. A student never knows when he/she might need a student loan, and the FAFSA needs to be on file. The form will be available to students in mid-December but cannot be filed until AFTER January 1, 2010 but before March 1, 2010. In addition, important information from the Maryland Higher Education commission about Maryland State financial aid will be presented. Parents attending will get answers to their financial aid questions.

Hispanic College Fair Information Session evening program (night before the Hispanic College Fair) for **Juniors, Seniors, and their parents**. The evening session will take place on Monday evening, **November 9** (Hispanic College Fair is 11/10), **7:00 - 8:30 PM**. This event will be held at the Universities of Maryland at Shady Grove, Building 2, Room 1022. Topics to be discussed: financial aid, how to apply for scholarships, filling out the FAFSA form, the importance of preparing for college, what courses should be taken in high school to be “college ready,” the college application process, what college admissions representatives look for in college applicants, understanding 2-year and 4-year college options, and more. Current Hispanic students will also be on hand to answer questions concerning their experiences transitioning from high school to college. The information will be presented in both English and Spanish. Registration is encouraged but not required. Please respond by Nov. 6 to Ms. Patty Maloney, Seneca Valley H.S., [Patricia A Maloney@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Patricia_A_Maloney@mcpsmd.org) or 301-353-8029.

WATKINS MILL COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCEDURES

The school counseling department met with all seniors on September 9 during English class. We discussed the college admissions process and invited them to make an appointment to see their counselor. The **Life After High School** packet that seniors are provided when they meet with their counselor to discuss post-secondary plans is **now online**. It includes: How to Process College Applications & Transcript Requests,

Sample Resume, Student Brag Sheet, Request for Teacher Recommendation Letter and websites for Exploring College/Career Goals. Go to: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/> Click on "Career Center." Choose: "College Admissions Process." Questions? Call or email your counselor or Mrs. Prochnow in the College/Career Center at 301-840-3957.

COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTS

SAT

TEST DATE	REGULAR REGISTRATION	LATE REGISTRATION
November 7, 2009	October 1, 2009	October 15, 2009
December 5, 2009	October 30, 2009	November 12, 2009
January 23, 2010	December 15, 2009	December 30, 2009
March 13, 2010	February 4, 2010	February 18, 2010
May 1, 2010	March 25, 2010	April 8, 2010
June 5, 2010	April 29, 2010	May 13, 2010

The SAT tests will be administered at WMHS on November 7, 2009, January 23, 2010, and March 13, 2010.

The regular registration fee is \$45.00 and includes four free score reports to colleges. The late registration fee is an additional \$23.00. Register on line at www.collegeboard.com. The Watkins Mill High School code is 210568.

ACT

TEST DATE	REGULAR REGISTRATION	LATE REGISTRATION
December 12, 2009	November 6, 2009	November 20, 2009
February 6, 2010	January 5, 2010	January 15, 2010
April 10, 2010	March 5, 2010	March 19, 2010
June 12, 2010	May 7, 2010	May 21, 2010

The ACT will be administered on October 24, 2009, April 10, 2010 and June 12, 2010 at WMHS.

The regular registration fee is \$32.00 (no writing) and \$47.00 for the ACT Plus Writing test (recommended). Four free score reports are included in the registration fee. The late registration fee is an additional \$21.00. Register on line at www.actstudent.org. The Watkins Mill High School Code is 210568.

FEE WAIVERS FOR SAT & ACT AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS MEETING

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES The College Board and the ACT both offer waivers for students for whom the payment of fees for the tests presents a serious barrier to college entrance. Eligibility is determined primarily by membership in a family whose annual income falls within predetermined guidelines or for those whose family receives public assistance / lives in subsidized housing. Students should see Mrs. Prochnow for the Fee Waiver Eligibility Form and registration instructions. Students using a fee waiver can register for the SAT or ACT online with the assigned fee waiver number.

NEW SAT SCORE REPORTING POLICY

Designed to relieve student stress and improve the test-day experience, this new SAT score-reporting feature provides students the opportunity to select which scores they send to colleges by test date for the

SAT and by individual test for SAT Subject Tests(TM). Students can send any or all scores to a college on a single report. It will not cost more to send one, multiple or all test scores, and students can easily sign up through the Web. For more information on the new score-reporting policy, please go to:

<http://click.collegeboard.com:8080/17207208.1264.0.785>

FREE online SAT/ACT Test Prep for MCPS Students

Students should take advantage of the FREE SAT and ACT online prep offered by MCPS. To access this resource, go to the WMHS webpage, <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/>, click on the “Free SAT/ACT Test Prep” icon and follow the directions. You may use these study guides at any time. Use the study guides to learn more about the tests, review specific skills, take practice quizzes, and track your progress. Students can pace themselves through the online course, but should set goals for themselves such as 1-2 hours per week for SAT/ACT Prep.

