



College Planning Guide

12th Grade

- ✓ Check grades and status towards meeting requirements.
- ✓ Certain courses can earn college credit...know what scores you need.
- ✓ Register for the fall SAT or ACT by September.
- ✓ Apply for admission to your future school by October or November.
- ✓ In January, fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for federal aid and the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) for state aid, including Bright Futures. Make sure you list the schools or colleges you applied to on the form.
- ✓ Wait for college admission decisions and financial aid award letters from the schools/colleges you applied to. Determine the college best meeting your personal academic goals and financial needs (financial aid packages vary from one school to another).
- ✓ Many schools have an early May decision deadline to accept or decline applicants.
- ✓ If your top university or college choices are not available, work with the guidance counselor to find colleges and universities with openings.
- ✓ When you make a decision, advise the other colleges you applied to. This frees up places and possible financial aid for other students.
- ✓ After acceptance, be aware there may still be things to do such as arranging for final transcripts to be sent, housing applications, and immunizations.
- ✓ Don't slack off! All senior year courses are considered and admission offers can be rescinded for poor performance.
- ✓ Complete last twenty (20) hours of community service.

College Planning and Guidance

School Identification Number

Horeb's School Identification Number is **100670**. This number has been assigned by the College Board and should be used on all applications, scholarships, and college entrance exams (SAT and ACT).

Department of Guidance and Counseling

The role of the Department of Guidance and Counseling is to assist the student's personal and academic needs. The counseling program is designed to provide direction toward the achievement of the student's future goals and objectives.

Personal Counseling and Support

- Personal Counseling
- Peer Relationships
- Social Skills
- Personal Conflicts

Academic Counseling

- Student Curriculum Advisement
- Schedule Advisement
- Tutoring Referrals

Career Counseling

- Career Awareness Surveys
- Interpretation of Surveys
- Junior College Packets
- College Visits
- College Videos
- College Application Process
- College Recommendations
- Scholarship Information
- Financial Aid Information

Preparing for College

When to apply? **Where** to apply? **How** to apply? **What** about scholarships and tuition costs? The questions are overwhelming, but the resources for addressing each question are available. There are numerous books and resource guides about college preparation.

Determine why you want to go to college. It is a good idea for the student to contact the colleges of choice two years prior to planning admissions.

To Do List

- ✓ Have a 5-year plan.
- ✓ Prepare to have official transcripts for college admission.
- ✓ Register and take PSAT, SAT, PLAN, and ACT tests.
- ✓ Take challenging courses, and most of all- keep your grades up!
- ✓ Visit colleges early.
- ✓ Know the college admissions process and requirements of each.
- ✓ Dual enroll in one or more classes during your senior year.
- ✓ Practice writing good essays.
- ✓ Investigate the various types of financial aid scholarships.
- ✓ Apply for financial aid early.
- ✓ Choose colleges that meet your social and academic requirements.
- ✓ Interview graduates who have attended your college of choice.
- ✓ Read and research- review www.ctcl.org and other sites.

A good college search begins with a self-assessment and ends with a greater self-awareness. The process of discovering who you are, your likes and dislikes, strengths and weaknesses, and your

goals and dreams are infinitely important. Avoid making a quick decision or following the easiest path. Keep all avenues and options open. Be flexible. Explore all possibilities. Know what you expect from a college, as well as why you want to go to a particular college. There are several books to help you in the selection process.

Campus Visit

Visit colleges to see what academic opportunities are available to you. Observe the “atmosphere” of the college. The more experience you have during a campus visit, the more likely it is that you will make an informed decision about a particular college.

Things to remember:

- ✓ Write or telephone in advance of your visit.
- ✓ Make arrangements for an interview with the admissions staff.
- ✓ Ask for a campus tour- try and sit-in on a few classes.
- ✓ Be on time, dress appropriately.
- ✓ Have a list of questions or concerns you may have.
- ✓ Read the catalog ahead of time- be prepared!
- ✓ Talk to attending students.
- ✓ Have lunch in the cafeteria and visit the dorms.
- ✓ Know the admissions process.
- ✓ Have an academic resume ready.

