

Postsecondary Planning During Your Senior Year

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Finishing High School

Graduation Requirements Class of 2017

23 credits are needed to graduate from GHS:

- ✓ **English – 4 Credits**
- ✓ **Mathematics – 3 Credits**
- ✓ **Science – 3 Credits**
- ✓ **Social Studies – 3 Credits**
- ✓ **Health – 0.5 Credit**
- ✓ **Physical Education – 1.5 Credits**
- ✓ **Electives – 8 Credits**
- ✓ **Passed Civics Test**

Graduation Requirements Class of 2017

If you do not know how many credits you have or are unsure if you will have enough to graduate, make an appointment to see your school counselor!!!!



What Should I
Do After High
School?

Postsecondary Options

- ✓ Work
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Apprenticeship
- ✓ Special Programs
- ✓ Technical School
- ✓ 2- or 4-Year College/University

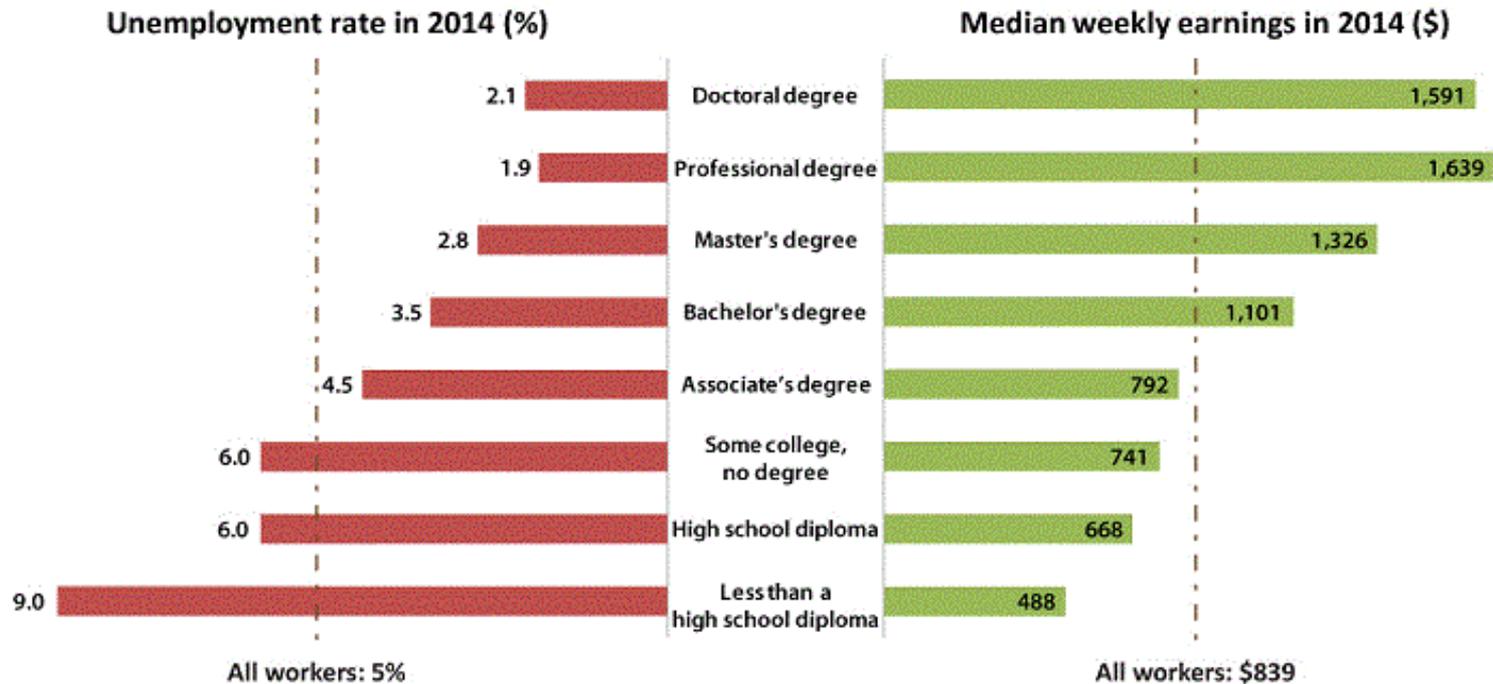


How Do I Get
There?

Work

- ✓ Consider some sort of postsecondary education or training

Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.
Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

Military

- ✓ More information about enlisting, ROTC programs, or the military colleges and academies can be found at:
 - ASVAB Information
 - <http://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/asvab/>
 - <http://todaysmilitary.com/>

You can also stop in the school counseling office and pick up information.

Military representatives also visit the school during lunch hours.