Another site for **FREE** SAT/ACT test prep, go to www.number2.com This site is run by a group of young university professors who are attempting to help students taking the SAT.

Yet another site for **FREE** SAT/ACT test prep, go to www.studentedge.com, click on “new user” and enter the access code “GJUPWJQR”. Complete the registration page to access the test prep section which contains approximately 30 hours of customized online instruction.

Another site for **FREE** SAT test prep, go to www.ineedapencil.com This site is run by a student from Harvard.

FREE ACT Practice: <http://www.actexampracticetests.com>

SAT Prep Courses

The Montgomery College Workforce Development & Continuing Education office offers an SAT Prep course in several of the MCPS high schools. Classes meet either after school, in the evening, or on Saturday mornings. This six-week course (seven weeks on Saturday) is designed to help students achieve a score that better reflects their knowledge and abilities by practicing with REAL SATs, teaching test format, proven test taking strategies, reviewing content, and raising test taking confidence.

The cost of the course is **\$275** for county residents and \$415 for non-county residents. You may register by mail, fax or in person. The SAT Prep registration form is available online at www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce and for customer service call 240-567-5188. Dates, times & locations are available online or pick up a brochure from your College & Career Center or the School Counseling Office. Flyers advertising courses to prepare students for the October, November, December and January SATs are direct mailed at the end of July to all incoming juniors and seniors. A second mailing, advertising classes to prepare for the spring administration of the SAT will occur in late December.

NOTE: Many MCPS high schools offer SAT Prep classes during the school day, for which a student receives a half credit for the semester. The curriculum for the in-school semester course is much more in depth and gives a teacher the opportunity to work more closely with individual students to focus on content, polish math skills, and develop critical reading & writing skills.

Special Note: Registration for the SAT exam is a *separate process*. SAT Prep courses *do not* include registration for the official SAT test. Although registration forms are available at high school College-Career Centers students are “**STRONGLY**” encouraged to register for the SAT test online @ **www.collegeboard.com**. The registration fee must be charged to a credit card and the admission ticket is printed immediately. *Students with limited family incomes should see their College/Career Information Coordinator regarding fee waiver eligibility.*

University of Maryland College Park Pre-College LIFT Program offers an SAT Prep course this fall for **\$250** on their campus. These are 6-week sessions and the registration form is in the College/ Career Center. Admission is on a first-come, first-served basis and sessions could be cancelled if the minimum number of registered students is not met. In the case of cancellation, refunds will be granted. Check out the offerings below:

Jan. 30 - March 6 (to prepare for the March 13, 2010 SAT)

April 24 - May 29 (to prepare for the June 5, 2010 SAT)

SAT OPTIONAL SCHOOLS

There is a list of colleges that do not use SAT or ACT scores for admitting substantial numbers of students into their bachelor degree programs. Some schools exempt students who meet a certain grade point average, while others use SAT or ACT scores only for placement purposes. Please check with the college's admissions office to learn more about each individual college's requirements. The National Center for Fair & Open Testing publishes a list at: <http://www.fairtest.org/>.

2009-10 TESTING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

To be eligible for accommodations on College Board tests like the PSAT or SAT, a student must:

- have a disability that necessitates testing accommodations;
- receive and use the requested accommodations for school-based tests due to the disability; and
- have documentation on file at school that supports the need for the requested accommodations and meets the College Board Guidelines for Documentation.

To be approved by the College Board for accommodations on College Board tests, students must submit a Student Eligibility Form to the College Board. Students are encouraged to complete the Student Eligibility Form well in advance of the first College Board test they plan to take.

- A Student Eligibility Form submitted through Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) must be mailed by MCPS and postmarked **no later than five weeks prior to the test date**.
- A Student Eligibility Form submitted by the student or parent directly to the College Board must be postmarked **no later than seven weeks prior to the test date**.

