

# LOGOS

HIGH SCHOOL



# GRADUATION HANDBOOK

*PLANNING FOR GRADUATION AND BEYOND*

## 2016~2017

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Logos School CEEB CODE: 130-414

Dear Parents,

*This handbook is designed to help you and your student to begin the college selection and application process. You are the most influential and important people in your student's life. Logos School does not dictate where students should apply or enroll, but we do hope this booklet will give you the basic information you will need to advise your children as they look for a place where they will be able to continue their academic, social, and spiritual development. Here are some things you can do to help your son or daughter:*

- ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COLLEGE PROCESS – have them research college information online, fill out their own applications, be the ones to request transcripts from the school, and be responsible to meet all deadlines.
- MONITOR COURSE SELECTION AND GRADES– keep your student challenged and motivated to achieve the best grades possible. Transcripts show grades from all four years of high school.
- ENCOURAGE YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER TO BECOME INVOLVED IN A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES – colleges are looking for students who are active in a variety of activities, both in and out of school, and who take leadership roles or are deeply focused or committed.
- DEVELOP AN ONGOING LIST OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AWARDS, LEADERSHIP POSITIONS, EMPLOYMENT, VOLUNTEER WORK, COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, ETC. – this list will be useful when filling out applications or requesting recommendations.
- PLAN MEANINGFUL SUMMER ACTIVITIES – Summer activities can give your student invaluable experiences. Consider athletic teams, courses, jobs, volunteer work, hobbies, lessons, and travel. Check out a nearby college while on vacation.
- RESEARCH AND DISCUSS JOBS, CAREERS, AND COLLEGE OPTIONS – encourage your student to talk with people about their occupations, gather information, and visit college campuses. Discuss your student's aptitudes and interests, and look at these in terms of career options. Help your child evaluate and analyze his or her interests, strengths, abilities, values, and priorities.

Blessings,

*The Logos School Faculty and Staff*

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[mwhitling@logosschool.com](mailto:mwhitling@logosschool.com)

Registrar / Senior Advisor

Loren Euhus

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Registrar Secretary / Records

Tracie Handel

#### Who to go to regarding...

Graduation requirements  
Graduation ceremony  
College applications  
Independent Study Classes  
Internships  
Transcript Requests  
Scholarships  
PSAT Testing  
ACT and SAT testing  
Foreign Students, Visas

Mr. Whitling and Mr. Euhus  
Dr. Stephenson, Mrs. Handel  
Mr. Euhus  
Mr. Whitling  
Mrs. Merkle  
Mrs. Handel  
Mr. Euhus and Mrs. Handel  
Mr. Stephenson  
Mr. Euhus  
Mr. Whitling

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## SENIOR DEADLINES

### Logos School

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review your Logos transcript  | Summer    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review graduation requirements  | Summer    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Register for first semester college or dual credit classes, if applicable | Summer    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Select senior electives   | August    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Independent study/internship proposals & senior courses due               | August    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Fee due  | Oct 15    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get senior pictures taken   | Fall      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Register for second semester Logos classes and university classes         | Nov / Dec |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Second Semester Independent Study & Internship proposals due              | November  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Auditorium photo, yearbook photo and bio turned in                        | March 31  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yearbook ad & money due   | April 6   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order yearbook if desired   | May       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserved seating count for graduation due                                 | Spring    |

### College Admissions

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Register for the SAT and ACT (also a graduation requirement).      | Fall   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apply to colleges  | Fall   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College deadlines (many are in Jan/Feb, some are in Nov/Dec).      | varies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deadline for notifying colleges if you plan to attend there or not | May 1  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Register for college classes and arrange housing                   | Spring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> List where you want your final transcript sent                     | May    |

### Scholarships

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Search for possible scholarships                               | Fall        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get teacher recommendations, if needed                         | Fall        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> File the FAFSA (same deadline as college application)          | after Oct 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Give copy of received scholarships to Mr. Euhus or Mrs. Handel | May         |

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. To graduate a student must earn the requisite number of credits for a given diploma. One credit is earned for passing a course that meets three or five days per week in one semester. One-half credit is earned for passing a course that meets two days per week in one semester.
2. Seniors must be enrolled in a minimum of six credits of approved coursework each semester.
  - Required classes: Apologetics, Rhetoric IV, and British Literature.
  - At least two of the following courses are required: British History, Calculus, Physics, Spanish I.
  - Additional credits may come from electives, internships, or college classes.
3. Students must take the SAT and ACT exams during either their junior or senior year. Often Logos needs to report class averages to outside institutions. Encourage your student to do well, even if both scores are not needed for college.
4. Transfer students may receive credit for previous work if there is sufficient documentation.
5. The secondary principal may waive up to four course credits for students who have academic difficulty subject to the following conditions: the student is a long-time Logos student, the parents have demonstrated a clear commitment to their child's education by working with Logos School teachers and administrators, the parents and secondary principal agree that the work required is too difficult for the child in question.

