



**WINDHAM HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
SENIOR BULLETIN  
OCTOBER 2010**



**Good websites for up to date information  
about colleges, financial aid and careers:**

\$\$\$ For a quick and easy source of FREE information on Scholarships, check out: \$\$\$  
[www.unigo.com](http://www.unigo.com)  
 (unbiased reviews of over 250 colleges from current students — Check it out!!)  
[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)  
[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)  
[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)  
[www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com)  
[www.wellsfargo.com/collegesteps](http://www.wellsfargo.com/collegesteps)  
[www.collegeprofiles.com](http://www.collegeprofiles.com)  
[www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)  
[www.famemaine.com](http://www.famemaine.com)  
[www.mitchellinstitute.org](http://www.mitchellinstitute.org)

**Happy Surfing!!**

**REMINDERS**

If you are applying to college for the 2011-2012 school year, your **“Transcript/Recommendation Request Form”** is due in the Student Services Office **at least four weeks before** you need transcripts and/or recommendations for colleges or scholarships.

The deadline for registering for the December 4th SAT I or SAT II is November 5th. The deadline for registering for the December 11th ACT is November 5th.

College visits must be approved ahead of time in order to be considered a school sponsored activity. If you would like help arranging an interview, tour, class visit, meetings with coaches, etc., see your school counselor.

**College Visits**

Please sign up in the Student Services Office.

**OCTOBER**

18th	Alfred University	10:30
19th	Wentworth Institute of Technology	10:00
20th	Husson University	8:30
20th	University of Maine Orono	1:00
21st	Springfield College	11:15
22nd	St. Joseph’s College	8:30
25th	Southern New Hampshire University	8:00
25th	Salve Regina University	10:00
26th	University of Maine Farmington	9:00
26th	Bay Path College	10:30
26th	St. Lawrence University	12:45
27th	Catholic University	10:15
27th	Utica College	11:00
29th	Lasell College	8:30
29th	Hobart & William Smith	10:00
29th	Thomas College	1:15

**NOVEMBER**

3rd	New England School of Communications	8:15
3rd	St. Anselm College	12:00
4th	Merrimack College	8:15
5th	Franklin & Marshall College	9:00
9th	Quinnipiac College	11:00
10th	New England College	9:30
10th	Clarkson University	12:15
17th	St. Leo University	11:30

**PARENTS!!**

What can you tell us about your son or daughter?  
 Enclosed is a **“Senior Parent Form”**.  
 If you would like to share your insights, please return the form to the Student Services Office no later November 13th.

## The Nitty Gritty of College Applications

Decisions, decision, decisions. Once you've made the big decision of "where to apply," you then must decide "how to apply". The traditional typewritten paper application is fast giving way to electronic applications or the use of an application common to many colleges. Schools agree to give the same consideration to all types of applications, so use those formats that are most comfortable for you.

Applications are available at most colleges' websites. The college may have an "apply on-line" option or provide an application that can be downloaded and then completed in the traditional manner. Even if you do apply online, you'll need to submit some parts of your application in a paper form. For example, teacher and/or counselor recommendations, transcripts, and sometimes essays must be submitted by mail. Be sure that your name and social security number appear on each of these forms. Applications fees may need to be sent by check or money order if not paid through a credit card. You'll also need to have your SAT or ACT test scores sent by the testing agency to each college on your list. Carefully note and meet deadlines for submitting each part of your application.

Several services allow students to complete a single electronic application and then the service then fills in the applications for all of the schools the student selects. These services include **CollegeLink** ([www.collegelink.com](http://www.collegelink.com)), **Xap.com** ([www.xap.com](http://www.xap.com)) and **Embark** ([www.embark.com](http://www.embark.com)). The **Common Application** available at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org), permits students to apply to any of 230 selective colleges by completing a single application. Use of the Common Application allows students to write a single essay that will be welcomed by all the participating schools. All of these services are available at no additional charge over the college's application fee.

So paper or electronic, the choice is yours. Whichever way you go, complete your applications carefully, fully answer all questions asked, write and rewrite your essay, submit all documents requested, and meet all deadlines. Keep a copy of all applications sent and the dates they were submitted. And best of luck!