SAT Special Needs Testing Locations: 2009-10

MCPS provides a central testing location in Bethesda for most students pre-approved for accommodations on the SAT. The student using the Walter Johnson H.S. special testing center will receive notification from the College Board that they are approved for "School Testing" and report to WJHS on the day of the test. Students requiring the use of a reader and/or writer will test at his/her home school and will receive approval for "Site Testing." For additional information contact Sue Hartung at the Walter Johnson High School site (301-803-7140).

Information on requesting accommodations on College Board tests may be found on the [College Board website's Services for Students with Disabilities](#) page.

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COLLEGE VISITS

Throughout the fall, college admissions representatives make appointments to visit & recruit Watkins Mill juniors & seniors. These meetings are held in the College/Career Center. A list of colleges that have already made appointments can be accessed on Family Connection, www.connection.naviance.com/wmhs. All seniors should have received a password to enter the site, but if forgotten, please contact your counselor or Mrs. Prochnow, so it can be reset. Parents can enter the site as guests using the password "Watkins." Once in the site, click on "Visit Schedule" to see the current list (subject to change).

In order to attend a visit, students must first sign up on Family Connection, click on "Visit Schedule" and then "sign up" for each individual visit. The student must then pick up a pass from the College/Career Center on the morning of the visit for teacher approval. It is the student's responsibility to get this pass signed. **A student's attendance at any college visit is at the discretion of the teacher. Only students who have a signed pass may attend these visits.** If a student cannot attend but would like information about the college, see Mrs. Prochnow, in advance of the visit, so that she can reserve a packet for you to be picked up upon your return to the Center.

COLLEGE FAIRS

HISPANIC COLLEGE CAREER FAIR

The fair will be held on November 10, 2009 at the Universities at Shady Grove Conference Center in Rockville, MD. Over 50 institutions will be attending. We will leave school at 9:30 a.m. and return at approximately 11:30 a.m. There is no cost to attend. Any interested Hispanic-American senior is invited to attend. **All students must have a signed permission slip to attend.** Please see Mrs. Prochnow in the Career Center for forms. **Deadline to return signed forms is November 5.**

CONGRESSWOMAN EDWARDS' COLLEGE FAIR

The fair will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2009, from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at Bowie State University. College and career training institute representatives will be present. Learn about financial aid resources, and learn how to write winning applications, essays and resumes. For more info visit www.donnaedwards.house.gov or call 301-516-7601.

HBCU COLLEGE FAIR

The United Negro College Fund and MCPS will host a **College Night** featuring representatives from 75 Historically Black Colleges and Universities for both juniors and seniors. The event will take place at **Richard Montgomery High School on Wednesday, February 17 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID

There are 4 basic sources of financial aid:

Federal Financial Aid, State Aid, Institutional Aid from colleges and universities, and Private Sources such as civic organizations, churches, businesses, foundations and clubs.

There are 4 types of financial aid:

Grants which do not have to be paid back and are based on financial need; **scholarships** which are awarded to students based on special talents, skills or high academic achievement; **loans** which must be repaid usually with interest after you graduate; and **Work-study** which allows students to work and earn money to pay for school.

To apply for federal need-based aid as well as aid from the state of Maryland, students and parents should complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov as soon as possible after January 1, 2010 but before March 1, 2010.

Each senior should apply for need based financial aid. Many families mistakenly think they may not qualify for this type of aid based on their income and assets. However, if you choose not to apply for need-based financial aid, you may be closing the door on opportunities that could help you pay for college. There are other sources of financial assistance available regardless of your need, but most require that you first file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Seniors and their parents can (and should!) register for their FAFSA PIN (Personal Identification Number) now. If you fill out the form on-line you will need this information in order to "sign" it. To apply for this number please visit the U.S. Department of Education website: www.pin.ed.gov. This is an important first step in applying for federal student aid.

Word of caution: There are many sites which charge a fee for filling out the FAFSA form such as fafsa.com. The real site is www.fafsa.ed.gov. There is no charge for applying for federal student aid.

Get help in completing the FAFSA at www.studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/fafsa.jsp.

Get an idea of how much aid you might receive by going to the following site sponsored by USA Funds and the state of Maryland:

<http://www.mhec.state.md.us/financialAid/WebCACFiles0910/cac70C119start.html>

More than 35 schools have replaced loans with scholarships, grants and paid work-study positions in an effort to recruit high-achieving, economically disadvantaged students and to increase economic -- and, indirectly, racial -- diversity. Some of the schools that have replaced loans with grants include: Colby, Amherst, Vanderbilt, Harvard, Bowdoin, Wellesley, and Vassar. Go to <http://www.finaid.org/questions/noloansforlowincome.phtml> to see the complete list.

