



**WINDHAM HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT
SENIOR BULLETIN
JANUARY 2011**



THE FOLLOWING TIME LINE WILL HELP TO KEEP YOU ON TRACK FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS:

FEBRUARY/MARCH

- Complete college applications
- Make sure the Student Services Office has your ‘Transcript/Recommendation Request Form’ at least 4 weeks before college deadlines.
- Check deadlines!
- Online FAFSA is free, fast and easy to navigate. The FAFSA can be completed at: www.fafsa.ed.gov If you make an error, you will be prompted to check your figures. Go to www.pin.ed.gov to get a pin number, so that you can electronically sign your FAFSA.
- Information from the January 6th Financial Aid program is available on our website.
- The FAFSA and the Profile (if required) should be filled out and mailed by February 15 or ASAP.
- **REMINDER.....**The FAFSA must be completed in order to qualify for local scholarships.
- Send signed, complete copies of parent/student federal income tax returns to college financial aid offices, *if required.*
- ***Let us know to which colleges you want your mid-year grades sent.**
- Men who are at least 18 years old must register for the Draft in order to receive federal financial aid. Inquire at the Post Office for registration materials or apply when filling out the FAFSA.
- Please notify the Student Services Office when you receive college decisions. With your permission, we will announce the good news!
- Regular registration deadline for the May 7th SAT is April 18th and for the ACT the registration deadline is March 4th for the April 9th test.
- If you are unsure about your plans after graduation, please make an appointment with your school counselor.

The Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) will provide assistance in completing the FAFSA. The toll free number is: 1-800-228-3734. The Financial Aid Tool Belt, published by the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME), is a valuable resource to assist you with the financial aid process and information about scholarships.

INSIDE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

As college deadlines approach, admissions offices across the country are sorting through literally thousands of applications and supporting documents. If you receive a letter or postcard that says something is missing from your file, **DON'T PANIC!** It usually takes a few days to get all the mail sorted and filed.

College Based Scholarships- Further information available in the Student Services office:

Art Institute of Philadelphia
Champlain College
Emery University
Hartwick College
Kenyon College
Ithica College
Maine College of Art
Montana State University
Simmons College
Southern New Hampshire University
University College of Bangor
University of Virginia
Susquehanna University
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Anna Maria College
Heartwood College of Art

SCHOLARSHIPS

REVIEW SCHOLARSHIPS FROM DECEMBER BULLETIN

American History Scholarship/DAR Scholarship

Amount: \$2,000 each year for up to four years.

Eligibility: High school seniors who will be majoring in American History. Essay required.

Deadline: February 15, 2011 — www.dar.org/natsociety/edout_scholar.cfm

Enid Hall Griswold Memorial Scholarship/DAR

Amount: \$1,000

Eligibility: Accredited college or university who is majoring in Political Science, History, Government or Economics.

Deadline: February 15, 2011 — www.dar.org/natsociety

Caroline E. Holt Nursing Scholarship/DAR

Amount: \$1000

Eligibility: Enrolled in an accredited school of nursing.

Deadline: February 15, 2011 — www.dar.org/natsociety

FFA Scholarship Fund

Amount: Varies

Eligibility: Must be FFA member and have a demonstrated interest and motivation to pursue a career in farming and agriculture.

Deadline: February 15, 2011 — Applications available online at: www.ffa.org

Best Buy Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Eligibility: Recipients are selected based on community service and academic achievement.

Deadline: February 16, 2011.

You must apply online. Go to www.at15.com

Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America

Amount: \$250

Eligibility: Seniors with Asthma or significant allergies planning to begin higher education after high school. Write an essay entitled, "Growing Up With Asthma or Severe Allergies; Challenges I Faced and How I Met Them".

Deadline: February 25, 2011 Application available online:

www.asthmaandallergies.org under Teen Topics

Vegetarian Resource Scholarship

Amount: 2 @ \$5,000

Eligibility: Vegetarian who has promoted vegetarianism in his or her school and their community.

Deadline: February 20, 2011 — www.vrg.org and click on "Teens, Family & Kids"

University of Maine College of Engineering Scholarships

Amount: \$1,000 - \$4,000

Eligibility: Must be enrolled in engineering program, be in top 10% of class, SAT's above 1250. See more about requirements at www.civil.umaine.edu/prospective-students/scholarships. Additional scholarships are offered through the Pulp and Paper Foundation, Army or Navy ROTC and through each engineering department.

