

SENIOR GUIDANCE BULLETIN



South Christian High School

Class of 2019

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.
The Lord works out everything for His own ends.
Proverbs 16: 3 & 4*

Grand Rapids Community College Academic Programs

Applied Technology

- Electrical Controls Engineering Technology, A.A.A.S
- Electrical Controls/Mechatronics Certificate
- Electronics Engineering Technology Certificate
- Electronics Engineering Technology, A.A.A.S
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Technology, A.A.A.S.
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Technology Certificate
- Industrial Maintenance Certificate
- Industrial Maintenance Technology, A.A.A.S.

Automotive

- Automotive Servicing Certificate
- Automotive Technology, A.A.A.S.

Biological Sciences

Business

- Accounting, A.B.
- Business Administration, A.B.
- Entrepreneurship Certificate
- Interior Decorating and Design, A.A.A.S.
- Management and Supervision, A.B.
- Marketing Certificate
- Marketing, A.B.
- Office Administration, A.B.
- Pre-Business Administration, A.A. (Western Michigan University)
- Pre-Business, A.A. (Cornerstone University)
- Pre-Business, A.A. (General Transfer)

College Learning Studies

Computer Information Systems

- Computer Programming, A.A.A.S.
- Computer Support Specialist, A.A.A.S.
- Graphics/Web Development, A.A.A.S.
- Network Administration, A.A.A.S.
- Pre-Computer Information Systems, A.A. (General Transfer)
- Pre-Computer Science, A.S. (General Transfer)
- Pre-Information Security, A.A. (General Transfer)

Criminal Justice

- Addiction Studies Certificate
- Corrections, A.A.A.S.
- Juvenile Services, A.A.A.S.
- Law Enforcement, A.A.A.S.
- Police Academy Certificate

Culinary-SICE

- Baking and Pastry Arts Advanced Certificate
- Baking and Pastry Arts Certificate
- Culinary Arts Advanced Certificate
- Culinary Arts Certificate
- Culinary Arts, A.A.A.S.
- Hospitality Management Advanced Certificate
- Personal Chef Advanced Certificate
- Personal/Private Chef Business Certificate
- Restaurant Management, A.A.A.S.

Dental Auxiliaries

- Dental Assisting Certificate
- Dental Assisting, A.A.A.S.
- Dental Hygiene, A.A.A.S.

Education

- Child Development (MTA), A.A.A.S.
- Child Development, A.A.A.S.
- Infant and Toddler CDA Formal Training Hours Certificate
- Paraprofessional Education (MTA), A.A.A.S.
- Preschool CDA Formal Training Hours Certificate

English

Exercise Science

- Pre-Exercise Science, A.A. (Cornerstone University)
- Pre-Exercise Science, A.A. (Grand Valley State University-Clinical Exercise Science)
- Pre-Exercise Science, A.A. (Grand Valley State University-Health Fitness Instruction)

Job Training

- Automotive Technician, Certificate of Completion
- Computer Support Technician, Certificate of Completion
- Green Construction Remodeling, Certificate of Completion
- Introduction to Construction, Certificate of Completion
- Machinist/CNC Technician, Certificate of Completion
- Residential Construction, Certificate of Completion
- Welding/Fabrication Technician, Certificate of Completion

Language & Thought

- Pre-Journalism, A.A. (General Transfer)

Liberal Arts & Sciences

- Associate of Arts, A.A.
- Associate of Science, A.S.
- General Studies, A.G.S.

Manufacturing

- Apprenticeship Option, A.A.A.S.
- Industrial Technology Certificate
- Manufacturing Apprenticeship Certificate
- Plastics-Polymer Engineering Technology Certificate
- Plastics-Polymer Engineering Technology, A.A.A.S (Ferris State University-Manufacturing Engineering Technology)
- Plastics-Polymer Engineering Technology, A.A.A.S (Ferris State University-Plastics Engineering Technology)
- Plastics-Polymer Engineering Technology, A.A.A.S.
- Quality Science Certificate
- Quality Science, A.A.A.S.
- Technology Option, A.A.A.S.
- Tooling and Manufacturing Technology Certificate
- Tooling and Manufacturing Technology, A.A.A.S.
- Welding Certificate
- Welding Technology, A.A.A.S.

Mathematics

Mechanical & Architectural Design

- Architectural Technology, A.A.A.S (Ferris State University-Facility Management)
- Architectural Technology, A.A.A.S.
- Mechanical Design Certificate
- Mechanical Design, A.A.A.S.
- Pre-Master of Architecture, A.A. (Lawrence Technological Univ)

Music

- Associate of Music, A.M.
- Digital Audio Specialist Certificate
- Music Merchandising, A.M.
- Music, A.M. (Grand Valley State University)
- Music, A.M. (Western Michigan University)
- Recording Technology, A.M.