**Review "Common Mistakes" on the student services website.**

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## Submit a Great Application

Just as your mother and teachers always said, when it comes to college applications, "neatness counts." Choosing a school to continue your education is a big decision, and admission committees like students who approach this task seriously. Whether you use the traditional paper application, the common application, or apply on-line, answering questions carefully and proofreading before sending will ensure that your application accurately reflects your best qualities.

It's always best to start with a draft copy — this is the one you can do in pencil without regard to neatness and spelling. Complete the application as fully as you can, then check with a parent or guidance counselor if you're not sure about some of your responses. Once the draft copy is perfect, transfer your responses to the final application. Be sure that your answers are legible (print in ink or use a typewriter for paper application) and that you're answered all questions. If you're unsure about major, write in "undecided". Spend a lot of time on the essay, this is your opportunity to show that "you" behind the numbers. Be sure your essay answers what was asked, and that it has been proofread by a trusted adult. Treat the short essay questions with respect; how you answer these questions matters.

Assemble the rest of the application. Be sure to request an official copy of your transcript to be sent directly to the college along with the completed school report if included. If teacher recommendations are required, gently remind your teachers of the due date, and thank them for their help. Be sure any supplementary materials have your name and social security number on them—this would include essays, portfolios, tapes. If a reply card was included, write in your home address and stamp it. Make a copy of all materials that you are sending and keep this at home in case any part becomes separated and you need to resubmit.

## **I have heard that going to college in Canada can be a good deal. How do they work??**

There are some great Canadian college options. In Canada, "colleges" are more like our technical colleges. Canadian "universities" are more in line with American universities and colleges, though that may leave us guessing as in University of King's College or Huron University College.

Canadian universities are generally public. Most are large by U.S. standards. A few very good ones are small. Canadian universities tend to be more liberal-minded than many U.S. colleges. Canadian universities are much more similar to each other than the 4000 U.S. colleges and universities. Canadian universities are much more similar in terms of selectivity, or accessibility, to use a good Canadian term. Many years ago, Americans decided that McGill was the "Harvard of Canada," but they forgot to tell the Canadians.

The cost of one year of a Canadian University education is often between \$16,000 and \$20,000. Most U.S. financial aid can be used at Canadian universities. US students are also eligible for Canadian scholarship, though Canadian universities generally offer fewer of these because they try to keep the costs down for everyone.

The admission process generally takes place in mid to late spring, since the process is generally much simpler. Admissions representatives will sit down with you to help you figure out if the school is a good fit for you. If it is not, they may just send you up the road to another institution. We call those "competitors" in the US.

Canadian universities often offer US students a more international perspective of the world and the US than we often get south of the border. The Canadian experience can open up some good career opportunities for US students.

Lastly, going to college in Canada does not mean living on an iceberg. Average January temperatures in Windham, Maine: Cold. Average January temperature in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia: Cold.

A few great Canadian university options for Maine students include: St. Thomas University, NB; University of New Brunswick, NB; Mount Allison University, NB; Acadia University, NS; Dalhousie University, NS; St. Francis Xavier University, NS; St. Mary's University, NS; and University of King's College, NS. Heading west, you might consider Huron University College, ON; McMaster University, ON; University of Western Ontario, ON; McGill University, QC; and the University of Victoria, BC.

For much more information, visit [www.aucc.ca](http://www.aucc.ca), [www.studyinCanada.ca](http://www.studyinCanada.ca); [www.studyincanada.com](http://www.studyincanada.com) and [www.canadianembassy.org/education/](http://www.canadianembassy.org/education/) or [edunova.ca](http://edunova.ca)

## Is AmeriCorps a good option instead of college?

Educators and politicians fuss about whether or not high school graduates seem to have accumulated the necessary knowledge to succeed in college. Can students write a complete paragraph following a certain set of guidelines? Have they taken Physics? Can they subtract fractions?

Parents worry about whether their children are ready enough for college to get a return on their college education greater than what they invest in time and money. In truth, some students just aren't quite ready to make a lot out of college. They haven't developed the interest in learning in college. They haven't yet seen the purpose of their learning in college. There is nothing wrong with taking more time to develop a clearer sense of purpose before you, the student, invest a lot of time, and you, the parent, invest plenty of money. An experience like AmeriCorps can really help develop a better perspective and a clearer sense of purpose in your life and education (which hopefully are the same!)

AmeriCorps is a federally coordinated and funded volunteer program for US adults, eighteen years and older with a high school diploma or GED. Some of these adults are between high school and college..... New adults, or soon to be. Over 70,000 people currently volunteer with AmeriCorps throughout the US. Most programs are at least ten to twelve months long; some volunteers stay on longer.

