

#GUIDANCED

MISS BIRCHLER'S COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS NEWS

February 2020

Senior Scholarship and Post-Graduation Plans

We may only be in February, but March is just around the corner and graduation not too far beyond that!

As we get ready for Commencement and all that this big transition entails, we need some help to make sure we have all of the important details recorded for you.

I have created a senior survey in Google Forms to help track college acceptance and scholarship awards so that we can recognize your achievements!

Please [click here](#) to complete the Senior Graduation Profile. In the third section, you will be directed to enter information about the scholarships you've won or earned. Please be sure to include the amount of money awarded and the group giving the award.

You can return to this form to add additional scholarships as those awards come in, or to update your college choice. Please see me if you have any questions or need any help!

Keep up the good work, Seniors! You are close to your goal!

CALL OUT FOR GIRLS STATE AND BOYS STATE 2020

We recently had a visit from Mr. Toomey with Indiana Boys State someone will be coming to speak with the girls about Girls State next week. If your Junior son or daughter is interested in applying for this program, please have them stop at the counseling office for an application.

We are able to send at least two boys and two girls, but there may be flexibility to send additional delegates if we have interested students. Please see me as soon as possible!

Need help with a scholarship, college application, or the FAFSA?

Call or email Miss Birchler!

812-254-2050
rbirchler@evdio.org

23 Minutes
AVERAGE TIME
TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA


4 Steps for mastering your college essay


Not sure where to start with your college application essays? Here are a few ideas to get the wheels turning and the words flowing:

1) **Determine the essay topic.** The [Common Application](#) provides essay prompts, however which essay and how many you have to write may vary by school. Some require none (yes, none!). Some require all 3 with an additional supplement. Do your research before you get started. There's nothing worse than wasting time writing an essay you don't need.

2) **Brainstorm.** This [video from St. Edward's University](#) might help you understand from an admissions perspective what they're hoping to learn through your essay. How can you stand out? How can you show them who you are, beyond a transcript and activities? Run your ideas by someone who knows you - they may have valuable feedback!

3) **Write.** Three rules you should live by when writing your essay:

 **SHOW** the admissions committee, don't tell them. For example, don't write "I'm responsible and hard-working". Who isn't?!?! Drill down and describe a specific instance when your qualities were evident.

 2) Write what the admissions committee **NEEDS** to know, not what you think they want to know. You are responsible and hardworking, but maybe they could see that on your transcript and application already. What do they not know about you? What is missing? How can you tie that in? Don't regurgitate what's already on your application - give them new insights into who you are.



Be purposeful. Read through a few lines of what you've written, and then ask yourself, "so what?" What are you trying to convey? Did you? Will an admissions committee get anything out of that about YOU?

4) **Edit and proof. Edit and proof. Edit and proof.** Start with yourself, a parent, a peer, a teacher, a counselor. Get feedback and be sure there are no mistakes!

Many colleges seem to be reducing the weight of the college essay in the admissions decision process, but scholarships still rely heavily on this tool for quickly sorting through candidates. If your essay grabs your reader's attention, and if you stand out from the crowd with a well-defined voice and original thoughts, you are more likely to win scholarships than you will with an essay you throw together haphazardly.

There are great examples of college and scholarship essays online. These can be a great tool for brainstorming and for ideas about developing your voice in your writing, but *be sure anything you turn in to colleges and scholarship committees is original work!*

If you'd like to talk more about your ideas for college and scholarship essay, swing by the office!

Check out these [essays from Tufts University undergrads](#), and don't be afraid to find your unique voice!