College Admissions Process

The College Admission Process is not the same for all colleges. All candidates, however, will go through an academic process. These are some of the basic admission steps:

All colleges require:

- ✓ Candidates to complete an application form.
- ✓ A copy of a student’s official high school transcript.
- ✓ An official high school diploma.

Most colleges require:

- ✓ Some form of entrance exam.
- ✓ ACT and/or SAT testing.
- ✓ Three or more recommendations.
- ✓ A personal statement or essay.

Some colleges require:

- ✓ Candidates to specify the academic degree they plan to pursue.
- ✓ Candidates to submit an academic resume.
- ✓ SAT II testing in math and science.

Academic Résumé

All colleges require an official transcript and diploma. In addition, students are sometimes asked to submit an “academic” résumé. It can be written or verbal. Colleges are looking for leadership qualities, innovation and self-motivation, an outstanding student profile, and strong references. An academic résumé is a snapshot or fact sheet about you. Know what you want to say about yourself. It is similar to a personal job application, presenting your unique qualifications to the college admissions board. Even if a college does not require an academic résumé, it has proven to be an excellent tool. A good academic résumé should include these elements:

- Heading- who you are, where you live, email, and phone number.
- Summary- describing a few personal attributes, experiences, expertise in an area, leadership qualities.
- Education- what schools you have attended or any dual enrollment courses taken.
- Expected graduation date.
- SAT, ACT scores.
- Extracurricular activities.
- Special courses.
- Gifts and talents.
- Awards, honors, and achievements.
- Work experience history.
- Volunteer or community service experience.
- Proven leadership roles.
- Interests
- Goals
- References

Sample of an Academic Résumé

BETHANY S. PETERS

3898 Flower Avenue
Binghamton, NY 13902
(607) 794-5432

EDUCATION

Union Endicott High School, Endicott, NY
Regents Diploma expected June 2002
GPA- 94.12%

LEADERSHIP

Union Endicott High School

Foreign Student Coordinator

- Initiated social functions to help acclimate foreign students to American culture

Friend to Friend Program

- Started successful membership program between high school students and fifth graders

NCSY (National Conference of Synagogue Youth)

National Vice President of Education

- Planned and followed through with educational programs for 10,000 participants

Regional Vice President of Junior NYSY

- Arranged events and weekend conventions for 125 members

EMPLOYMENT

Press & Sun-Bulletin, Columnist, Reporter, Binghamton, NY (Summer 2000)

- Wrote column in Binghamton, NY newspaper addressing concerns of teens
- Researched topics and wrote articles on teen interests including how to deal with grief

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Binghamton General Hospital, Binghamton, NY

- Contributed 500+ hours in pediatrics, orthopedics, respiratory, radiology, surgical, ER
- Hypothesized on future market situations.
- Gained overview of investment diversification by managing simulated portfolio.

Clayton Avenue Elementary School, Teachers Aid, Vestal, NY

- Assisted teacher by providing instruction to groups and one-on-one.

Worked in community agencies: Volunteers of America and Salvation Army soup kitchen

SKILLS

- Proficient in Hebrew and French
- Working knowledge of Russian and Spanish
- Computer Literate

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

The Bright Futures Program rewards the state's highest achieving and hardest working high school graduates. Through Bright Futures, 75-100% of tuition is paid for a qualified high school graduate who enters a Florida university, community college, or certified vocational/technical program.

There are two (2) scholarship types with different criteria for which Horeb Christian School students are eligible. The guidance counselor has specific information on the eligibility criteria, including which course must be taken to qualify.