Nursing

- Nursing, A.D.N.
- Practical Nursing Certificate

Occupational Therapy Assistant

- Occupational Therapy Assistant, A.A.A.S.

Physical Sciences

- Chemical Technology, A.A.A.S.
- Pre-Chemistry, A.S. (General Transfer)
- Pre-General Science/Chiropractic, A.S. (Palmer College of Chiropractic)

Psychology

- Gerontology Certificate
- Pre-Psychology, A.A. (General Transfer)

Radiologic Technology

- Magnetic Resonance imaging (MRI)
- Radiologic Technology, A.A.A.S.

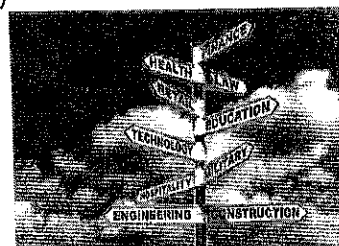
Social Sciences

Sustainability

Theater

Visual Arts

- Fine Arts, A.F.A.
- Photography, A.F.A.
- Pre-Art, A.A. (General Transfer)
- Pre-Photography, A.A. (General Transfer)



Choosing a college using the 5 P's

PEOPLE

1. student body make-up
 - a. how big?
 - b. Male/Female
 - c. Christian school/public school
 - d. Ethnic diversity
 - e. Retention rate

2. faculty make-up
 - a. percentage PhD/terminal degree
 - b. faith requirement
 - c. world view
 - d. accessibility



PLACE

1. urban/suburban
2. commuter/on campus
3. instate/out of state
4. distance from home
5. relationship with surrounding community
6. residence hall feel

PROGRAMS

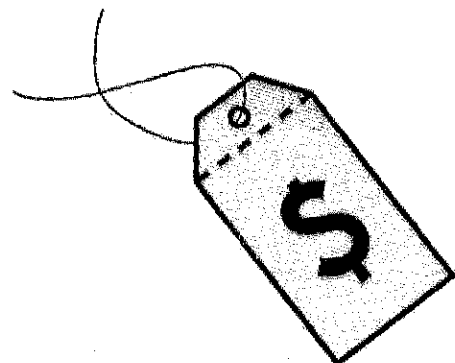
1. academic reputation
2. graduation rate
3. job placement rate
4. major/minors
5. off campus study
6. internships

PHILOSOPHY

1. predominant worldview

PRICE TAG

1. apply for financial aid as early as October of Senior year
2. get SAR soon after filling out FAFSA – Student Aid Report – summary sent to families that shows information they provided FAFSA
3. won't know true price until after December



How do you find your fit?

senior interview

- all seniors meet with counselors starting right away in the fall
- discuss plans for after graduation
- Mrs. Muller (A-H) and Mr. DeBlecourt (I-Z) will contact you about your appointment
- if you want to meet ASAP, make a note on the yellow sheet

job shadows

- GREAT way to explore careers that interest you
- research careers by going to www.careercruising.com
(username: southchristian; password: kentwood)
 - *detailed information on website
 - *interviews with people currently in the career
- Mrs. DeWeerd sets up job shadows
 - *Mrs. DeWeerd is in the ECO office Monday - Friday
 - *fill out purple request form
 - *Mrs. DeWeerd has contacts with many people in a wide variety of jobs
- set up own job shadow
 - *you can set up your own if you know someone willing
 - *let Mrs. DeWeerd know your plans (she needs some information before you are given permission to visit during school hours)

college exploration

- online resources
 - *www.careercruising.com – you've done Matchmaker Interest Inventory. You can re-take Matchmaker, check out their college search, or look at their Scholarship search.
 - *www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org
 - *www.christianconnector.com
 - *www.petersons.com
- The Guide – Christian Colleges & Universities – available in ECO office.

attend college fairs

- college fairs give you and your parents the opportunity to talk with college representatives one-on-one
- pick up college information
- attend specialized seminars (financial aid, college athletics, etc.)

local college fairs

- Christian College Fair at Cornerstone University
 - *Monday, October 1, 6:30-8:30 pm
- Holland Area College Night at Hope College
 - *Thursday, September 27, 6:00-7:30 pm
- College Fair at Aquinas College
 - *Tuesday, October 23, 12:00-2:00 pm and 6:30-8:00 pm

- **meet with college representatives**

Throughout the school year, but especially in the fall, representatives from colleges, trade and technical schools, and the armed services visit South to meet with interested students. They talk about their schools and answer questions. You must follow this procedure to attend a session:

1. **pay attention to announcements** of school representative visits in the announcements and check the senior hall bulletin board.
2. **sign up in the counseling office.** A pass will go on your locker a day or two before the rep visits.
3. **the day before** the representative visits, show your pass to the teacher whose class you will miss.