Deadline: Varies —

Mainely Character

Amount: \$2,500—\$5,000

Eligibility: Demonstrate courage, integrity, responsibility and concern.

Deadline: March 1, 2011 — www.mainelycharacter.org or pick up application in Student Services

Maine Community Foundation Ronald P. Guerrette FFA Scholarship

Amount: Varies

Eligibility: Must be FFA members and pursuing a career in farming and/or agriculture

Deadline: March 1, 2011—Information available in Student Services

Maine Society of Professional Engineers

Amount: \$1,500

Eligibility: Must be majoring in any area of engineering, demonstrate academic excellence, have combined SAT score of 1100 or above and write 250 word essay. Application available in Student Services or by emailing: chewett@hwengineers.com

Deadline: March 2, 2011

Scholar Athlete Milk Mustache of the Year (SAMMY)

Amount: \$7,500

Eligibility: Academic performance (35%), athletic excellence (35%), leadership(15%), community service (10%) and milk experience (5%).

Deadline: March 4, 2011 Apply online at: www.bodybymilk.com

A. Leigh Phillips Scholarship

Amount: \$700 and up

Eligibility: Must have identified learning disability (ies) and demonstrate achievement in one or more of the following: academics, extra-curricular, leadership, volunteerism, work ethic, ability to deal in adversity.

Deadline: March 4, 2011 — www.madsec.org and click "About MADSEC"

Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program

Amount: \$50—\$5,000

Eligibility: Must be nominated and be able to demonstrate a “positive impact on others.” Your nominating person should go to www.kohlskids.com

Deadline: March 15, 2011

Shaw-Worth Memorial Scholarship/The Humane Society of the United States

Amount: \$2,500

Eligibility: Demonstrate meaningful contribution to animal protection over a significant period of time.

Deadline: March 15, 2011— Information available in Student Services

American Lung Association Golf Privilege Card Scholarship

Amount: 2 @ \$500

Eligibility: Must be involved in the game of golf and be a non-tobacco user.

Information available in Student Services

Deadline: March 18, 2011

Bob Elliot – Channel 8 Journalism Scholarship

Amount: \$1,500

Eligibility: Graduating senior within the WMTW viewing area who plans to major in journalism, communications or a related area of study, must write a 500 word essay. Application available in Student Services or online.

Deadline: March 26, 2011— www.wmtw.com

James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship

Amount: Varies

Eligibility: Parent must be member of local Teamster's Union.

Deadline: March 31, 2011 — www.teamster.org/content/about-james-r-hoffa-memorial-scholarship-fund

Lawrence Alan Spiegel Remembrance Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Eligibility: Write an essay entitled “*Why is it important that the remembrance, history and lessons of the Holocaust be passed on to a new generation?*”

Deadline: March 31, 2011 — <http://www.hhrc.uma.edu/spiegel.htm>

Associated General Contractors of Maine Education Foundation Scholarship

Amount: Varies—Minimum \$1500—Maximum \$4000

Eligibility: Entering a construction related field of study at a Maine college, demonstrate academic achievement and financial need. Write 150 word essay explaining interest in a career in construction.

Deadline: March 31, 2011 Application available in Student Services.

National Council of Jewish Women

Eligibility: Scholarships awarded to Jewish students from the greater Portland area on the basis of financial need And academic achievement, Jewish commitment and general community involvement.

Call or email: Gail Volk at 797-8945 email: gjvolk@aol.com

Deadline: March 31, 2011

Rainbow Business & Professional Association Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Eligibility: Must be majoring in a field of study which will promote the vitality, productivity and growth of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered business/professional community throughout Maine.

Deadline: April 1, 2011 — www.rbpa.org and download application

OTHER INFORMATION

The University of Maine now has an office in South Portland. Students can obtain admissions materials and schedule personal and informational interviews at the Portland office. The address is 100 Foden Road, Ste 303 West Building S. Portland, ME. 04106, and the phone number is: 828-2327

College application fee waivers are available for eligible students. See your school counselor for details.

The University College of Bangor offers a two year Associate's Degree program in Veterinary Technology.

College/Career Resources

A Guide to Cooperative Education

100 Colleges where Average Students can Excel

High School 411 Turn High School Into Your Teen's Path to College

Website for workforce

Want to attend college but not sure if you can be successful? Through the generosity of Bernard Osher, the University of Maine System is offering financial assistance (\$500) and academic support for first year students at select university centers. See your school counselor for further information.