Graduation Requirements:				Associate Diploma	Standard Diploma	Honors Diploma
Subjects	Courses	Credits / yr	Credits Earned	Credits & Classes Required	Credits & Classes Required	Credits & Classes Required
Bible	Church History	2			2	2
	Interpretation	2			2	2
	Doctrine	2		2	2	2
	Apologetics	2		2	2	2
English	European Lit.	2		(2 transfer credits of English)	2	2
	American Lit.	2		(2 transfer credits of English)	2	2
	Classical Lit.	2		2	2	2
	British Lit.	2		2	2	2
Languages	Latin 9	2			2	2
	Latin 10	2			2	2
	Greek	2			Greek or Chorus 2	either Greek 2
	Spanish	2		(4 credits of foreign lang.)	select at least 2	and/or Spanish 2
History	European History	2		(2 transfer credits of history)	2	2
	Civil War/Modern	2		(2 transfer credits of history)	2	2
	Classical History	2		2	2	2
	Civics	2		2	select at least 2	2
Math	Geometry	2			2	2
	Algebra II	2			2	2
	Pre-Calc/Functions	2			2	2
	Calculus	2		(6 credits of math)	select at least 2	2
Rhetoric	Rhetoric I	1			1	1
	Rhetoric II	1			1	1
	Rhetoric III	2		2	2	2
	Rhetoric IV	2		2	2	2
Science	Physical Science	2			2	2
	Biology	2			2	2
	Chemistry	2			2	2
	Physics	2		(4 credits of science)	select at least 2	2
Music	Chorus 9	2			2	2
	Chorus 10	2			2	2
	Chorus 11	2		optional	Chorus or Greek	
Electives	Regular Electives	1		2	3	4
	Internship	1		optional	optional	optional
	College Class	1		optional	optional	optional
Other Information	<i>minimum full-time years at Logos:</i>			<i>11th &amp; 12th Grades</i>	<i>10th - 12th Grades</i>	<i>9th - 12th Grades</i>
	<i>transfer credits from (*or approved credits):</i>			<i>various</i>	<i>ACCS Schools*</i>	<i>ACCS Schools*</i>
	<i>minimum overall GPA:</i>			<i>none</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>3.5</i>
	<i>4 honors classes required:</i>			<i>none</i>	<i>none</i>	<i>At least one semester each year</i>
Total for Graduation				40	55	60

## SENIOR COURSE OPTIONS

### OPTION 1: INDEPENDENT STUDY

This is a 1 credit option in which a student arranges for instruction in an area of **academic** interest. Students must work a minimum of five hours per week on their independent study. Examples of programs that have been successful in the past include college classes (traditional and online). Approved subjects include math, science, theology, humanities, and the fine arts. Areas of study which do not qualify would include music lessons, recreational classes and/or self-guided courses with little accountability.

### OPTION 2: INTERNSHIP

The internship is a 1/2 credit option intended to provide seniors with the opportunity to study a career. Students must work a minimum of 2 hours per week on their internship. A variety of internships have been approved in the past (interning with an elementary or secondary Logos teacher, riding along with police officers, observing at a local vet clinic, etc.). Students are not allowed to be paid for the time they spend as an intern.

#### Procedures for Both Options:

1. At least two weeks before the beginning of each semester, students must submit a written proposal to the principal, via email. Late proposals will not be considered. Proposals must describe the following:

- a. the main purpose of and goals for the program
- b. the work that the student will be doing weekly to achieve these goals
- c. the number of hours per week that the student will be participating in the program
- d. which Logos staff member will be supervising the program (Mrs. Merkle oversees all internships. If you are taking a college class, you do not need a supervisor. All other independent studies need to have a staff member who has agreed to supervise before the proposal is turned in)
- e. a description of the final project that will be presented at the end of the semester

2. Students have two days to resubmit proposals which have been modified and/or denied.

#### Guidelines for Both Options:

1. Credit will not be granted for work completed before a proposal is approved.

2. Final Project: Students must submit a paper (6-8 pages for an independent study, 2-3 pages for an internship) which adequately summarizes the work that was completed over the semester. For independent study students enrolled in a class with a cumulative final exam, this exam can take the place of the paper.

3. Students will receive a grade of E, S, or U at the end of each quarter and semester.

4. Students are required to complete a weekly report and submit these reports to their supervising teacher. The student's final grade will be based largely on the content of these reports and the paper.

5. Failure to make satisfactory progress in the first semester will disqualify the student from participating in the independent study and/or internship program during the second semester.

6. Students may only request approval for one semester at a time.

## GRADUATION DETAILS

### Announcements/Cap & Gown

Early in the fall, a representative from Herff Jones will be here to talk about graduation announcements and cap and gown. Be prepared to pay for announcements in the fall and cap and gown in the spring.

### Transcripts

An official transcript is signed, sealed, and mailed to the university by the high school. You may also request an unofficial copy for yourself. Transcripts are provided at no charge; however, they are not necessarily available the same day as the request – so plan ahead. Use the green Transcript Request Form and turn in to the Registrar. Review transcript accuracy in the fall.