Now that I have used the word "volunteer" several times, you actually, in most cases, receive a roughly \$10,000 per year stipend (pay) to help with the cost of living in the program and you may receive \$4,725 toward college expenses.

Programs can be in-state or throughout the US. You might be doing trail maintenance in national or state parks, studying the pollution of a stream, organizing the building of a community health facility, helping with economic development in a rural town, assisting in disaster relief, or mentoring a child in a struggling, urban school.

City Year is a well-known volunteer program to work with inner city kids and is part of AmeriCorps. In AmeriCorps programs, you are likely to be working with a group of other volunteers and sometimes moving to different locations of need with them. In most cases, you will not be on your own. You will be led and mentored by an experienced leader and receive some great experience and great training.

You will find plenty of good information at [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org). From <https://recruit.cns.gov/> you can explore specific AmeriCorps opportunities for you in your state or throughout the country.

AmeriCorps can be a very smart career move and help you make more of your college education.

## COLLEGE BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

Most college-based scholarships are given for outstanding academic achievement or talent. Check the college files in Student Services Office to see if your college choice offers one.

Some Examples Are:

Agnes Scott College	Boston University
Bowdoin College	Bryant College
Champlain College	Devry College
Hobart & William Smith Colleges	Ithaca School of Communication
Indiana State University	Maine Maritime Academy
Manhattanville College	Rhodes University
Seton University	The University of Chicago
University of Richmond	University of Rochester
St. Lawrence University	University of Southern Maine

### National Co-Op Scholarship Program

Amount: \$6,000

Acceptance at one of seven universities offering a cooperative Education program and maintain a high school GPA of 3.5 (B+) or better

Deadline: February 15, 2011—[www.co-op.edu](http://www.co-op.edu) FMI

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### Bennington Young Writers Competition

Amount: \$250—\$500

Eligibility: Submit 3 poems, short story, or un-produced one-act play.

Deadline: November 1, 2010

[www.Bennington.edu](http://www.Bennington.edu) Go to “News” and “Young Writers Competition” for more info

### Ron Brown Scholar Program for African-American Students

Amount: Up to \$10,000 a year

Eligibility: Students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership potential, community service, and financial need.

Deadline: November 1/January 9

[www.ronbrown.org/apply](http://www.ronbrown.org/apply)

### SAE Engineering Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000—\$6,000

Eligibility: Must intend to earn a degree in engineering or a related science, have at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA for 10th & 11th grade, and meet minimum requirements for SAT and/or ACT scores.

Deadline: December 15, 2010

[www.sae.org/students/scholarships](http://www.sae.org/students/scholarships)

Boston University Alexander Graham Bell Scholarship

Eligibility: Accepted students of Boston University College of Engineering can apply. Write a 500 word essay about an Engineering advance or innovation that you feel has had an important impact on society.

Amount: Full tuition, plus scholarship

Deadline: December 1, 2010

www.bu.edu/admissions/apply/costs-aid-scholarships/bell

Boston University Trustee Scholarship Competition

Amount: Full tuition/fees

Eligibility: Accepted students of Boston University can apply. Must be nominated by principal/counselor; rank in top 5% of class, and have combined SAT scores of 1400 or above.

Deadline: Nomination deadline is December 1. See your counselor if interested!

FMI: www.bu.edu/admissions/trustee

AXA Achievement Scholarship

Amount: \$10,000

Eligibility: Demonstrates ambition, determination to reach goals, respect for self, family and community. Ability to succeed in college.

Deadline: December 15, 2010

Apply online: www.axa-achievement.com

Mensa Education and Research Foundation Scholarship

Amount: Varies

Eligibility: Resident of participating Mensa Local, write essay of not more than 550 words Explaining career, academic and/or vocational goals.

Deadline: January 15, 2011 — www.mensafoundation.org

National Wild Turkey Federation

Amount: \$250—\$1,000

Eligibility: Must be planning to attend a 2 or 4 year college, have maintained a 3.0 GPA and be an active participant in hunting sports. Must apply with your local chapter. Other criteria listed on application

Deadline: February 1 www.nwtf.org/jakes/xtreme/scholarships.html

Osher Scholarship

Amount: up to two courses tuition-free at one of the Maine Community Colleges.