Seven Tuition-Free Colleges

College of the Ozarks (MO), Deep Springs College (CA), Berea College (KY), Olin College of Engineering (MA), Cooper Union (NY), Curtis Institute of Music (PA) and Alice Lloyd College (KY).

After federal and state government programs, the best source of financial aid is directly from colleges and universities. It is imperative that every student investigates exactly how financial aid is distributed at each school they are applying to.

Typically, a freshman application for admission starts the financial aid process and each applicant is automatically considered for merit-based money. Occasionally there are special scholarships, often quite large and therefore heavily competed for, that require separate applications. You do not want to find out that the "perfect scholarship" just passed you by because you missed the deadline.

Become a "student" of each school's website and check back often for updates.

INTERNET SOURCES FOR FINANCIAL AID

Word of caution: do not pay for scholarships or scholarship searches!

Consult the Watkins Mill College/Career Center webpage, http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/cc/career_center_new.shtm for links to financial aid information and scholarship databases. You can also search for further scholarship and financial aid information at the MCPS College/Career Center website at www.mcps.k12.md.us/curriculum/careercenter

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Many local and national scholarship opportunities are posted on the Watkins Mill College/Career Center webpage and links to the application form & eligibility criteria are included when offered. Go to <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/>, click on "Career Center." Some scholarship forms are not available online but can be found in the College/Career Center scholarship bin. See Mrs. Prochnow for assistance.

Minority Scholarship Information

A list of scholarships that target minority students has been posted on the Watkins Mill H.S. webpage for your convenience. To view the document online, go to:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/> and click on "Career Center." Look on the left side for "Scholarships for Minority Students."

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE SCHOLARS

full tuition & fees for two years!

Eligibility criteria:

- average cumulative unweighted GPA - 3.5 (although 3.0 or better are encouraged to apply)
- average SAT range is around 550 to 650 on any of the 3 sections. If a student has below 550 on any section, he/she needs to take the MC placement test also. The ACT score should be 24 or better. TOEFL score is considered but student must have an ACT or SAT score also. Applications for this very selective program are in the Career Center and require recommendations, essays & resume. Apply NOW! Twenty-five students are selected from Montgomery County for this two-year full tuition scholarship to MC, which includes a semester study abroad in Cambridge. Students who apply to MC Scholars and are not selected for the scholars program are placed in a pool for the MC Academic Specialty Scholarship (a one year full-tuition scholarship to attend MC which may be renewable for a second year). **Deadline is January 22, 2010.**

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE MACKLIN BUSINESS INSTITUTE

full tuition & fees for two years! This is not part of the MC scholars program—it is a separate scholars program. Originally, it was set up as a one-year program for the sophomore year in college for students interested in business. In 2008, the program changed to a two-year program. Students run the on-campus Starbucks which generates funds for scholarships for the Business Institute. Students participate in competitions. They also run an "Apprentice" program—great hands-on learning tool. Students in the program make many connections with local business partners & internships are readily available due to these local and national connections. Excellent connection with UMCP's Smith Business School, but Macklin Business Institute students are encouraged to apply for transfer to other schools besides UMCP. The Macklin Institute is recruiting a freshman class of 12-15 sharp students who wish to major in business. This is a full 2-year scholarship and students must commit to attending for their freshman & sophomore year. GPA should be above 3.0 and SAT 550 or higher in each section. Why not apply for this special program and check it out further--contact person is Steve Lang at 240-567-1707. Paper applications will be available in the Career Center in the next couple of weeks, or you can obtain more information online at www.macklin.org. **Application Deadline: January 22, 2010**

Marist College, located 75 miles north of New York City and ranked #15 in U.S. News and World Report's Best Colleges Guide, in conjunction with the National Science Foundation, is offering **12 full tuition scholarships** to students who want to **major in computer science or IT**. Qualified students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents, be Pell-Grant Eligible which typically means that a family of 4 can not earn more than \$40,000 and will have strong academics and test scores. To apply go to www.marist.edu/admission (on the application, check the box labeled "National Science Foundation Scholarship Program"). For more info, call the Admissions Office at 1-800-436-5483. Apply as early as possible but no later than 2/15/10.