### Senior Pictures

Fall is the preferred time to get senior pictures taken - don't wait until the last minute in the spring! Please let us know if you don't plan to get professional photos. With all the digital technology available, other arrangements can be made. Logos will need two pictures from each of you (see following).

### Senior Photo Collage

In the spring we ask for a photo from each of the seniors. These are put together in a framed photo collage and hung in the auditorium - along with pictures of all the other graduates. Specifications for the photos are as follows:

- color photo
- wallet size (at least 2 5/8 x 3 5/8)
- portrait orientation (not landscape)
- no far off-centered photos or too close up (the picture is to be placed behind a matting)

### Yearbook Photo

Mrs. Spencer (the yearbook teacher) will need a senior picture on CD or emailed to her. Specifications are as follows: portrait orientation, color or black & white, digital (needs to be 1 MB or greater to prevent pixelated photos). E-mail to [gspencer@logosschool.com](mailto:gspencer@logosschool.com).

### Yearbook Bio

Submit the following information to [gspencer@logosschool.com](mailto:gspencer@logosschool.com): Nickname(s), highlights, activities, future plans, favorite verse or commonplace. Use no smaller than 8 pt font, use Microsoft Word format (or compatible), margins: top & left = 1 inch, bottom 5 inches, right = 3.5 inches.

### Yearbook Ads

Parents may also buy a page or portion of a page dedicated to their senior—this is different than the bio that the students are to turn in.

### Scholarship/College Record

Toward the end of the year you may be receiving scholarship award letters. As you receive them, please give copies to Mrs. Handel. These scholarship totals are published in school flyers. We will also be keeping track of which colleges have accepted you and which college, if any, you plan to attend.

### Graduation

Bring your cap, gown, tassels and cords with you to the U of I Administration Building. When graduation is over, turn in the gown & collar at the reception on the Logos gym stage – you may keep the cap, tassel, and honor cord. Be prepared to pay about \$40 for your cap and gown and group picture.



## COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

### Freshmen

- The journey to college begins here. You should challenge yourselves to get the best grades you can. Beginning the freshman year, you will establish a record that will be sent, along with your sophomore and junior record, to all of the colleges to which you apply.
- Get involved in meaningful school and community activities. These activities can help distinguish you from other college applicants, especially if your role shows leadership skills or a deep level of commitment. Keep a record of these activities.
- In addition to having fun, do something constructive with your spring and summer vacations. Think and talk with your parents about where your interests and abilities lie. Many colleges offer summer enrichment courses or workshops.

### Sophomores

- Continue all the points listed above.
- Take the PSAT (preliminary SAT) in mid-October. This is practice for your Junior year.

### Juniors

- This is the most important year academically: challenge yourself appropriately
- Take the PSAT (preliminary SAT) in mid-October.
- Consider taking the SAT and/or ACT (register in winter – test in spring).
- Explore college options. Research colleges and visit the campuses if you can. Check individual school websites for special junior open house dates.
- Attend meetings at Logos conducted by college representatives (often at lunch)
- Plan senior courses and do credit check. After making sure Logos graduation requirements are met, consider course requirements of college(s) of interest.
- Begin investigating scholarship opportunities through academic, business, professional and religious organizations and civic clubs, etc.

### Seniors

- Don't forget how important your grades are!
- Stay involved in school and community activities.
- Explore college options if undecided. Attend college fairs/open houses.
- Research scholarship opportunities.
- Review evaluation sheet.
- Keep track of test dates, fees, college and financial aid application due dates and deadlines – file early on everything if at all possible!
- Ask teachers for recommendations
- Begin composing your college application essay(s); ask someone to proof it.
- File FAFSA after January 1 – file as early as possible!
- Request transcripts sent to colleges.
- Meet with college reps that come to the school.
- Begin to arrange housing if needed.
- Take ACT and SAT.
- Visit the college of your choice before your final decision.
- Have your deposit at the college you will attend by May 1.

# COLLEGE CONSIDERATIONS

## Choosing A College

Academics You are going to college to get an education. Be sure to consider the academic atmosphere and available majors when choosing a school.

Admissions probability. Can you get in? You might decide that Harvard is a good fit for you, but it might not be realistic to get accepted into such an elite school. Some schools are very selective, and other good schools are not as selective. Look at a database of colleges acceptance scores here: <http://www.collegesimply.com/>

Location Consider the expense of travel, the need for independence or staying near your family, the effects of living in a different climate. Think about the campus setting. Is it in a large city, a “college town,” or a rural area? *Visit campuses* and become familiar with the town in which the college is located.

Cost The cost for a year includes tuition, fees, room and board, books, supplies, transportation, and personal expenses. Total costs range from \$2,000 for a community college to \$50,000 for a private school.

Size Colleges range in size from 150 to 150,000 students. Small schools offer you more personal involvement, a community atmosphere, and small classes (from 5 to 50 students). Large schools tend to be more impersonal, allow you to be more anonymous, and offer class sizes from 20 to 500.

Facilities See the facilities for the major you’re interested in. Talk to someone who is in the same program.