Eligibility: Must be a Maine resident, high school graduate or GED recipient, first time college student not enrolled in a degree program.

Deadline: February 1, 2011

www.mccs.me.edu/student/osher.html

Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student Scholarship

Amount: \$4,000—\$60,000

Eligibility: Based on need, academic achievement, community service, and essay

Deadline: December 1, 2010

www.elks.org/enf/scholars

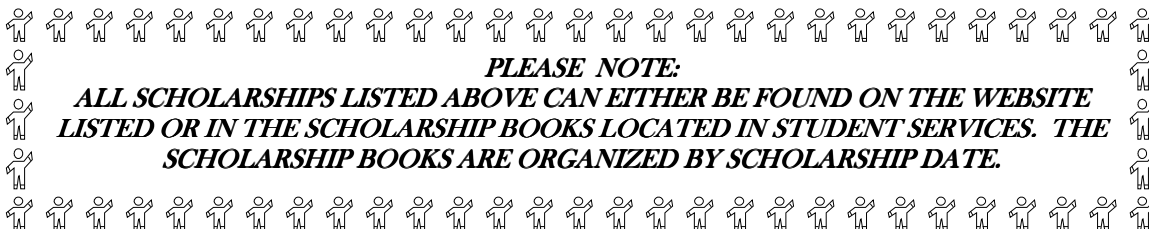
Young Entrepreneur Foundation Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000—\$10,000

Eligibility: Any graduating high school senior that owns and operates own small business.

Deadline: December 31, 2010

http://www.NFIB.com/YEA


  
**PLEASE NOTE:**
  
**ALL SCHOLARSHIPS LISTED ABOVE CAN EITHER BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE**
  
**LISTED OR IN THE SCHOLARSHIP BOOKS LOCATED IN STUDENT SERVICES. THE**
  
**SCHOLARSHIP BOOKS ARE ORGANIZED BY SCHOLARSHIP DATE.**

## OTHER INFORMATION

The New England Regional Student Program provides TUITION SAVINGS to New England students who study certain majors such as Meteorology at other New England public colleges and universities. Information available in the Student Services Office.

The Maine Educational Opportunity Center offers assistance in choosing and planning a career, selecting a college and completing financial aid and admission forms. This service is FREE. If you would like to schedule an appointment with a MEOC counselor, call 1-800-281-3703.



Interested in attending college abroad? Consider the International University in Bremen, Germany. All courses are taught in English and follow the standard US course-based credit-point system. Majors focused within School of Engineering and Science and School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Visit [www.iu-bremen.de](http://www.iu-bremen.de) or the Student Services office for more information!

What is Civil and Environmental Engineering??  
Find out at: [www.umeciv.maine.edu](http://www.umeciv.maine.edu)

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★ The Student Services Office is now open until ★  
★ 5:30 every Tuesday! A Counselor will be avail- ★  
★ able to assist you with you college search, in- ★  
★ cluding the use of BRIDGES, our compre- ★  
★ hensive career and college information program. ★  
★  
★ Access BRIDGES at home! ★  
★ [www.bridges.com](http://www.bridges.com) ★  
★ Click: "Create a New Account: ★  
★ Access ID: 1034005 ★  
★ Access Password: P2y5j3Q2 ★  
★ Click: "Login" ★  
★ Create your username and password ★  
★ If you forget your username or password, see a ★  
★ counselor. ★  
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

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## COLLEGES OPEN HOUSE

### OCTOBER

Southern Maine Community College—Saturday, October 16th, 11:00 am—3:30 pm

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA—Sunday, October 17th, 10:00 am

Central Maine Community College—Saturday, October 23rd, 9:00 am—1:00 pm

The University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA—Saturday, October 23rd, 12:00 pm—4:00 pm

Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, MA—October 23rd & November 13th  
FMI: [www.bridgewater.edu/admissions](http://www.bridgewater.edu/admissions)

St. Joseph's College, Fall Visit Day—Saturday, October 23rd

**COLLEGES OPEN HOUSE** - continued

**Bay Path College, Longmeadow, MA—Sunday, October 24th, 11:00 am—3:00 pm**

**McGill University, Montreal, Canada—Sunday, October 24th, 10:00 am—4:00 pm**

**University of Southern Maine—Sunday, October 24th, noon-4:30, register on line at [www.usm.maine.edu/admit/regform.jsp](http://www.usm.maine.edu/admit/regform.jsp)**