UMCP Maryland Pathways Program is for students with very low family incomes to attend college without debt. Maryland residents who receive a "0" EFC calculation on the FAFSA (adjusted gross incomes of \$30,000 or less on their 1040A or 1040EZ income tax form) are eligible provided they are academically eligible for admission to University of Maryland. To be considered for the Maryland Pathways program or any other need-based aid, students must complete and submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) between January 1, 2010 and February 15, 2010. You must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident to qualify for financial aid and an additional application for the MD

Guaranteed Access Grant must be submitted, as well. For further information, see your counselor or the College & Career Center Coordinator.

COLLEGE OPEN HOUSES AND SPECIAL COLLEGE MEETING DATES

All colleges encourage prospective students to visit during their senior year of high school. These visits help in the decision-making process of which school to attend. Check with the schools you are considering and see when their campus visits are. Plan to visit if at all possible. See a dorm, talk with students, meet with the admissions representatives and learn what scholarships might be available for you.

COLLEGE INFORMATION SESSIONS (locally):

Montgomery College, Germantown, will host an academic fair on **Saturday, November 14, 2009** from 11 am until 2 pm in their High Technology Service Center. Students will have an opportunity to speak to faculty about some of the many degree programs offered at Montgomery College.

Finding the Right Fit

There is no such thing as a "one size fits all" college -- what is right for one student may not be right for another student with similar characteristics. Do not select a school based on reputation, but instead on how well it fits your requirements. Try looking beyond the reputation and amenities (beautiful campus and buildings) and focus on the students, professors, opportunities and course offerings. Choose colleges that support the way you learn best and where the institutional philosophy is in line with goals for your own education.

Why Consider Liberal Arts Colleges?

Liberal arts colleges are small and focus on the undergraduate. They provide students with a broad based knowledge in science, the humanities and art. Students are actively engaged in the learning process and critical & analytical thinking and writing skills are stressed. Classes in liberal arts colleges are taught by faculty (not graduate assistants) and professors interact with students in and out of the classroom. The experience of students at a liberal arts college differs from that of students at large public institutions. There is an emphasis on individualized instruction in a primarily residential environment. A 1998 study found that although only 3% of all American college graduates were educated at residential liberal arts colleges, they accounted for 19% of the U.S. presidents, 23% of Pulitzer Prize winners in drama, and 8% of Forbes magazine's listing of the wealthiest CEO's in America. Graduates from liberal arts colleges are twice as likely to earn a doctorate degree in science and are disproportionately represented among leaders in education, public service and business. (from <http://www.thecollegeadvisor.net/>, Nov. 06)

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Montgomery County Women's Bar Foundation is again sponsoring its "**Preparing For Success**" conference on Saturday, **November 21, at Montgomery College Rockville campus, 10:00-4:30**. This is a seminar aimed at high school **girls** who plan to attend college or enter the workplace. This is a **free** day of fun and learning. Lunch provided. Free transportation is provided from Watkins Mill H.S at 9 a.m. Register on-line at www.preparingforsuccess.org. Information is in the Career Center.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP GREATER WASHINGTON

Provides a six-month, interactive youth leadership development program for sophomore and junior leaders with diverse backgrounds. Interested students should apply online. Download your application at www.lgwdc.org. Students who are aspiring leaders who can inspire and enlighten are the best candidates. The goal of the organization is to foster community involvement and involve students in contributing to their community. Cost: \$200, but scholarships are available for students with financial need (no one is

turned away because they cannot pay the fee. For more information about this opportunity check the website or see Mrs. Prochnow in the College/Career Center. Application deadline: November 20, 2009.

Bucknell University will host a conference entitled Issues for the 21st Century on **November 6 and 7** for **bright and engaged high school seniors**. The topic of the conference is money and its impact on the world. To learn more, go to www.bucknell.edu/Issues21

NCAA INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY CLEARINGHOUSE ONLINE REGISTRATION

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse, located in Indianapolis, Indiana, handles registration to determine a student's initial eligibility to play sports at a Division I or Division II college or university. Seniors are encouraged to register with the Clearinghouse online at: www.eligibilitycenter.org. From the home page, the student should click on "Prospective Student-Athletes" which will link the student-athlete to the necessary information. To obtain a paper copy of "The Guide for the College Bound Student Athlete" go to: www.ncaapublications.com/Uploads/PDF/2009-10. You must then request that your SAT/ACT scores and transcripts be sent to the Clearinghouse directly by Collegeboard and ACT and your high school. There is a fee for registering with the Clearinghouse. Fee waivers are available to all students who have received an SAT or ACT fee waiver. The Clearinghouse customer service telephone number is 877-262-1492; representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

Students must provide one copy of the application to the Registrar in order for the paperwork to be processed.