Come only to the sessions which interest you. Let the counselors know if there is a school you are interested in that is not scheduled (last year representatives from 40 different colleges and some branches of the military visited.)

College Representative Visits

(also check calendar posted in the senior hall on the bulletin board.)

Wednesday, September 12	University of Alabama	1:20 pm
Monday, September 17	Hope College	8:55 am
	Baker College	10:45 am
Tuesday, September 18	Cornerstone University	8:00 am
Wednesday, September 19	Davenport University	10:00 am
Thursday, September 20	Grace Christian University	9:45 am
Monday, September 24	DePaul University	8:30 am
	Ferris State University	10:00 am
Tuesday, September 25	Alma College	10:45 am
Wednesday, September 26	Kuyper College	11:20 am
Thursday, September 27	GR Community College	8:00 am
	**Holland Area College Night at DeVos fieldhouse at Hope College www.gotocollegefairs.com to sign up for a bar code to skip filling out cards.	
Monday, October 1	Point Loma Nazarene University	9:00 am
	Trinity Christian College	12:15 pm
	**Christian College Fair at Cornerstone University;	
	6:30 – 8:30 pm	
Thursday, October 4	Michigan Tech	8:00 am
Tuesday, October 9	Cedarville University	2:00 pm
Wednesday, October 17	Indiana Wesleyan University	12:10 pm
Tuesday, October 23	**College Fair at Aquinas College; 12:00-2:00 pm and 6:30 – 8:00 pm	
Tuesday, October 30	Spring Arbor University	10:00 am

visit, visit, visit

There is no better way to “try on” a college than by visiting when school is in session.

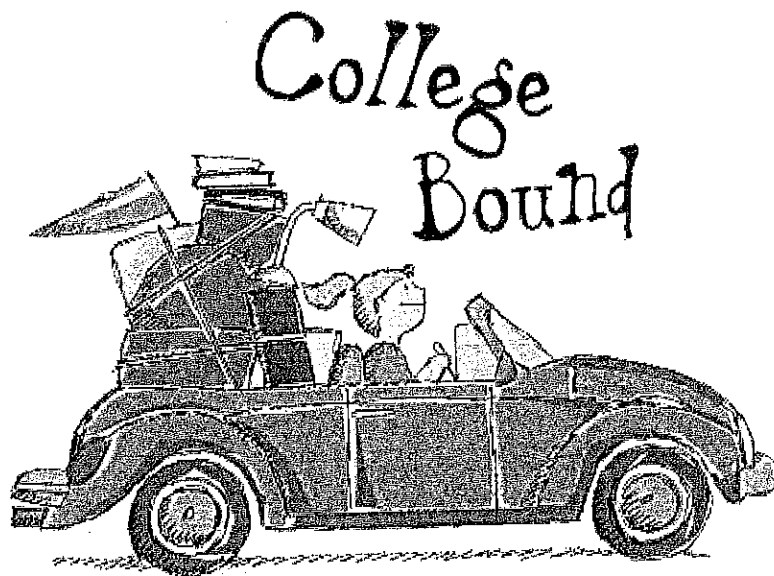
College visits are counted as excused absences. Colleges often have special visitation days or will make arrangements for your visit through their admissions office.

You can set up a college visit with a phone call to the Admissions Office or on the college website. It is recommended that a parent go with you. If you are considering living on the college's campus, you should include an overnight stay.

Make your college visit count! Plan ahead for what questions you'd like to ask. Use the tools in this handbook to help you plan your visit beforehand and process your visit after it is over.

Several days before your scheduled visit:

1. Pick up a green College Visit Permission Slip from Guidance or use the one in here or on the SCHS website.
2. Take slip home for parent signature
3. Get signatures from teachers whose classes you will miss
4. Get signature from your counselor
5. Turn in your slip to the main office **before your scheduled visit**



COLLEGE VISITS

- Pick up a College Visit Permission slip from Guidance (green)
- Obtain parent's signature
- Obtain signatures from teachers whose classes you will miss
- Obtain signature from your counselor
- Turn into the main office when completed

IMPORTANT!!!

COLLEGE VISIT PERMISSION SLIP

_____ (*Senior/Junior*) (circle correct choice) has my
Student's name

permission to go on a college visit to _____ College/University

on _____, _____ from _____ to _____
Day Date

Teacher's signatures are needed before the day of your college visit. Classes to be missed are indicated. **Students are responsible for all work missed.**

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____



*How are you
getting ready
for College?*

Parent's Signature

Counselor's Signature

COLLEGE VISITS

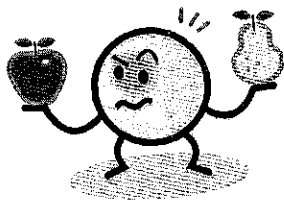
After you have narrowed down your list of potential colleges, it is time for a college visit. There is no better way to learn about a college and determine if it is a good match for you than to visit the campus when school is in session. Colleges often have special visitation days or will make arrangements for visits. Call them or set up your visit on their website.