Living Areas Ask to see a dorm room. Eat in the cafeteria. Visit the student union, and library. Inquire about campus safety.

Activities What do the students do on weekends? Check into what programs are available that interest you (tutoring, musical activities, sports, work-study).

## Types Of Colleges And Degrees

Associates Degree	2 years
Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science	4 years
Master of Arts/Master of Science	2 more years
Doctorate (PhD)	2 to 4 more years

Two-Year Colleges: Offer quality education at a low cost. These allow you to attend for two years then transfer to a four-year institution to complete your bachelor’s degree.

Technical Schools: Offer specific career-oriented programs that last from a few months to a couple of years. Most are specialized and offer intense training in one specific skill area.

College: An institution of higher education that offers a curriculum leading to a four-year bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree. The primary focus is on undergraduate education.

University Typically has a liberal arts college as well as several specialized colleges and graduate program in such fields as business, engineering, medicine, law, agriculture, nursing, and the arts. Most offer advanced degrees in addition to the traditional 4-year bachelor’s degree.

Liberal Arts College A four-year institution that emphasizes a broad undergraduate education. It offers exposure to the sciences, history, philosophy, music, and art.

Nursing Schools Some of these are affiliated with hospitals and students receive their RN degree upon completion of training. Others are affiliated with colleges or universities where graduates receive an RN degree and a bachelor's degree.

Engineering or Technical College These are independent professional institutions that provide training programs in the fields of engineering, technology, and the physical sciences.

Online Education Many universities also offer online courses, or even completely online programs leading to a degree. This non-traditional approach can provide great flexibility. For a listing of programs and advice about online education, see <http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org>

### **Local Universities**

[www.uidaho.edu](http://www.uidaho.edu) University of Idaho      [www.wsu.edu](http://www.wsu.edu) Washington State University

[www.nsa.edu](http://www.nsa.edu) New Saint Andrews College      [www.lcsc.edu](http://www.lcsc.edu) Lewis-Clark State College

### **College Fairs And Visits**

Don't make a decision about where to attend college based on pictures in a brochure or someone's opinion. Pictures show the best of the campus and a representative's job is to "sell" the college. Don't overlook local colleges. Start with them to get experience in handling a college visit.

Some colleges offer a "virtual" college tour via the web. See <http://www.youvisit.com> or <http://www.youniversitytv.com>

Here are good example questions to ask at a college fair or college visit:

#### *#1: How would you describe the student body's personality?*

Each college campus has a personality, revealed through its student body. Of course, not everyone on campus has exactly the same personality, but a student body tends to value certain qualities. For example, some campuses are politically liberal; some are conservative. A student body might especially value the arts, or athletics or community service. This question helps you determine if you might fit in well among your potential classmates.

#### *#2: How is this school distinctive?*

Each school has a unique story. Maybe you'll learn about a newly developed internship program; maybe you'll hear about an unusual curriculum or a special program for freshmen.

#### *#3: How many students transfer to another school during or after their first year?*

This question offers a glimpse of current student satisfaction. You obviously want to attend a school where your peers are generally happy. Sometimes a high transfer rate indicates that students aren't finding what they thought they'd find at the school; sometimes a high transfer rate is due to a change in curriculum or financial aid. If the transfer rate is high, ask why and listen carefully to the response.

#### *#4: How would you describe the students' relationship with professors?*

The counselor might tell you about opportunities for students to collaborate with professors on research. Maybe she'll mention that professors give out their home numbers so students can reach them outside of class and office hours. You'll have a general idea about how accessible the professors are – an important part of your college experience.

### *#5: How do you award scholarships and financial aid?*

There are varying policies about financial aid. Some schools require separate applications for scholarships; some simply award scholarships based on information in a student's application (U of I). You need to know not only how to apply for these awards, but also which qualities the scholarship committees weigh most heavily. You also need to know how a college awards financial aid, which is based on your family's need.

### **Honors Program**

If the college you attend offers some sort of Honors Program, you should definitely look into it. College Honors classes (like Honors Classes at Logos) will be more challenging, but classes will be more engaging, smaller, and will have the best professors in the department. Such programs are open to all majors. Various Honor Program reps are visiting Moscow this week:

### **Gap Year**

If you decide to take a "gap" year before starting college, it is best to still apply to college during your senior year of high school. After you receive an acceptance to the college, you can request to have the acceptance deferred for one year. Most private colleges will allow you to do that. Some public colleges will ask you to reapply.

It is much easier to get letters of recommendation from teachers while you are still a student here. If you do not have any idea where you want to apply, you could get some teachers to write a letter for you and save it for a year, or leave the sealed letter with the school in your student file.

Here are some suggestions of "gap year" activities that may enhance your college application when you later decide to go to college:

- missions work, volunteer work, community service
- foreign exchange program, travel
- work, internship, explore career interests

### **The Importance of Assessment**

You should be familiar with your abilities, desires, personality, values, and opportunities, when planning what you will do after high school. You will continually be learning as you go through life, whether you are in a college setting or not. Consider the following:

#### **Seek Godly Counsel**

You are not alone. Parents, teachers, pastors, and other who know you can help you think through the options.