COLLEGE CAMPUS VISITS --> GO AMTRAK! - *Buy one, Get one free!* JUNIORS & SENIORS start making travel plans. Tickets must be booked 7 days in advance. You may access the AMTRAK website for details on how to access this discount: www.campusvisit.com/amtrak. Fill out a short form; hit Submit for special Amtrak promotion code; then book your ticket online or by phone with Amtrak using this special code. Pick up your tickets and travel in comfort to college campuses.

WEBSITE TO HELP RECRUIT STUDENTS TO FEDERAL JOBS

The Office of Personnel Management and the U.S. Department of Education's website, www.studentjobs.gov, is designed specifically for high school and college students who are looking for temporary employment with the federal government.

Studentjobs.gov features include the following:

- Links to student-employment pages for more than 50 federal agencies
- Links to articles that profile student job opportunities
- A link to the federal government's worldwide employment information database of permanent federal jobs
- Email notification every 24 hours for newly posted vacancies that meet the student's personal job-search profile
- A resume builder and online application tool

INTERNSHIPS

Some internships with the **Dept. of Health and Human Services** are listed on www.hhs.gov/jobs/. These positions are competitive so start completing the paperwork early. Some student employment/intern programs exist within **NIH** (paid/unpaid): <http://www.nih.gov/>.

Federal government internships: www.studentjobs.gov

APPRENTICESHIPS

UNITED ASSOCIATION MECHANICAL TRADES SCHOOL VISITS WMHS

November 19, 8:15 a.m. and 9:15 a.m.

Have you ever considered an apprenticeship training program? A representative from United Association Mechanical Trades School will visit WMHS on **November 19 during 2nd period and 3rd period** in the College/Career Center. This five-year trades/apprenticeship program with campuses in Landover, MD and Springfield, VA offers programs to students who are interested in designing, building and maintaining all different types of piping systems, heating and air conditioning systems, and plumbing systems. Students follow a licensed/trained journey person to work each day and get paid for their time and then go to classes two nights a week for about three hours at a time. In the first year students make approximately \$35,000 and each year they are in the program beyond that, they make approximately \$5,000 more, all the while receiving excellent benefits. By the time a student graduates, they can expect to make between \$70,000-\$80,000 a year while working for one of our 170 union contractors. Not only can you make an excellent salary throughout your time in school, but since this is a **tuition-free program**, students will not graduate with any type of college loan debt. United Association Mechanical Trades School also offers the chance for students to apply their apprenticeship credits toward an associate's degree from either Montgomery College in Maryland or Washtenaw Community College in Michigan, which gives our students the best of both worlds -- a degree and a skilled trade. They are working on an articulation agreement with Northern Virginia Community College. Overall, the program provides students with not only the opportunity to start earning a great salary, but a great education, and ultimately a fascinating career. If you like working with your hands, like working on cars, or enjoy building different things, this is an excellent opportunity for you. Mr. Andy Woodall will meet with interested students in the Career Center during 2nd period and 3rd period on November 19. If you are interested in attending either of these presentations, please see Mrs. Prochnow in the College/Career Center. His contact information: Andy Woodall, (240)475-8391, andy_cfs@comcast.net, www.uamtradeschool.com

STUDENT JOBS

For part-time jobs, check out these sites: www.mycoolcareer.com, www.snagajob.com, <http://www.gazette.net/> or www.studentjobs.gov. On occasion, employers notify the Watkins Mill Career Center of openings. These jobs are posted on the Job Board in the Career Center. Students should be aware of federal rules that apply to working teenagers. For example, a 14 or 15 year old can only work up to three hours on a school day or 18 hours during a school week between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. There are 17 jobs that have been declared hazardous by the secretary of labor that are prohibited for teens under the age of 18. Visit <http://www.youthrules.dol.gov>.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO STUDENTS OF COLOR

The **Ron Brown Scholar Program** is a national program that awards scholarships to academically talented, highly motivated **African American** high school **seniors** who intend to pursue undergraduate degrees full-time. Applicants must be **U.S. citizens or permanent residents**. Applicants should demonstrate **academic achievement, exhibit leadership ability, participate in community service activities and demonstrate financial need**. There are **two deadlines**: November 1 and January 9. Students who apply by 11/1 will be considered for the Ron Brown Scholar Program *and* will have their application information forwarded to a select and limited number of additional scholarship providers. Students applying by January 9 will only be considered for the Ron Brown Scholar Program. Applications are available on line at www.ronbrown.org.