Your Campus Visit Should Include:

- ✓ a meeting with an admissions counselor.
- ✓ a tour of the grounds and facilities.
- ✓ a tour of a dorm or two.
- ✓ a visit to the department/s in which you are interested. This may include sitting in on classes and/or talking to professors.
- ✓ a visit to a popular coffee shop or snack bar where you can meet students and ask questions.
- ✓ a meal in a college dining hall.
- ✓ a tour of the library.
- ✓ getting a copy of the student newspaper.
- ✓ a tour of the town in which the college is located or the nearest large town, if the college town is small.
- ✓ a stay overnight in the dorm, if possible, to get a real “feel” for the college atmosphere.
- ✓ a visit to a chapel service and/or a meeting of a Christian organization.

Some Questions You Might Want to Ask of Students and/or Admission People and Professors:

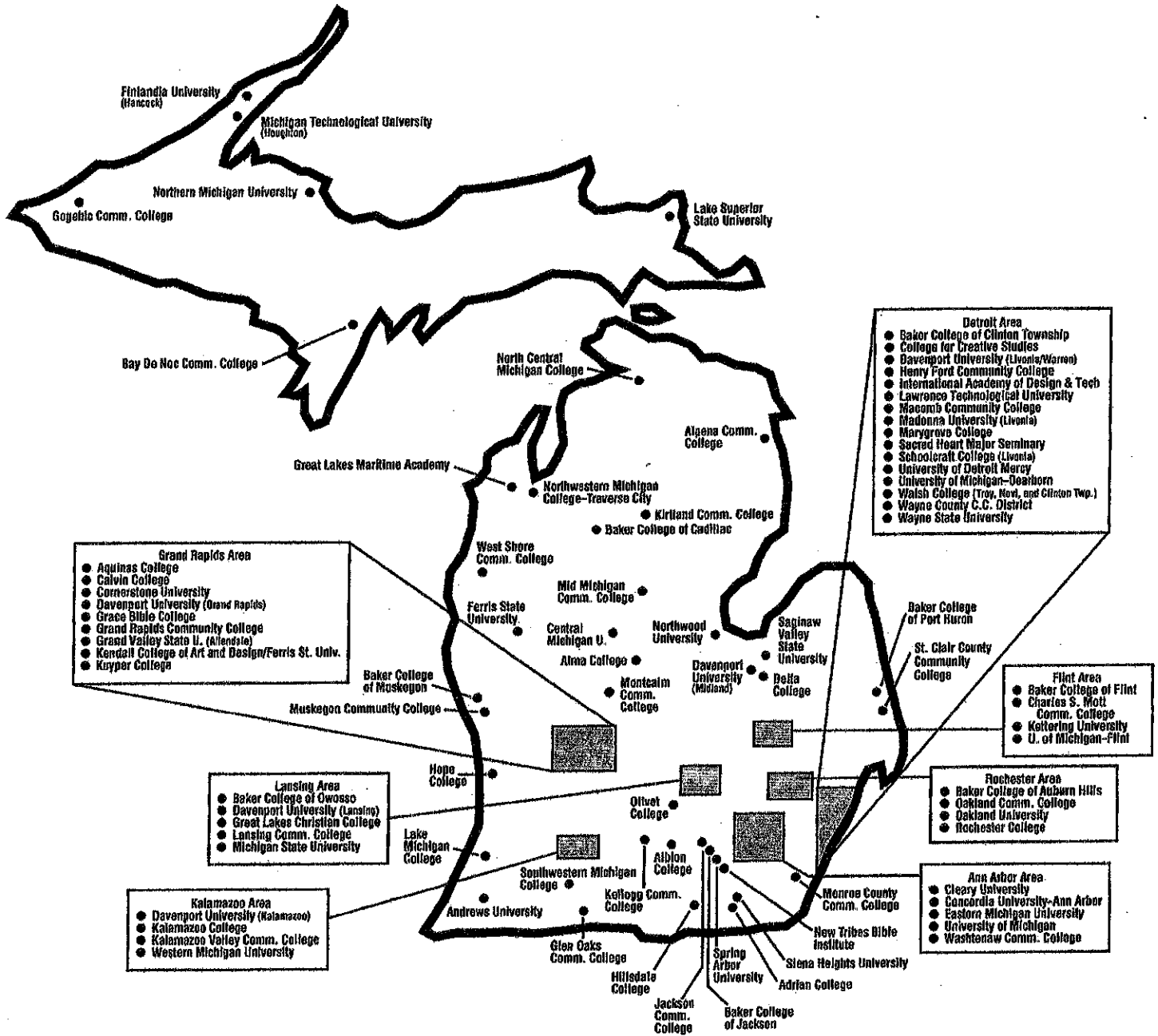
- ✓ What is the faculty-student ratio?
- ✓ What kind of contact do students have with professors outside of class?
- ✓ Who teaches class--a professor or a “TA” (teaching assistant)?
- ✓ What is the average class size for an introductory course?
- ✓ What percentage of faculty members have a Ph.D.?
- ✓ How is the academic calendar year set up?
- ✓ Do you have a career planning program and/or counseling facilities?
- ✓ What is the school’s overall placement rate? What is it in my intended major?
- ✓ What are the school’s basic costs (tuition, room, board, and fees)? What is the estimate for books and spending money?
- ✓ What kinds of financial aid programs are available? What forms should I fill out? By when? Are there any special scholarships offered by their school or its alumni?
- ✓ May I have a car on campus during my freshman year?
- ✓ What types of college housing are there? Can I live off campus?
- ✓ What kind of extra-curricular activities are available (includes intramurals)?
- ✓ What Christian organizations are on campus?
- ✓ What churches are nearby?
- ✓ What do you consider the school’s strongest program?
- ✓ What are my chances for success at this college?
- ✓ What is the student-body make-up (% in-state, % out of state, % male, % female)?
- ✓ Do students go home on weekends?
- ✓ What do students do on weekends?
- ✓ What opportunities are there for internships? Study abroad?
- ✓ What percentage of students stay from freshman to sophomore year? (This is called “retention rate”).