#### **Accept How You Are Made**

You are "fearfully and wonderfully made" by our sovereign God. Don't try to be someone else. God will use you as he sees fit. You are made for the work He has for you.

#### **Enjoy Your Life**

Many, many people have spent a good portion of their time and energy in pursuit of wealth or notoriety, and not have joy or fulfillment in their work. Is your motivation for higher education based on pleasing God or pleasing yourself?

#### **Personal Research**

What do you like and enjoy in life right now? What are you good at? What have people complimented (or commented) on about you that you can do well? What kind of person are you?

There are various skill assessments that you can take during high school that could help you choose colleges and majors. They can also help you determine the best career choices for you or if something other than attending college would be the best choice for you.

Here are some online options:

- [www.findyourcalling.com](http://www.findyourcalling.com) (by Rob Sentz, a local EMSI employee)
- <http://www.uidaho.edu/degree-finder> The University of Idaho's free online assessment that matches your interests and aptitudes to specific degrees.

## COLLEGE ADMISSION

### *College Admission Process*

#### Requirements for Admission

Check with each college to make sure you meet all their requirements (e.g. entrance test, GPA, letters of recommendation, personal interview, personal essay, specific college prep courses). Plan to take required tests by December. This allows time for re-testing.

#### When to Apply

Plan to apply between October and January of your senior year, for admission the following fall. Familiarize yourself with the application deadlines for each institution so that test scores and transcripts can be secured and sent before stated deadlines. Some deadlines are as early as October.

#### Completing the Application

The cost to apply to college varies but many are around \$50 (The UI is \$60 and WSU is \$50, but LCSC is free). Copy the application for practice and keep as a work copy. Read the application directions before you begin to fill it out. Make copies of everything before you send it out. You may also want to consider asking the Post Office the best way to document the mailing date. A sloppy, incomplete or late application sends a very clear message to the college.

### *Factors Influencing College Admission*

#### Grade Point Average (GPA)

The GPA is the average of a student's high school grades, starting with the freshman year. It is on a 4.0 scale. Logos uses an "Unweighted GPA" which means that advanced classes aren't weighted any differently than regular classes. A higher GPA improves your college and scholarship opportunities.

#### Transcript

The formal document outlines a student's academic achievement in high school and includes courses, grades, cumulative GPA, test scores, distinctions, and activities. Official transcripts must have a signature, stamp, or seal verifying its authenticity. You may request either an official or unofficial transcript from the Registrar. Please use the green transcript request form. Note: It is important that you carefully proofread your transcript prior to having it sent to a university. Make sure it is correct!

#### School Profile

This is the form we send to colleges to help the admission officer interpret the transcript. The profile gives a brief history of the school, provides community and accreditation information, as well as telling about our courses, grading, and scoring on standardized tests.

#### SAT/ACT Scores

See detailed "Standardized Testing" section, below.

### Recommendations

You must ask a teacher well in advance of the deadline to provide a written recommendation for you. Give your teacher several weeks' notice if possible. Students normally do not see what the letter says. Please provide a stamped envelope addressed to the institution of your choice, as well as specific instructions on when and how to submit the recommendation. Remember to thank your teachers profusely for doing this for you – it can be a time-consuming task!

### Class Rank

Indicates where a student stands academically in relation to the other members of his/her graduating class. Because of our relatively small class sizes, Logos does not typically rank students.

### Activity involvement/awards

Your involvement in out-of-class activities might reveal special talents and abilities you possess in areas such as science, art, music, technical skills, and organizational and problem solving. Be sure to keep a list of these things throughout high school.

### Personal Essay

Admissions essays are not required for all colleges, but if admission is competitive, then essays are often required. Admission personnel read thousands of essays a year. Your essay, or personal statement, gives you a chance to make your application stand out and come alive. This is your chance to make your application stand out. Here are some things to remember when writing such an essay:

- Read the instructions carefully! Make sure you understand the question and answer it.
- Write your own essay and give yourself enough time to do a good job.
- Be thoughtful, insightful, creative, authentic, direct, open, and honest – this will help distinguish you from others. You don't have to come up with something unusual or flowery; rather be honest, direct, and sincere in your essay.
- Use correct grammar and punctuation. Proofread and edit, also have someone else proof your essay. There are no reasons for errors!!
- Try to demonstrate qualities such as: self-discipline, curiosity, tenacity, motivation, complexity, leadership, creativity, commitment, etc.
- Don't exceed the space allowed for your essay or statement.
- Don't use someone else's work.
- Don't force one essay to fit all schools.
- Don't mistake an accomplishment list with an essay.
- Don't try to be wildly creative or funny – the adult reading it might not think it funny.
- Don't get too personal or brag.
- Don't use trite statements (“I want to leave this world a better place,” “through sports I've learned the value of commitment”).

### Interviews

Some campuses offer the opportunity for students to interview, but only highly selective colleges require it. Other schools regard the interview as an optional, informal activity.

