

Senior Newsletter

December 2023

Counseling Center

Now that you've applied to college, here's what you need to know...

- ❖ The Counseling Center **automatically** sends out your mid-year report card to a college if you:
 - used the common application **or**
 - submitted a college's mid-year form to the Counseling Center

Not every college requests a mid-year report card. If the above does not apply to you (because you used the SUNY App, QuestBridge, etc.) and you want a mid-year report sent to a college, you must inform the Counseling Center.

- ❖ During the spring semester, colleges & universities will inform seniors if they have won scholarships. Seniors should **save all scholarship offers**, even if you are not going to attend the college that offered you a scholarship. All scholarships will be listed in the graduation program.
- ❖ At this time of year some students feel that success in the spring semester is not a priority because they have already been accepted into a college or university. Please read the fine print on acceptance letters. Acceptance is always contingent upon the successful completion of senior year. A college or university can rescind their offer of acceptance!!

FAFSA

From <https://studentaid.gov/>

Launch of the 2024–25 FAFSA® Form

There are major changes and improvements coming to the 2024–25 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form. As a result, the new form will be available in **December 2023**, not Oct. 1.

The launch date will apply only for the 2024–25 FAFSA form.

What can you do now?

Make sure to [create your StudentAid.gov account](#)—and remember your username and password so you can access and submit the 2024–25 FAFSA form when it's available.

For up to date information on FAFSA, visit <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

South Huntington Public Library

Event: FAFSA Walkthrough

Registration for this event will be open from December 29, 2023 @ 9:30am to January 9, 2024 @ 6:30pm.

Event Details:

A Youth Advancement Counselor from Project Excel will demonstrate how to fill out the digital form, line by line, for a stress free process. Each registration allows for 2 people per household to attend due to space constraints (so only register once!). Please set up your FSA ID at least 2 days before this program so you can complete your form. You will also need the following: W2 forms for 2022, tax returns from 2022, and social security numbers of student and parents. Registration begins December 29.

<p>SAT Exam Dec. 2, 2023 register by Nov. 2 late registration by Nov. 21</p> <p>Mar. 9, 2024 register by Feb. 23 late registration by Feb. 27</p> <p>www.collegeboard.org</p>	<p>ACT Exam Dec. 9, 2023 register by Nov. 3 late registration by Nov. 17</p> <p>Feb. 10, 2024 register by Jan. 5 late registration by Jan. 19</p> <p>www.act.org</p>
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Remember you are responsible to have your SAT & ACT scores sent directly to the college.

ASVAB

Walt Whitman High School is offering students the opportunity to take the **ASVAB** or **Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery**. What is the **ASVAB**? It is a multi-aptitude test battery that helps in identifying different skills and competencies. It consists of eight short individual tests covering General Science, Arithmetic Reasoning, Word and Mechanical Comprehension. If you are interested in taking the **ASVAB**, a parent/guardian must give permission. Please fill out the permission slip and return it to the Counseling Center by Friday, December 22, 2023.

DETAILS:

Test date and time - Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 9:00 am

Where - College and Career Center (room 116)

Permission Slip https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Z15DO0j5F630pOg0viGC_KSOzeuhB6A5/edit or stop by the Counseling Center to pick one up.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- **Long Island Aquarium:** The LIA in Riverhead offers internship opportunities for students interested in all aspects of marine science. Interns are required to commit to one full weekend day (either Saturday or Sunday) every weekend from December through May for a minimum of 120 hours. Students interested in applying for the program should have the following materials: a brief resume with contact information including any work, volunteer experience, and school activities, a brief letter of interest explaining why they would like to intern at LIA, and a letter of recommendation from a teacher, guidance counselor, school administrator, or an adult other than a parent, guardian, or relative.
- **Police Explorers:** The 2nd precinct of the SCPD is accepting applications for its Police Explorers program. This program is for students between the ages of 14-20 who have an interest in pursuing a career in law enforcement.

For more information, contact Tracy D'Alonzo, Internship Coordinator at trdalonzo@shufsd.org

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Jenkins Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education

Available to seniors who plan to prepare for a teaching career; plan to attend a SUNY college for a baccalaureate degree in education or plan to attend a two year community college before transferring to a SUNY baccalaureate degree program in education and have not accepted scholarship(s) exceeding the monetary value of \$16,000. Candidates whose applications pass the initial screening are invited to appear for personal interviews in March. Candidates must attend the entire interview process to continue eligibility.

Amount of Award: \$4,000 Paid in installments

Deadline for entry: December 15, 2023

<https://nyspta.org/home/pta-leaders/awards-and-recognitions/jenkins-scholarship/>

Equitable Excellence Scholarship

Available to high school seniors who have demonstrated ambition and self-drive to be a force for good in their school, local community, and work activities. Some of the accomplishments of winners in the past included setting up a food bank in their community; designing a curriculum to get kids interested in science; founding a nonprofit organization for young people that encourages community service and civic involvement. See website for application and further details.

Amount of award: \$5,000 - \$20,000 (Multiple)

Deadline for entry: December 18, 2023

<https://equitable.com/foundation/equitable-excellence-scholarship>

GE – Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program

This scholarship is for high school seniors who demonstrate the attributes of leadership, integrity, drive, and citizenship within their communities, schools, and workplaces.