College Comparison Worksheet

COLLEGE NAME			
Location -distance from home			
Size -enrollment -physical size of campus			
Environment -type of school (2- or 4-year) -school setting (urban/rural) -location & size of nearest city -co-ed, male, female -religious affiliation			
Admission Requirements -deadline -tests required -average test scores, GPA rank -notification			
Academics -your major offered -special requirements -accreditation -student-faculty ratio -typical class size			
College Expenses -tuition, room and board -estimated total budget -application fee, deposits			
Financial Aid -deadline -required forms -percentage receiving aid -scholarships			
Housing -residence hall requirement -food plan			
Facilities -academic -recreational -other			
Activities -clubs, organizations -Greek life -athletics, intramurals -other			
Campus Visits -when -special opportunities			

Michigan Colleges and Universities

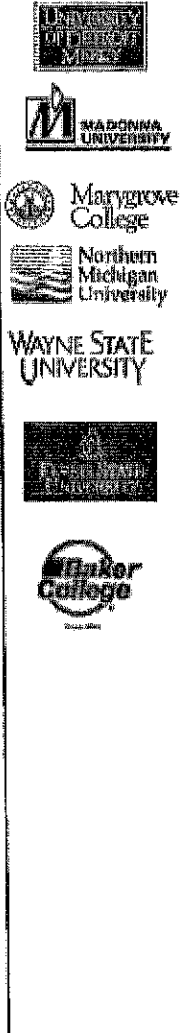
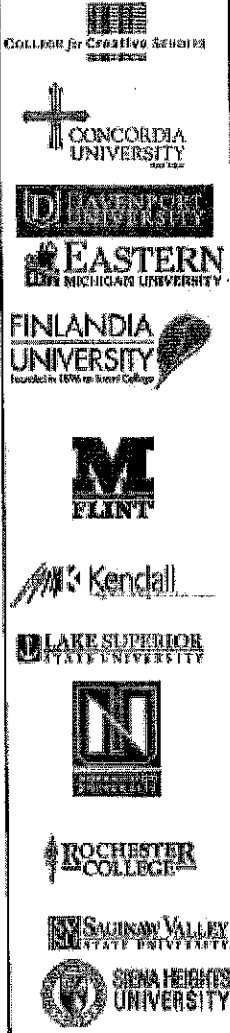
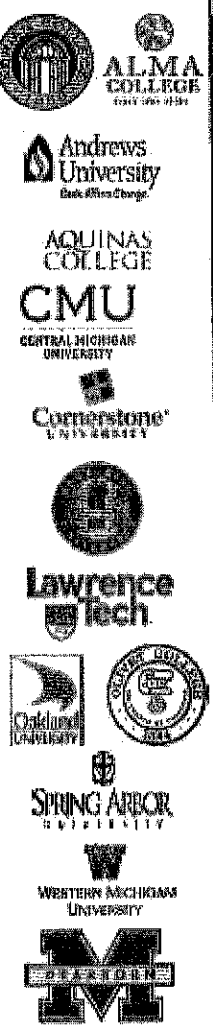