Be prepared to answer questions about your academic history, interests, and school and community activities. This is a good time to address issues that you would like the college to know about and to ask some questions of your own.

### Interviewing Tips:

- Know the basics information about the institution you are visiting.
- Arrive early.
- Dress neatly and cleanly. Lean towards conservative dress.

- Make eye contact and use a firm, confident handshake.
- Be yourself! Be enthusiastic, but not overbearing.
- Listen to what is being said and take time to reflect on it.
- Use the interviewer's name and thank them when you leave.

#### Common Questions That May Be Asked:

- How did you become interested in this school?
- What courses have you taken that you enjoyed, and why?
- What do you plan to contribute to our campus?
- How do you spend your free time?
- Have you worked up to your potential in high school?
- What is your biggest achievement to date?
- List some words that describe you.
- What do you consider to be your strengths and weaknesses?
- What books or magazines have you read recently?
- What current events are of the most interest to you?
- What is the most difficult situation you've faced?
- What do you plan to do after you graduate from college?

Be prepared with some questions of your own or ask for clarification about things you've seen, heard, or read about the school. This is a good way to demonstrate your level of curiosity and understanding.

### Standardized Testing

Most colleges and universities require applicants to take at least one standardized test (ACT or SAT) for consideration for admission.

Both the ACT and SAT are required to graduate from Logos. College applications are typically due in January and February, and so taking these tests by December of your senior year is a good plan - you can always re-test in the spring if you want or need.

Look at the schedules for the ACT and SAT now, and pick some test dates and register for them. They are only offered on certain Saturdays, and they can fill up, so don't procrastinate. Note that scheduling conflicts can make this complicated, so if you are playing sports or involved in drama or Mock Trial, look carefully at the schedule and pick one that works.

Admission is getting more competitive. Your GPA is important to colleges, but there is so much variability in GPA scale (between different high schools) that colleges rely more on the SAT or ACT. It's disappointing that your high school grades are given lesser weight than a single 4 hour multiple choice exam, but colleges like that the SAT and ACT are standardized.

While the ACT and SAT are important for admissions, many schools also use these scores to determine financial aid or scholarships. Thus, even if your score is plenty good enough to "get in" to your school of choice, it can still be beneficial to do your very best.

The best type of preparation you can do for these tests is to become familiar with them: take practice tests, know the test inside and out, understand the instructions and time limits for each section, learn how to make educated guesses. Logos has some practice books you can check out, or see these free online resources:

<http://sat.collegeboard.org/practice/sat-practice-test>

<http://www.actstudent.org/sampletest/>

<http://sat.collegeboard.org/practice/sat-question-of-the-day>

Because many students perform quite differently when they take both the ACT and SAT, it is a benefit to take both tests (and, a requirement for graduation from Logos). If you take a test more than once, most colleges will take your 'best' score. However, this is not true of some elite colleges (e.g. Harvard) which look at all your scores.

You are responsible for seeing to it that the respective testing agency forwards your scores to the colleges to which you will be applying. Make sure to enter Logos' CEEB code when registering: 130-414. You are also responsible to register by the appropriate deadline!

#### What do the tests cover? (A summary)

- The PSAT only covers English and math through Algebra II.
- The SAT is very similar to the PSAT except it is longer and has a written essay question.
- The ACT has a separate section for science, while the SAT spreads science questions in with the math and reading sections. The focus is not on science facts or theory, rather on interpretation of graphs and charts, drawing conclusions from data, and analytical thinking.
- The math on the ACT covers Trigonometry and logarithms, while the SAT does not.

#### How are the tests used?

- The SAT and the ACT are college admission tests. Many colleges accept the ACT, many accept the SAT, and many accept either.
- The PSAT is a one-time only, high-stakes test that determines national merit finalists and college scholarships. It is not used for admissions.
- The ACT and SAT are used for a variety of scholarships.
- Certain SAT and ACT scores may exempt you from freshman classes. For example, the UI will exempt you from English 101, if you have an ACT English score of 25, or SAT Verbal of 570.
- Finally, the ACT and SAT are used by Logos to help quantify the results of a Logos education.

**PSAT/NMSQT:** The Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) measures verbal reasoning, critical reading, math problem solving, and writing skills. It is administered at Logos in October of each year (about \$14 each) and taken by all juniors and offered optionally to sophomores. (Read more at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).) The National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT) portion uses the scores from the math, verbal reasoning, and writing to find *the top 1% of the nation's juniors* for eligibility in participating in Merit and Achievement programs ( [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org)).

**Commended Students:** Even though these students do not continue in the competition, some will become candidates for special scholarships offered by corporations and businesses.

**Semifinalists:** Semifinalists represent the highest scoring entrants in each state. They can advance to finalist standing by meeting the requirements in the materials provided to them.