Apprenticeships

- ✓ Helpful information on apprenticeships in Wisconsin can be found on these sites:
 - <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/apprenticeship/faq/faq1.htm>
 - <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/publications/dws/apprenticeship/apprenticebooklet.pdf>
 - <http://www.matc.edu/student/offerings/apprenticeships/general.html>
 - <http://www.buildingadvantage.org>
- ✓ See your school counselor for any materials you may need for the application process, such as transcripts

Special Programs

- ✓ Examples: Aveda, Bryant & Stratton, Madison Media Institute, Paul Mitchell, UTI, VICI, Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, etc.
- ✓ Contact school/program you are interested in
- ✓ Visit/tour the school
- ✓ See your school counselor for any materials you may need for the application process, such as transcripts

Technical Schools

Admission Requirements:

- ✓ High School Diploma
- ✓ Placement Test
- ✓ Criminal Background Check (select programs)

Technical Schools

Application Procedure:

- Log onto the tech college's website and access their online application <http://www.witechcolleges.com/>
- If you need a paper copy you can request it from the institution
- Fill out your application
- See your counselor when you have finished and submitted the application
- Bring check for application fee (and background check if necessary) if you did not pay online
- Fill out a transcript request form
- Your counselor will mail your transcript and fee(s)

Four- or Two-Year Colleges/Universities

Not sure where to apply?

- ✓ Do some research online
 - ✓ <http://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/> - (UW-System)
 - ✓ <http://privatecollegezone.org/home.aspx> - (Wisconsin Private Colleges/Universities)
 - ✓ <http://wiscareers.wisc.edu>
 - ✓ <http://www.collegeview.com/collegesearch/index.jsp>
 - ✓ <http://www.collegedata.com/>
- ✓ Think about what you're looking for in a college
 - ✓ Public or private?
 - ✓ In-state or out-of-state?
 - ✓ Majors/programs offered
 - ✓ Size
 - ✓ Location (urban, rural, etc.)
 - ✓ Student population
- ✓ Look at the admission requirements and see if you're a good fit
- ✓ Visit the schools you're interested in and take campus tours
- ✓ **Check out our College Visit/ Research Questions Form**

Four- or Two-Year Colleges/Universities

Admission Requirements:

- ✓ High School Diploma
- ✓ Challenging high school curriculum-Rigor of the courses taken
 - ✓ Most schools will require the following (minimum requirements):
 - ✓ 4 Years of English, 3 years of Mathematics, 3 Years of Science, 3 Years of Social Studies, and additional electives (e.g., foreign language)
 - ✓ Competitive schools will have additional requirements
- ✓ Minimum ACT/SAT scores
 - ✓ ACT – <http://www.actstudent.org>
 - ✓ Upcoming test dates: October 22nd, December 10th
 - ✓ Check out if college/university requires ACT Plus Writing
 - ✓ www.actstudent.org/writing
 - ✓ SAT – <http://www.collegeboard.com>
- ✓ Minimum GPA/class rank
- ✓ Check out the Profile of Admitted Students in the UW Guide Book

Four- or Two-Year Colleges/Universities

Application Procedure:

- Log onto the college/university's website to access their online application
 UW-System application can be found at <https://apply.wisconsin.edu/>
 Common application can be found at <https://www.commonapp.org/CommonApp/default.aspx>
- Fill out the application online (preferred) or request a paper copy from the institution
- See your counselor when you have finished and submitted the application
- Bring in the counselor form for the application (if available)
- Bring in a check for the application fee if you did not pay online
- Bring in any letters of recommendation
 - ✓ It is best to send these letters along with the rest of the application materials rather than separately
- Fill out a transcript request form (Pink Form)
- Your counselor will attach your transcript
- Verify that your ACT scores have been sent to the school you are applying to
 - ✓ If not, your counselor will make a photocopy of your score report (if the school accepts unofficial copies) or will advise you that you need to contact ACT and pay to have your score sent
- The School Counseling Office will mail out all of your application materials

Four- or Two-Year Colleges/Universities

Please Note:

- ✓ The School Counseling Office will mail out all application materials that you initially give us or request from us (e.g., counselor forms, transcripts, ACT scores, letters of recommendation, etc.)
- ✓ If you forget to include any pieces of your application (e.g., letters of recommendation) and later need them sent, we will provide you with an addressed envelope, but you will be responsible for paying the postage



Application Timeline

- ▶ September/October application season
- ▶ Be applied somewhere by Thanksgiving
- ▶ Once accepted make sure you stay in contact with the school
- ▶ File for FAFSA in October (Info on later slides)
- ▶ Work on Scholarships throughout the year (very popular in fall and spring)
- ▶ Spring-Placement testing, and finalize housing and other school details