Upcoming Scholarship Opportunities and Deadlines

Due Date	Scholarship	amount	Eligibility guidelines	Additional information
February 28, 2020	ETFCU's Ted Hitch Scholarship	Ten \$5000 awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member or child of an ETFCU member Min GPA 3.75 Use 3 ETFCU services 	Applications available here: http://www.etfcu.org/scholarship
February 28, 2020	UCB Epilepsy Scholarship	Thirty \$5,000 awards and three \$10,000 awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnosed with epilepsy by a physician or the immediate family member (parent, spouse, child or sibling) and/or caregiver of a person with epilepsy Seeking an associate's, undergraduate, or graduate degree or enrolled in a trade school educational program 	Please access program details and FAQ for the 2020 scholarship. Plus check out the video library to see highlights of the first decade of the program and to hear from previous scholarship winners.
March 1, 2020	Indiana State F.O.P. Scholarship	Up to 20 awards, amounts vary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relative of active FOP member Min 3.0 GPA 	Application available here: https://instatefop.org/Scholarship2020final_.pdf
March 1, 2020	Crane Credit Union Scholarship	Ten \$1,200 awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of credit union Min 2.0 GPA 	Application available here
March 8, 2020	USI Alumni Association Leadership Scholarship	One \$1500 award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current graduating high school senior attending an Indiana high school Show extensive leadership qualities while in high school Be in the upper 20 percent of their graduating class 	Click here for a full description. Link to download application is here
March 13, 2020	Deaconess Alumni School of Nursing Scholarship	One or more \$15,000 awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct descendent of graduates of Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing or current Deaconess Hospital Employees Must pursue licensure and career in nursing 	Application found here
March 14, 2020	Indiana Conservation Officers Scholarship	Four \$500 awards	The scholarship is for graduating seniors or college students who are majoring in Conservation Law or Law Enforcement.	Website for application is www.icoo.com
March 15, 2020	Robert Sheppard Student Leadership	One \$2,500 award and two \$1,000 awards	Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors	Online application available here

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March 27, 2020	Judith K. Bobe Scholarship	Two \$500 awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have been enrolled in Head Start Program Min 2.5 GPA 	Application must be received by 3/27/20 – not postmarked! http://pacecaa.org/services/scholarshipprogram
March 31, 2020	American Society for Quality (ASQ)	\$500	ASQ will award one scholarship to a high school student graduating from a high school in the Section area.	Applications will be accepted via email only. Details and application forms are available for download on the ASQ Section website .
March 31, 2020	AOC Stem Student of the Year	One \$12,5000 for female and one \$12,500 for male	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study engineering or engineering tech Interested in defense or aero space 	Online application available here: https://app.reviewr.com/s1/site//AOC_Raytheon_Scholarship
March 31, 2020	Washington Rotary Scholarship	One \$2,000 award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application must include a 1500 word essay and 3 Letters of Recommendations. You will need to sign in to Adobe with your email address to access the scholarship application. 	Application is located at https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Aascds%3AUS%3Ad3b98c90-40c5-49c3-8e1b-d78c066f2326
April 1, 2020	I.S.A Scholarship	Forty \$750 awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committed to career in law enforcement Current member of association – or child/grandchild of current member 	Scholarship applications are available here Call 1-800-622-4779 for more information
April 3, 2020	Daviess County Right to Life Donna Gentry Memorial Scholarship	\$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daviess County Right to Life is offering a Scholarship in Honor of Donna Gentry to a Daviess County High School Senior who presents the best essay to the theme “What is happening to America because of abortion”. 	Applications can be found online by visiting www.daviesscountyrctl.com
April 8, 2020	20th Century Chevy Inc. 2020 Automotive Scholarship	one - \$500 award	Seniors must be interested in pursuing a career in the automotive field.	Ms. Birchler and Mrs. Craney each have applications in their offices.
April 8, 2020	Knights of Columbus Women’s Auxiliary	Two \$1,000 scholarships	Senior high school girl who is a member of Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church and/or St. Peter’s Catholic Church.	Please mail applications to Chris Tucker, 1206 Winbrook Lane, Washington, In. 47501 .

Due Date	Scholarship	amount	Eligibility guidelines	Additional information
April 15, 2020	Society of Plastics Engineers - Central Indiana Section Joseph B. Williams Memorial Scholarship	\$1000	Must be enrolled at a 4-year college/university or a 2-year community college degree program. Must be enrolled in a major related to the plastics industry.	See Miss Birchler for an application and more information.
April 17, 2020	American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship	one - \$500 award	Applicants must be the daughter, stepdaughter, granddaughter, step-granddaughter, great granddaughter or step-great granddaughter of a Post #121 American Legion Auxiliary member or decreased member.	Applications must be taken to the American Legion Post #121 at 501 E. Main Street in Washington no later than April 17, 2020. Ms. Birchler and Mrs. Craney each have applications in their offices.



Speech Contest

Representatives from the Rotary Club were here last week to talk with high school students about the upcoming annual speech contest. This is a great opportunity to develop your public speaking and bank some money for college!



Pre-Speech Information Meeting:

March 10, 2020 at 6pm
Meet at the YMCA

Speech Contest

March 18, 2020 at 11:30
Carnegie Public Library

This year's theme:

"Rotary Connects the world."

See Miss B for more information!