Compliments of the ACT Midwest Region and the Michigan ACT State Organization



Colleges in Michigan

GPA & ACT/SAT Tiers

Community Colleges: No minimum GPA & ACT/SAT requirements	GPA: 2.5-2.8 Avg. ACT: 16-19 Avg. SAT: 860-1010	GPA: 2.8-3.2 Avg. ACT: 18-22 Avg. SAT: 940-1120	GPA: 3.3-3.5 Avg. ACT: 21-25 Avg. SAT: 1130-1380	GPA: 3.5-3.8 Avg. ACT: 23-29 Avg. SAT: 1130-1380	GPA: 3.8-4.0 Avg. ACT: 29-36 Avg. SAT: 1350-1600
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alpena CC • Bay College • Delta College • Glen Oaks CC • Gogebic CC • Grand Rapids CC • Henry Ford CC • Jackson CC • Kalamazoo Valley CC • Kellogg CC • Kirtland CC • Lake Michigan College • Lansing CC • Macomb CC • Mid-Michigan CC • Monroe County CC • Mott CC • Muskegon CC • North Central Michigan College • Northwestern Michigan College • Oakland CC • Schoolcraft College • Southwestern Michigan College • St. Clair County CC • Washtenaw CC • Wayne County CC • West Shore CC 					

GPA & ACT/SAT are based on the Michigan Post-Secondary Handbook. Contact the admissions office for most up to date information.

Standardized Testing

Standardized test scores are required for admission to college. You may choose to have your test scores sent to colleges when you register for the test. Your scores will also be on the official transcript we send to colleges. Some important details:

- **The registration code for South Christian High School is 231-745.**
- It is wise to take the ACT or SAT at least twice. If you do worse on a re-take, don't worry. Your best score is used by the colleges.
- ACT & SAT scores are used to determine admission to college and, in many cases, scholarships. These scores, along with grades, class rank, school activities and volunteer experiences are very important.
- Both tests offer a writing portion. The writing portion is not required by all colleges and universities. You may want to check with the college(s) your child is considering to see if they require the writing. Most students take the writing portion only once.
- Apps to use are: Daily practice for the New SAT, Ready 4 SAT, Khan Academy, Prep 4 ACT, ACT Practice, Prep, Flashcards, ACT Up.
- testive.com is another site that offers free test prep for both ACT and SAT.
- Test prep books for both ACT & SAT are available in the counseling office.

ACT details

- Cost for the ACT is \$50.50. ACT plus writing is \$67.00
- Register for the ACT at actstudent.org



ACT Test Dates for 2018-19 are:

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadlines</u>	<u>Late Fee Required</u>
October 27, 2018	September 28, 2018	Sept. 29 – Oct. 14, 2018
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 3 – 19, 2018
February 9, 2019	January 11, 2019	January 12 – 18, 2019
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	March 9 – 25, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 4 – 20, 2019

SAT details

- Cost for the SAT is \$47.50. SAT with Essay is \$64.50
- Register for the SAT at sat.org/register
- khanacademy.org is a great resource to help you prepare for the SAT

SAT Test Dates for 2018-19 are:

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadlines</u>	<u>Late Fee Required</u>
October 6, 2018	September 7, 2018	Sept. 18 (mailed) Sept. 26 (online)
November 3, 2018	October 5, 2018	Oct. 16 (mailed) Oct. 24 (online)
December 1, 2018	November 2, 2018	Nov. 13 (mailed) Nov. 20 (online)
March 9, 2019	February 8, 2019	Feb.19 (mailed) Feb. 27 (online)

nitty gritty details

NCAA requirements for sports

If you want to participate in Division I or II sports in college, you should be aware of specific requirements, including required high school courses and possible registration. Please see your counselor who will help you with this process.

college applications

All colleges are now accepting applications for the next school year.

- **recommendations**

If you need a recommendation, (not all colleges require one), ask a teacher, counselor, coach, principal, pastor, boss, etc. if they are willing to fill out a form or write a letter. Tell them if they should expect on e-mailed form or give them a paper copy. Give them at least 2 weeks notice. Teachers may ask you to fill out a "Request for Recommendation" form which you can pick up in ECO.

- **applications**

Most applications are on the college's website.

- **transcript requests**

When you apply, go to Parchment and request your transcript be sent.

- **following up**

If you do not hear from the school(s) to which you have applied within 4 weeks, check with their Admissions Office. You may call or email them anytime and ask about the status of your application.

- **common application**

Many of you are filling out the Common Application on-line which allows you to apply to more than one college at once. Some of the colleges who use this are Calvin, Hope, Hillsdale, and the University of Michigan among others.

There are several steps to this application and if you have questions about it, see a counselor.