The **Gates Millennium Scholarship** is offered to outstanding students who have **significant financial need and leadership**. Students must be **African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American**. Candidates must be **citizen/legal permanent resident or national of the U.S.** Grade point average is **3.3** is required. Deadline is **January 11, 2010**. Materials may be obtained and submitted on-line at www.gmsp.org.

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholarship Program offers over 4,000 scholarships each year ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000. To be eligible, seniors must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents, have a minimum 3.0 cum GPA, plan to submit the FAFSA for financial aid and plan to enroll in college full-time in the fall of '09. Apply online at www.hsf.net. Apply online from Sept 1, 2009 to Feb. 18, 2010.

Louisiana State University is seeking minority students for its **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Research Scholars Program**. Students must be **seniors** with a **GPA or 3.5 or better and an SAT score of 1100 or higher (Critical Reading and Mathematics Score) or ACT or 24 or higher**. **LA-STEM scholarships are valued at up to \$11,500 per year for up to 4 years**. If interested, please see Mrs. Prochnow in the Career Center. Deadline is **November 15**.

BLACK COLLEGE COMMON APPLICATION

Students can apply to 34 Black Colleges with one application and one \$35.00 application fee. Once the application has been submitted, students are required to send their transcripts, test scores, recommendations and essay to all of the colleges they are interested in attending. Applications and information are available online at www.eduinonline.com. Member colleges include Norfolk State, Tuskegee, Clark Atlanta, Coppin State, Fisk, Morgan State, Virginia Union, Virginia State and many more.

Historically Black Colleges (and more!) On-Site Admissions Interviews

Here is a list of scheduled events as of 10/30/09. The list will be updated as additional information is received.

Morehouse University * (GA) and Dillard University (LA), **Nov. 4** @ Gaithersburg H.S.

Trinity University ** (DC), **Nov. 19** @ Wheaton H.S.

Hampton University (VA), **Nov. 23** @ Rockville H.S.

Morgan State University (MD), **Dec. 2** @ Walter Johnson H.S.

Univ of Maryland Eastern Shore, **Dec. 9** @ Springbrook H.S.

Norfolk State University (VA), **Dec. 17** @ Einstein H.S.

Bowie State University (MD), **Feb. 11** @ Kennedy H.S.

UNCF/NAACP/MCPS College Fair, **Feb. 17** @ Richard Montgomery H.S.

Coppin State University (MD), **Mar 10** @ Northwood H.S.

*all male school

** all female school; not an HBCU

Contact the WMHS School Counselor or Career Center for more information (301-840-3957). The high school hosting the event will want to know who to expect from WMHS. Typically, these evening events begin at 6:00 pm with a presentation from the admissions rep, followed by individual interviews (first come/first served). Students must be prepared with a completed application, transcript and test scores in hand and ready to interview with the admissions representative.

WMHS will host on-site admissions interviews for the University of Maryland Eastern Shore on December 8 beginning 5th period and for Virginia State University on November 12, beginning 6th period. These are daytime events. Please see Mrs. Prochnow for details and to register to attend. Application fees will be waived.

Information has been received on a **Historically Black College tour** –

Suggs/Lyons 2010 HBCU Fair, February 14 – 18 - \$500.00, sponsored by the Pan-Hellenic Council of Montgomery County. Visit Hampton, Morehouse, Spelman, Clark/Atlanta, North Carolina A&T and more. For info and reservations, contact: Darrell Marbury, 301-390-8402 or Brenda Wolff, 301-260-8760 or visit <http://nhpcmc.com/>.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

The Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel is for outstanding Jewish students who are 11th graders. The program's goal is to increase understanding and tolerance among the different Jewish denominations. The all expense paid program runs from July 5 through August 11, 2011 in Israel followed by a fall seminar in NYC. Fellowship awards are based on merit. Go to www.bronfman.org for more info and to apply.