Amount of Award: \$10,000 (Multiple)

Renewable Scholarship

Deadline for entry: January 4, 2024

<https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/ge-reagan/>

Long Island Mathematics Conference Board Scholarship

The Long Island Mathematics Conference Board will award up to four \$1,500 scholarships to deserving Long Island students of African American, Native American or Non-European Hispanic American descent. You must plan to major in mathematics at an accredited college or university of your choice.

Amount of Award: \$1,500 (4)

Application Deadline: January 12, 2024

<https://limathconference.org/scholarship/>

Prestige Photography Scholarship

Tell Prestige Photography what your senior photos mean to you for a chance to receive one of three scholarships toward your academic or career goals. See website for application and further details.

Amount of Award: \$1,000 (3)

Deadline for entry: January 31, 2024

<https://prestigeportraits.com/get-inspired/prestige-college-scholarships/>

New York State Public Housing Authority Directors Association Scholarship (NYSPHADA)

In order to encourage academic excellence and community responsibility among high school students, NYSPHADA has implemented a scholarship program for graduating seniors who are preparing to enter higher level learning (defined as a 2-4 year college, trade school or formal certification program). NYSPHADA will award (1) scholarship to a deserving youth currently residing in a NYSPHADA member agency.

Amount of award: \$2,500

Runner up - \$1,000

Deadline for entry: February 5, 2024

<https://nysphada.org/nysphada-scholarship/>

Gordon A. Rich Memorial Foundation

Available to seniors whose parents and/or legal guardians have, or had, a career in the financial services industry. Students must have a minimum 3.5 GPA, rank in the top 20% of their class, and demonstrate financial need. Taking the ACT and/or SAT and providing test scores is optional. Submitted scores will be taken into consideration during the selection process. See website for application and further details.

Amount of award: \$12,500/year-4 years

Deadline for entry: February 20, 2024

www.gordonrich.org

Ned Carter Memorial Scholarship

Eligible to high school seniors who will be attending a two or four year college upon graduation. Applicants must be related to a firefighter, be a firefighter or be an Explorer/Junior Member in a fire department or fire district that is currently a paid up member of the Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York. For further details visit the website.

Amount of award: \$1,500 (4)

Deadline for entry: March 2, 2024

www.afdsny.org/application.php

Island Federal Scholarship Program

Available to all 2024 graduating High School Seniors who are pursuing advanced, full time study after graduation and who hold an Island Federal Cash Back Checking Account & Debit Mastercard at the time the entry form is submitted. See website for application and further details.

Amount of award: \$ 10,000 (3)

\$ 2,500 (8)

Deadline for entry: April 19, 2024

<https://islandfcu.org/island-scholarship>

Adventureland's Helping Hands Foundation's Vivian & Tony Gentile Scholarship

Applicants must be attending a college or university on Long Island. Tony Gentile created annual community events at Adventureland like Safe Halloween and developed philanthropic relations with local non-profits like the Helen Keller School & Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Applicants should exemplify Tony's knack for business, passion for family and commitment to education, and dedication to the Long Island Community.

Amount of Award: \$5,000 (5)

Deadline for entry: July 5, 2024

Visit: www.helpinghandsli.org

Application:

<http://www.helpinghandsli.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/HHF-General-App-2024.pdf>

Adventureland's Helping Hands Foundation's Sachem Dental Group Scholarship

A current high school senior who will be enrolled as a full time student at a college/university on Long Island in the fall of 2024 and will be studying in the fields of biology, chemistry, pre-med/pre-dental, or another associated medical profession.

Amount of Award: \$5,000 (1)

Deadline for entry: July 5, 2024

Visit: www.helpinghandsli.org

Application:

<http://www.helpinghandsli.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/HHF-Sachem-Dental-Group-App-2024.pdf>

Adventureland's Helping Hands Foundation's Island Harvest Partnership

A current high school senior who will be enrolled as a full time student at a college/university on Long Island in the fall of 2024.

Amount of Award: \$5,000 (1)

Deadline for entry: July 5, 2024

Visit: www.helpinghandsli.org

Application:

<http://www.helpinghandsli.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/HHF-Island-Harvest-App-2024.pdf>

Adventureland's Helping Hands Foundation's JDRF Partnership

JDRF is the leading global organization harnessing the power of research, advocacy, and community engagement to advance life-changing breakthroughs for type 1 diabetes (T1D). This scholarship is for a current high school senior who will be enrolled as a full time student at a college/university in New York in the fall of 2024. See website and application and further details.

Amount of Award: \$5,000 (1)

Deadline for entry: July 5, 2024

Visit: www.helpinghandsli.org

Application:

<http://www.helpinghandsli.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/HHF-JDRF-App-2024.pdf>

Citizens

Citizens wants to honor the dedication of students and families pursuing higher learning! Fill out the registration form (link below) to be entered for a chance to win a Grand Prize of \$15,000 to use towards school expenses and one of the \$2,500 monthly prizes for use towards school expenses. Additionally, each quarter a student who meets the required criteria for the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Scholarship Prize will be eligible to win a \$2,500 quarterly prize for use towards school expenses.

Amount of Award: Varies

Deadline for entry: June 30, 2024

Application:

<https://www.citizensbank.com/student-loans/scholarship.aspx#enter-to-win>

Did you know you can use Naviance to find scholarships available to Whitman students? All you have to do is log into Naviance, click on **Colleges** and explore within the **Scholarships and Money** section. Whitman's database can be found within the **Scholarship Search** link. These include local and national scholarships. Be sure to read the requirements and instructions carefully!

<https://student.naviance.com/wwhs>