A list of additional websites for financial aid and scholarship information is available on the
.....Student Services website.....

How to tell if a student is ready for college?

1. Evidence of self-reliance, independence, willingness to take responsibility (e.g. beginning with filling out your own college and scholarship applications!).
2. Meet academic responsibilities at more than the minimum level without constant prodding and supervision by adults.
3. **Good Time Management** plus some basic organizational skills. Knowing how to do the laundry really helps!
4. Willingness to seek help almost immediately when encountering academic difficulty.

SPOTLIGHT ON CAREERS

- If you like learning by "doing" rather than listening.
 - Like outdoor activities and have hobbies such as: fishing, hunting, biking, kayaking, and skiing.
 - Work easily in small groups or alone. Not afraid of accepting responsibility.
 - Would like a starting salary between \$31,000 and \$61,000.
 - Consider a career as a professional land surveyor or as a construction project engineer or supervisor!
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**Windham High School
Student Services**

APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

You have probably heard that “millions of scholarship dollars go unclaimed each year.” You have probably also heard stories about outstanding students who couldn’t get scholarships. The fact is, there are thousands of scholarships available. Most scholarships, however, have very specific eligibility criteria (a student must go to XYZ college, have an ACT score of 28+ and be in the top 5 % of his/her class, or a student must belong to a particular ethnic group, race or religion, have leadership ability, a specific major, have overcome a great obstacle, etc.)

When it comes to academic scholarships, students generally must have an outstanding GPA (3.5 or better), high SAT/ACT scores, and excellent recommendations. For most scholarships, applicants are also expected to be involved in extracurricular and/or community activities. To receive an athletic or talent scholarship, a student must truly be outstanding. Even though it is not easy to obtain an academic or talent scholarship, students and parents who are willing to invest the time and energy often find that their efforts pay off handsomely. When looking for scholarships, keep the following in mind:

1. Finding and applying for scholarships takes time and effort.
 2. While groups and organizations offer numerous scholarships, most of the large scholarships are awarded by the colleges themselves. Contact the financial aid office of the college(s) you are considering, and ask them for information on the scholarships they offer.
 3. Private colleges are often more generous when awarding scholarships, thus making them competitive in price with public colleges. Don’t rule out a private college until you’ve seen their aid package.
 4. Apply for local scholarships (Kiwanis, PTA, etc.). While these scholarships are generally for smaller amounts (\$100-\$1,000), they are usually easier to get.
 5. Be aware of deadlines! Scholarship applications become available throughout a student’s senior year, and sometimes they’re due only weeks after publicized.
 6. Network. Tell everyone, including the high school counselor, that you are looking for scholarships. Check for scholarship opportunities with your place of employment, your church, and with organizations in your local newspaper(s).
 7. The internet can provide students and parents with a great deal of information on a wide variety of scholarships. Student services and libraries also have books and computer programs that list scholarship opportunities.
 8. Make sure that teachers and counselors are given plenty of time to write recommendations and to prepare transcripts. Be aware of deadlines!!!
 9. Your son or daughter will have a much better chance of getting a scholarship at a college, if he/she is in the top 25% of the applicants.
 10. Always check to see if financial aid and scholarship awards are renewable.
 11. Scholarship searches that charge a fee are seldom worth the money and many are scams.
 12. Happy hunting and good luck.
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FAFSA Information

The Department of Education has created a new program called FAFS4caster. This online tool provides families with an early estimate of their financial aid eligibility before their senior year in high school.

Benefits of using the FAFSA4caster include:

- Provides an estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- Calculates a student's estimated eligibility for federal financial aid, including grants.
- Reduces the time it will take to complete the FAFSA.
- Automatically generates and e-mails the Federal PIN.
- the FAFSA4caster is Free.

Remember: This tool provides an estimate and is only as accurate as the information provided. The student must still complete the FAFSA and the financial aid office will determine the actual award a student is eligible to receive.

Students will be able to obtain a paper FAFSA by calling 1-800-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or from the web site: www.edpubs.org. Students may request up to three copies of the paper application and should receive their FAFSAs in three to seven business days.

The FAFSA on the Web Worksheet, the most effective tool students can use to facilitate the online application process, is available in the Student Services office or online.