**Finalists:** About 15,000 students will be notified in February if they have advanced to finalist standing.

*Logos has one of the highest per capita number of National Merit Finalists in the state – a long term average of about 10% of our students.*

**SAT Reasoning (formerly SAT I):** The Scholastic Assessment Test is a college admissions test comprised of a verbal, math, and writing section. It consists of multiple choice questions and one essay question. Students may register online or by mail. The test is administered at the U of I. This test is part of Logos' graduation requirements. Plan to take by December of your senior year – you can always re-test in the spring. ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com))



**ACT:** The American College Test is a three-hour curriculum-based college admission test covering English, mathematics, natural sciences, and social studies. This test is part of Logos' graduation requirements. Plan to take by December of your senior year. ([www.act.org](http://www.act.org))

The ACT has an optional writing test for an extra 30 minutes, and an extra \$16 or so. Some colleges (typically the more elite ones) require it. Logos School does not require this optional writing portion.

**ASVAB:** The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery is a multiple choice test that measures aptitudes for a variety of careers both in the military and civilian environment. It is recommended to be taken during the junior year. Contact your recruiter for more information.

### **Admission Vocabulary**

**CEEB Number** is a code that each high school uses for tracking by the College Board, ACT, or university. The CEEB Code Number for Logos is 130-414.

**FAFSA** is the free application for federal student aid. It is one form used for the financial aid process at colleges. Applications are available from [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) by mid-December. This form cannot be filled out until after January 1 and requires income tax information from the previous year. Amendments to your original FAFSA application may be made until September.

**Common Application** allows you to apply to multiple schools using one application form. A listing of the schools that will accept the Common Application may be found at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org). Most local colleges (like the UI and WSU) do NOT use Common Application.

**Application Deadline** is the date by which all application materials are due. Check to see whether it is a *postmark* due date, or needs to be *received by* a certain due date.

**Early Decision** involves an early application deadline, and an early offer by a college. Once accepted by early decision, the student is finished with the entire application process. Colleges who accept you under early decision usually require you to withdraw your application from other colleges. You usually won't be able to compare the early offer to other offers, so choose this option carefully.

**Early Action** is used mostly at highly selective colleges. You would follow an accelerated application process and apply by early November. You would be notified of a decision by mid-December, but you do not have to let the institution know of your decision until May.

**Open Admission** is the policy of accepting almost every student who has a high school diploma without regard to rank, GPA or test scores.

**Standard or Regular Admission** is the application process that requires application materials to be submitted no later than the specified deadline printed in the college catalog or application form.

**Rolling Admission** schools process applications as they arrive and usually notify students within six weeks of receiving the application. This admission option is most common at public universities. Applications need to be submitted early to maximize chances of admission.

**Applicant Notification Date:** This is the date by which you will receive a decision or the date by which decisions will be mailed from the school.

**Applicant's Reply Date:** The date of May 1 has been accepted by most colleges and universities in the U.S. as the date by which all admitted students must inform the school they are planning on attending of their intention to enroll. A non-refundable deposit is usually due by this date.

**Wait List** A student who is placed on the "wait" list will not know his/her status until after May 1. If your child is "waitlisted" and does want to attend the school in question, be sure to fill out the school's wait list form and send it back immediately.

## FINANCIAL AID

College is expensive. Harvard costs \$62,000 per year and even Idaho costs \$19,000 per year (tuition, books, room and board). However, many students don't actually pay that full amount. The average Harvard student receives \$45,000 in scholarships.

A specific school might cost more or less than you think. Check out the actual costs – it's relatively simply to quantify. It never hurts to apply. If you think you need aid to continue your education, your chances of getting it are best if you apply in the right way at the right time.

*Merit-based financial aid* is given in recognition of special skills, talents and/or academic ability. These include: merit scholars, top 10% of the class, outstanding athlete, accomplished musician, etc.

*Need-based financial aid* is given based on the difference between what it will cost a student to attend college and the amount a family can contribute toward the student's education *as determined by the financial aid office*. The family's income, assets, debts, family size, and extenuating circumstances are all taken into consideration.

**GRANTS** – monies given to you by the college, usually because of financial need, which do not have to be repaid. The Pell Grant is the largest of the federal grant programs. Determination is made on the basis of information provided by review of your FAFSA. The Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) is for students with exceptional need.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** – monies awarded also do not have to be repaid. Scholarships are given based on a variety of criteria. The area of study at college, academic excellence, ethnicity, and special activities in high school are some of these criteria that might qualify you. Additionally, parents' employers, professional associations, or labor unions may sponsor scholarships.

**WORK STUDY** – is employment which you must take while in school, earning a salary which you are expected to contribute toward your expenses. The program is administered by the colleges, and the financial aid or work study office will help you find a job which qualifies.

**LOANS** – must be repaid and have different terms: Federal Perkins Loan Program, Federal Stafford Loan, Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS Loans), are the most well-known.

- Ask for information about financial aid opportunities and application procedures when writing to the admissions office. Generally, the financial aid office at your college is the best source of financial aid.
- File all required financial aid forms – the FAFSA and others required by the specific colleges.
- Mail completed FAFSA ASAP after January 1. Check with individual schools as to deadlines.