**University of Maine Fort Kent—Monday, October 25th - RSVP by Wednesday, October 20th to [umfkadm@maine.edu](mailto:umfkadm@maine.edu) or call 1-888-879-8635**

**NOVEMBER**

**Sterling College, Craftsbury Common, VT—Saturday, November 6th**

**Husson University, Bangor, ME—Saturday, November 13th, 9:00 am—12:00 noon**

**Wheelock College, Boston, MA—Saturday, November 13th, register on line at [undergrad@wheelock.edu](mailto:undergrad@wheelock.edu)**

**Trinity College, Hartford, CT—Preview Weekend, November 13th through Nov. 15th. Deadline to register is October 19, 2010. FMI: [admissions.office@trincoll.edu](mailto:admissions.office@trincoll.edu)**



**WINDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**  
**SENIOR PARENT FORM**

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

WHS school counselors spend a great deal of time writing recommendations for college-bound students. Our recommendations are fair, honest appraisals that capture the best qualities of our students. We have often thought that we would appreciate parental input because, as a parent, you could have spent more time with your teen than any other person. Therefore, your insights may be very helpful. For example, your teen may have had an unusual opportunity through a community, political, or religious organization. He/she may have shown persistence in a difficult situation.

What are some of your son's or daughter's most recent outstanding accomplishments?

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What are the words that first come to mind to describe your daughter/son? Explain briefly.

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Would your daughter/son benefit from support services in college? Please explain. (such as, tutoring, career exploration, health services, transition to college, etc.)

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Additional Information: \_\_\_\_\_

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Continue on back of form if necessary.

If you choose to complete this form, please return to WHS Student Services Office by **November 13** or sooner according to college deadlines. We appreciate your assistance.

## COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES:

Wondering which colleges offer support for student with learning disabilities?

There are lots of good schools out there! One of the best guides is:

K & W (Kravetz & Wax) Guide to Colleges for Students with Learning Disabilities

Some of the more comprehensive colleges include:

Curry College

Landmark

Mitchell College

Mount Ida

Lynn University

Alfred University

Beacon College (Exclusively LD)

### Pearly words before the ink dries on your college essay:

- Your essay is really the only piece of your application over which you have total control. The strength (or weakness) of your essay sets the tone for how the rest of your application is read. If your essay is amazing, it may make the weaker parts of your application look a little better.
- Make sure that the essay could only be written by you. Others can and should read your essay and give you feedback, but the language and style should be yours alone.
- Write about something very salient in one's life; don't write on a topic that you think "sounds impressive". Write as well as you can about something you know well and care about.
- There is no right topic to write about. On the other hand, there are wrong approaches. Having the quarterback talk about his passion about winning the game is cliché, unless it reveals something personal about him. In other words, when writing about an experience, issue, or person important to you, be sure to focus on WHY.
- The opening sentence needs to "grab" the reader. Colleges read so many essays that an imaginative opening will get their attention.
- If you are not known for your humor, don't use your college essay as your first attempt to be funny!
- The essay can take virtually any format (autobiographical, fiction, etc.) but should communicate three things: how well you think, how well you write and who you are.
- Allow plenty of time of time to write a first draft, proofread, proofread, proofread, and finalize essay (don't even think about waiting until the night before the deadline!).

—Own it

—Keep it short

—Make one point well

—Do not use a thesaurus

Like it!

*If you don't know where you are going, you will end up somewhere else...*

**CAREERS IN THE NEWS**

There is a serious shortage of dentists, dental hygienists and dental lab technicians in Maine. For further information about careers in dentistry, visit: [www.medental.org](http://www.medental.org)

Skilled workers are needed in the metal products industry. Programs are available at Central, Northern, Southern, and Eastern Maine Community Colleges with transfer guaranteed to USM's School of Applied Science, Engineering and Technology.

Would you like a career in Outdoor Recreation? Consider a Bachelor of Science, Environmental Management and Policy or Parks, Recreation and Tourism at the University of Maine.

**~COLLEGE OF THE MONTH~  
Mitchell College, New London, CT  
"Where students learn to succeed"**

- Small liberal arts college (800) students on the ocean offering 2 and 4 year majors.
- Renowned support program for learning disabled students
- Strong programs in Psychology, Early Childhood Education and Business
- Division III athletics began in 2004!