Reasons to Apply Early

- No-brainer: When students apply earlier, they typically know their admissions decisions earlier.
- Some campuses use the application for admission as part of their scholarship-awarding process. Apply for admission while there's still money left.
- Campuses offer scholarships to students who are admitted.
- On-campus housing spaces are typically offered to students in the order that they were admitted.
- Students who are admitted early are likely to receive more options for the campus's summer orientation/registration program.
- Students who know that they're admitted to their campus of choice can spread the word to family members and friends. You never know who will gift that first campus sweatshirt!
- And here's the seventh reason: When the applications are submitted before Thanksgiving, Uncle Paul won't have to turn the dinner conversation into a lecture about the virtues of applying, and Grandma is likely to give that lucky grandchild a third helping of pumpkin pie.



How Will I
Afford It?

Financial Aid

- ✓ Students can apply for financial aid by filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) starting October 1st of 2016 (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>)
- ✓ Types of financial aid:
 - Grants
 - Work Study
 - Loans
 - ✓ Perkins Loans
 - ✓ Stafford Loans
 - ✓ PLUS Loans
- ✓ It's important to apply as early as you can, as colleges/universities only have a certain amount of money to work with each year
- ✓ Other helpful websites:
 - ✓ <http://www.finaid.org>

New Financial Aid Info

Starting with the 2017–18 application cycle, the following changes will be put in place:

- ▶ **Students will be able to submit a FAFSA® earlier.** Students will be able to file a 2017–18 FAFSA as early as Oct. 1, 2016, rather than beginning on Jan. 1, 2017. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit a FAFSA as early as October 1 every year.
- ▶ **Students will use earlier income information.** Beginning with the 2017–18 FAFSA, students will be required to report income information from an earlier tax year. For example, on the 2017–18 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2015 income information, rather than their 2016 income information.



Financial Aid Recommended Filing Dates for New Freshmen Submitting the FAFSA for Fall 2017-UW Schools

Campus Priority Date:

UW Colleges February 1, 2017

UW-Eau Claire February 1, 2017

UW-Green Bay February 1, 2017

UW-La Crosse February 1, 2017

UW-Madison December 1, 2016

UW-Milwaukee February 1, 2017

UW-Oshkosh December 20, 2016

UW-Parkside February 1, 2017

UW-Platteville February 1, 2017

UW-River Falls Complete FAFSA in a timely manner

UW-Stevens Point March 15, 2017

UW-Stout March 15, 2017

UW-Superior December 15, 2016

UW-Whitewater January 1, 2017



Net-Price Calculator

- ▶ The Net Price Calculator is a tool that you can use to estimate your “net price” to attend a particular college or university. Net price is the difference between the “sticker” price (full cost) to attend a specific college, minus any grants and scholarships for which you may be eligible. Sticker price includes direct charges (tuition and fees, room and board) and indirect costs (books and supplies, transportation and personal expenses).



Examples of Net-Price Calculators

- ▶ Explore Net Price/Cost Calculator found on all college websites

Two examples:

- [Marquette](#)
- [Twin Cities](#)

Scholarships

Five best places to look for scholarships:

- ✓ Online

- ✓ <http://www.fastweb.com>

- ✓ <http://www.scholarships.com>

- ✓ http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp

- ✓ Beware of sites that charge a fee for the scholarship search process or that guarantee scholarships

- ✓ Germantown Community Scholarship Program

- ✓ <http://www.germantownscholarship.org/>

- ✓ Applications become available in early March of senior year

- ✓ Germantown High School Website

- ✓ http://www.germantownschools.org/schools/high/scholarship_info.cfm

- ✓ Check for specific scholarships at the schools where you are applying

- ✓ Check with Parents' /Guardians' Employers



College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

- ▶ CLEP is another way to earn college credit for content you already know
- ▶ Exams are conducted through the College Board (same people as AP)
- ▶ CLEP exams are different than AP exams
- ▶ Over 33 subject exams are offered (check with your college for which subjects they may offer/accept)
- ▶ 2,900 colleges, technical colleges and universities accept credit with CLEP
- ▶ Cost is \$80 per class
- ▶ CLEP exams can be taken before and/or after you begin college level coursework
- ▶ <https://clep.collegeboard.org/>

Announcements

- ✓ Listen to Announcements
 - ✓ Critical information will be communicated through announcements
 - ✓ College visits, military representatives, special program guests
 - ✓ Graduation information
 - ✓ Lots of other important information



Making Schedule Changes

- ▶ Students must ask for permission from the admissions office to make changes to their schedules
- ▶ If students send a final transcript different from the transcript that they sent when they initially applied, the college/University can rescind their admission



Questions?