There are sections everyone fills out, regardless of college preference and then under "my colleges" you will choose where you want your application sent. Different colleges will have different requirements regarding essays and recommendations so follow instructions closely. Your counselor will need to fill out a form, so enter your counselor's name (Connie Muller, alphabet A-H or Dave DeBlecourt, alphabet I-Z). Our emails are cmuller@schs.org or ddeblecourt@schs.org. Then we will receive the form via email.

Ask a teacher or teachers ahead of time if a teacher recommendation is required. Then you need their name and email so the Common Application can send them their form.

Pick up a form from your counselor to help you fill out the Common Application correctly.

- **timeline**

We recommend that applications to colleges are made by December 1 in most cases, and even earlier for competitive schools such as the University of Michigan and Michigan State University (both November 1). Although Grand Rapids Community College takes applications into the spring and summer, it must be applied to by March 15 if you want to be eligible for a scholarship. **Grand Valley State University has a December 31 financial aid and scholarship deadline so you must apply by mid-December. Michigan State University has a November 1 scholarship deadline and a December ACT/SAT score may not be considered for scholarships or admissions.** Early application to any college is usually an advantage. Check with your guidance counselor if you have questions about deadlines for particular colleges.

Check the Senior College Calendar and Checklist in the back of this handbook for a comprehensive list of what you should be doing to apply for college.

- **free applications**

Many schools have free applications until a certain date. GRCC has no application fee. Calvin is free until December 1. Davenport, Trinity, and Cornerstone have been free in the past.

- **final decisions?**

You do not need to make a final decision on the college you will attend until spring.

honors college

Many colleges and universities have honor colleges for high achieving students. This allows you to take distinctive coursework and have more contact with professors. Check out requirements and apply if interested.

special needs

If you have any type of diagnosis such as a writing or reading disability or ADD, you should look on the website of the colleges you are considering for information on the type of support services that are offered. The requirements for services beyond the support for the general student population are defined on the website, and applications can be downloaded. Health and physical issues are also addressed (i.e. diabetes, asthma, cerebral palsy)

Financial Aid & Scholarships

Types of Financial Aid

- Scholarships - gift, usually not need-based
- Grants - gift, often need-based, based on merit
- Loans - must be repaid
- Work Study - guaranteed work on campus for wages

Sources of Financial Aid - largest to smallest

- Federal Government
- College Resources
- Tax Relief
- State Government
- Employer-Paid Tuition
- Private Sources
- Veteran's Administration



SCHOLARSHIPS

Finding scholarships takes hard work and time. Although some are awarded automatically when colleges look at students' applications, many require separate application and searching.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA - College and private scholarship committees are often looking for students with particular qualifications such as:

- extraordinary talent (art, music, writing, sports, science, etc.)
- a certain nationality or race
- good grades
- high ACT or SAT scores
- extra curricular activities participation
- leadership
- character
- volunteer community service and activity in community organizations
- career plans
- parents who are veterans or belong to certain organizations, unions, clubs, etc., or are employed by certain companies

MICHIGAN SCHOLARSHIPS

- Michigan Competitive Scholarship – up to \$1,000
This award, based on BOTH financial need and merit is available for use at Michigan public and private post secondary schools. Priority consideration will be given to students who obtain a qualifying SAT score. Requires filling out a financial aid form (FAFSA) by March 1.
- Michigan Tuition Grant - \$2,000 maximum award
This award is based on financial need for use at private colleges and universities in Michigan. Requires filling out a FAFSA.
- Talk to counselor for more information about these.

4 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO LOOK FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

- Do a free scholarship search on the internet. You put in information about yourself and you are matched with a list of potential scholarships.
Suggested sites: www.unigo.com
www.tuitionfundingsources.com
www.collegeboard.com
www.fastweb.com
www.gvsu.edu/financialaid/scholarships-list.htm
- Check websites of individual colleges, financial aid brochures, or college catalogs to see their Freshmen Scholarships. On the college website, look for Prospective or Future Students OR Financial Aid or Scholarships. Check www.meritaid.com to match yourself with merit scholarship opportunities from colleges across the country.
- Check the **Guidance Office bi-monthly scholarship lists** and look at the list of scholarships for SCHS students only (on SCHS website or pick up in Guidance Office). Applications are either in the Scholarship Drawer or may be on a website.