Florida Academic Scholars

- 100% tuition
- 16 college prep credits
 - 4 English (3 with writing)
 - 4 Mathematics (Algebra I and above)
 - 3 Natural Sciences (2 with lab)
 - 3 Social Sciences
 - 2 Foreign Language (in same language)
- 3.5 weighted GPA
- 1270 SAT / 28 ACT
- 100 hours of community service

Florida Medallion Scholars

- 75% tuition
- 16 college prep credits
 - 4 English (3 with writing)
 - 4 Mathematics (Algebra I and above)
 - 3 Natural Sciences (2 with lab)
 - 3 Social Sciences
 - 2 Foreign Language (in same language)
- 3.0 weighted GPA
- 970 SAT/ 20 ACT
- 75 hours of community service

For additional information: www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org

Financial Aid

College is a huge financial investment for students and their families. Financial aid may be available to any student, regardless of the parent's financial status. It is important to investigate and understand the different types and sources of aid available, as early as the fall of the student's junior year. One of the most valuable web sites for information about scholarships and federal aid opportunities is www.studentaid.ed.gov.

Do your research, know what your options are, and apply early. **Do not wait** until your senior year. Most colleges offer a variety of financial options. Remember, that if a college admits you- they want you, and will be willing to work with you! 80% of financial aid comes from the federal programs and all of it is available through the college financial aid office. The Department of Education publishes a yearly Student Guide. This guide describes all of the federal financial aid programs. It also details when, where, and how to apply. You can download a free Student Guide Book and the FAFSA application at www.ed.gov.

To prepare to apply for federal student aid, be sure to get a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov. This will enable you to complete your financial aid application and access your information online. The student and one parent must obtain a PIN.

In early January of the senior year, with the completion of taxes, students should register with FAFSA (free application for federal student aid). The FAFSA application can be completed online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

College Scholarship Information Websites

Most student aid comes in the form of federal education loans and grants from colleges. However, scholarships, which do not have to be paid back receive a huge amount of attention from students and their families. If you decide to invest your time in a search for scholarships, it is important to have an organized system to find, apply for, and be awarded scholarship money. It is also best to start early. The following sites will help start your search:

www.fastweb.com

www.schoolsoup.com

www.finaid.org

The purpose of this course is to provide students with integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, language, and literature in preparation for college and career readiness.

English 4 / Honors

1001390 / 1001410

Credit: 1

This course provides integrated educational experiences in reading, writing, listening, speaking, language, and literature. *British Literature* discusses literature selections and cultural issues from eight literary periods in light of Scripture: Old English, Middle English, Tudor, Stuart, Neoclassical, Romantic, Victorian, and Modern. The literature collection traces English Christianity from its beginning to the present and studies Shakespeare's drama, *Macbeth*. The student will analyze different genres of literature through the use of novels, dramas, short stories, and poetry.

Supplemental English Text:

English Grammar and Writing

The textbook used is *Prentice Hall Writing Coach*. This is a digitally driven grammar and writing program that assists students in becoming independent writers.

Yearbook

1006340

Credit: 1

Students will be responsible for documenting all of the school events in the corresponding year. They must learn to be efficient, organized, creative, and consistent. This course presents students with an opportunity to develop skills including research, interviewing, reporting, writing, photography, layout design, computer graphics, advertising, and sales.

Algebra I / Honors

1200310 / 1200320

Credit: 1

This course presents algebra topics in a logical order with detailed examples to promote student comprehension. Numeric and algebraic expressions are simplified before solving and graphing linear equations, inequalities, and their systems. Polynomials, rational expressions, radicals, and solving rational and quadratic equations are also covered.

Geometry / Honors

1206310 / 1206320

Credit: 1

This course requires the students to prove theorems. Different colors and shadings are used to distinguish among postulates, definitions, theorems, and constructions. Exercises seek to develop problem-solving skills and reinforce the geometry concepts covered.

Algebra 2 / Honors

1200330 / 1200340

Credit: 1

This course provides a review of basic algebraic functions and extends the student's skills in graphing and solving equations. Students are introduced to exponential functions, logarithms, and trigonometry. The course also presents more advanced topics such as complex numbers, rational expressions and equations, conic sections, and probability and statistics.

Algebra & Trigonometry for College Readiness

Credit: 1

This course is designed to prepare the student for college-level mathematics. It meets the needs of those students who have completed Algebra 2 but require another year of mathematics to prepare for credit-bearing courses in college. It takes a traditional skill-building and problem-solving approach, which includes numerous, modern applications.