### *The FAFSA Form*

The *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* is required by both public and private universities and colleges before scholarships or financial aid is awarded. For more information about the FAFSA and instructions, go to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

Know the filing priority date for your college. The earlier you file a FAFSA, the more likely you are to hear from the Commission early. Since most colleges have a May 1 deadline for intention to register, it is to your advantage to know as soon as possible about financial aid so that you can make an informed decision regarding which college you will attend.

Note: in 2016, the FAFSA open date changed from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. This allows you to use your previous year's tax return, if you want.

Within four weeks of filing by mail and a few days after filing online, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) from the federal processor. It will list the student's *expected family contribution*, or EFC. A standard formula is used to calculate the EFC, based on the information the student provides on the FAFSA. The SAR will also be sent to the colleges you indicated on the FAFSA. The colleges will use the EFC to determine if you will be offered grants, loans, and/or work-study programs.

### **Idaho Scholarships**

You can apply for a variety of State of Idaho scholarships from the State Board of Education's website. [http://www.boardofed.idaho.gov/scholarship/scholarship\\_jump.asp](http://www.boardofed.idaho.gov/scholarship/scholarship_jump.asp)

#### **Governor's Cup**

This scholarship is offered to Idaho residents that will graduate from an Idaho high school. Academic or Technical students enrolled full-time could be eligible. Students with a 2.8 cumulative GPA and who demonstrate high commitment to public service should apply.

#### **State of Idaho Scholarship Category A**

This \$3000 scholarship is awarded to outstanding Idaho high school graduates on the basis of rank in graduating class, ACT scores, and recommendations. To be eligible, students must intend to enroll in academic or vocational programs at Idaho postsecondary educational institutions. Deadline is Jan. 15.

#### **Horatio Alger Lola and Duane Hagadone Idaho Scholarship Program**

This is a great scholarship for low-income seniors who will pursue a bachelor's degree at U of I, LCSC or (starting at) NIC. Deadline is April 15. [https://www.horatioalger.org/scholarships/program\\_idaho.cfm](https://www.horatioalger.org/scholarships/program_idaho.cfm)

### **Begin Your Scholarship Search**

#### **Departmental Scholarships**

One of the best ways to get scholarships is to apply at a specific college and declare a specific major. Some colleges award based upon those factors alone. For example, LCSC awards a \$1500 scholarship for having a GPA of 3.5 to 4.0, and \$1000 for a GPA in the 3.0 to 3.49 range. WSU offers a \$1000 scholarship for showing up to one specific campus visitation.

#### **General Scholarship Search Sites**

- [www.college-scholarships.com](http://www.college-scholarships.com)
- [www.OnlineUniversity.Com/Christian-Colleges](http://www.OnlineUniversity.Com/Christian-Colleges)
- [www.college.gov](http://www.college.gov)
- [www.Fastweb.com](http://www.Fastweb.com)
- [www.CollegeBoard.com](http://www.CollegeBoard.com)
- [www.questbridge.org](http://www.questbridge.org)
- <http://idahocis.org>
- [www.zinch.com](http://www.zinch.com)
- [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)
- [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)
- [www.wiredscholar.com](http://www.wiredscholar.com)
- [www.tuitionfundingsources.com](http://www.tuitionfundingsources.com)
- [www.MyCollegeOptions.org](http://www.MyCollegeOptions.org)
- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
- [www.thecareercloset.com](http://www.thecareercloset.com)

For first generation college students:  
<http://www.imfirst.org>

# SENIOR INFORMATION WORKSHEET

If you think you might ask a teacher for a recommendation, please complete this form and give a copy to Mr. Euhus. He will provide this document along with your transcript to the teacher. Keep the original for your use. It is helpful to have on hand when you are filling out applications.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATIONAL GOAL \_\_\_\_\_

## PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

- \_\_\_\_ 4-year college
- \_\_\_\_ 2-year college
- \_\_\_\_ vocational school
- \_\_\_\_ apprenticeship program
- \_\_\_\_ intermediate employment
- \_\_\_\_ armed services
- \_\_\_\_ other: \_\_\_\_\_

## INSTITUTIONS BEING CONSIDERED

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## PAID WORK EXPERIENCE: (include self-employment ventures, i.e. lawn care, babysitting, etc.)

Dates	Employer	# of hours/week	Duties
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES which I have participated in:

Name	Grade (9-12)	Special Commendations/Awards	Officer
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**VOLUNTEER OUT-OF-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES** which have helped me prepare myself for work or further education (travel, community service, church activities, 4-H, workshop/institutes, clubs, honors/awards, etc.)

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My **PERSONAL STRENGTHS & CHARACTERISTICS** that should be considered by an employer or college (Hobbies/interests, special abilities, talents, anything else you would like your counselor to say about you in a letter of recommendation).

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**LIST** two recent teachers or other individuals who we can contact for more information about you.

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**CHECK ANY THAT APPLY:** Interest in scholarships based on merit \_\_\_\_\_  
Interest in scholarships based on need \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS/INFORMATION** not included above that you feel will assist your counselor in writing a recommendation for you.

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