ADDITIONAL ADVICE

- Check with employers and organizations or clubs to which you belong (student & parents).
- Visit colleges and talk to financial aid people. Call or email them anytime you want information.
- Take the ACT/SAT (as many times as you wish).
- Submit a financial aid form (FAFSA) February of senior year at www.fafsa.ed.gov and fill out a separate financial aid application if colleges require them. Start this process in October. Do this even if you don't think you'll be eligible. List multiple colleges on the FAFSA.
- Reapply for financial aid and scholarships each year you are in college.
- Apply to more than 1 college so you can compare financial aid packages.
- **Pay attention to deadlines for scholarship consideration.**
- Attend SCHS financial aid night in September.
- Several for-profit companies offer scholarship search services and charge a fee (ranging from \$30-\$700). You should thoroughly investigate any search service before submitting a fee. You should not have to pay for information about financial aid.
- Be wary of any "scholarship" which requires an application fee. Legitimate scholarship sponsors do not require an application fee.
- Don't be afraid to ask a school if they can do anything else to help your situation. The worst they can do is say "no". The best they can do is find more money for you!

Senior College Calendar and Checklist

Month	Check	What To Do
September		Meet individually with your counselor to talk about your post-secondary (after high school) plans in September, October, November or December.
		Visit school campuses now or make plans to do so before spring.
		Meet with College Representatives as they visit South Christian (most in Sept. - Dec.)
		Don't rule out any college based on price/cost until you've seen the financial aid you may qualify for.
October		Work on FAFSA (financial aid form) with your parents (www.fafsa.ed.gov). Attend the Financial Aid Workshop at SCHS.
		Submit FAFSA for maximum scholarship consideration.
		Fill out college applications. Use Parchment.com to request transcripts be sent.
		Begin checking the list of local scholarships in the Guidance Office.
December		Complete and send in college applications, if you have not already done so.
January		Check to see if colleges you are applying to require additional financial aid applications.
		Check housing and enrollment deposit deadlines for schools. These are sometimes refundable if you decide not to attend, but the refund dates and percentages vary for each college.
		Ask counselors to send 1 st semester senior grades to colleges if they help your chances for admission or scholarships.
March/ April/May		Check financial aid information received from schools. Make decisions. Finalize plans.
		Notify schools you have decided not to attend.
		Talk to your counselor if you want help making a decision.
June		Final transcript is sent to college you plan to attend. Mrs. VanderMolen does this for every senior going to college.

senioritis

Senioritis is a condition that causes a decline in grades and level of achievement. Often you think, "I've already gotten into the school of my choice, so now I can take a break and have fun", however, colleges grant admission and scholarships based upon the condition that your level of achievement be **maintained** throughout the senior year.

In June, the college you plan to attend requests that SCHS send a copy of your transcript to them and a college can change your admission status or scholarship after reviewing your final grades.

Enjoy the last months of high school, but don't allow you college plans to be jeopardized in any way. Also remember that your high school G.P.A. and transcript will remain on file at South forever and may be requested by future employers who can check grades as well as attendance and discipline points.



GLOSSARY

Application fee - A non-refundable fee usually charged for making application to a particular college.

Associate of Arts Degree - Two years of college study in a community college may lead to an Associate of Arts Degree.

Bachelor of Arts - Usually signifies concentration of studies in the humanities - languages, literature, social studies, etc. - a four-year program.

Bachelor of Science - Concentration in mathematics and science; foreign language not required - a four-year program.

Class Rank - A student's standing based on his/her academic record as compared to other members of the class. In a class of 100, the student with the best g.p.a. would be number 1; the poorest g.p.a. would be number 100.

Early action (EA) - This is a nonbinding plan that requires you to submit your application in early fall (usually by November 1 or 15).

Early decision (ED) - This requires you to submit your application in early fall and is considered "binding," so it's essential that you be certain about wanting to enroll at that college.

Liberal Arts - A broad course of instruction comprising the arts, natural sciences, social sciences, languages, literature, philosophy, religion, and the classics. The Latin origin of the term, artes liberales, literally means "the arts that free" (the mind and the spirit.)

Major - Subject in which a student takes the greatest concentration of courses - mostly in the last 2 years of college.

Master's Degree - Degree conferred for completion of a program after you've completed a 4-year college degree - usually lasts for one or two years.

Minor - Subject in which a student takes the second greatest concentration of courses.

Prerequisite - A requirement which must be met before a certain course can be taken.

Private College - A college which is not supported by public taxes. May be independent or church related.

Core Curriculum/Liberal Arts Core/General Education Requirements - A group of courses, in varied areas of the arts and sciences, designated by a college as one of the requirements for a degree. These courses are usually taken in the first two years of a four year degree.

Course Load - The number of hours the student is permitted to schedule in a given semester. This is usually 15-18 hours on a semester system, which is considered a "full load" ..

Credit - Colleges assign a given number of credits to a particular college course based on a standard of one credit for every hour per week that the course is held. For example, a course that meets for three hours each week is generally awarded three credits.

Graduate Student - A student who has earned a Bachelor's Degree and is continuing college to earn a graduate degree (Master's Degree, Doctorate).

