

# CLASS OF 2018

# COLLEGE BULLETIN

Volume 5 Issue 10 • October 20, 2017

## This Issue's Features

- College Essays
- Upcoming Events
- College Scholarships
- Test Dates

## TESTING DATES / REGISTRATION DEADLINES

### SAT

Nov. 4 / Oct. 5

Dec. 2 / Nov. 2

### ACT

Oct. 28 / Sept. 22

Dec. 9 / Nov. 3

Registration Fee

\$46

**CEEB Code**

**060-251**

Register online or pick up  
registration materials in  
the College Center.

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

*Students interested in highly  
selective schools need to allow  
time to take SAT Subject  
Tests (sometimes required)*

## YOUR COLLEGE ESSAY

**T**hings have changed a great deal from the time when communication was limited to quills and parchment paper. Computers now allow us to instantly check grammar, spelling and garbled thoughts. However, writing a college essay continues to be a challenging task.

Colleges are hoping to find out more about you that is not already evident in your application. In addition to demonstrating your ability to write, colleges want to get some sense of who you are. *How do you see the world? What is important to you?* Effective essays go beyond superficial impressions and delve into the *how* and *why*. You can write a wonderful college essay about a seemingly inconsequential event. The trick is to tell your own personal story in such a way as to reveal something about you.

Probably the most important tip for writing a successful college essay is to start early. It is difficult to write well when you are stressed about the looming deadlines. You will want to take plenty of time to refine your thoughts and proof-read thoroughly. Reading your essay out loud can help you find minor typos. It is wise to have someone else read it, too. Here are some other tips to help you write a masterpiece:

**Things to do.** Be yourself. Choose an experience that is meaningful to you and write what you feel. Put your mind into motion by revisiting childhood memories. Read a children's story or two. Try to capture the main idea in one sentence before sitting down to write. Use the words that you normally use when speaking, rather than lofty vocabulary and syntax. Accentuate the positive and use details. Write clearly and thoroughly. If a detail sounds vague, change it. Sift through the essay and cut out the unnecessary words such as *many* and *very*.

**Things to avoid.** Trying to be cute, sounding older or more sophisticated than you are should be avoided. Your essay should sound like you, a 17 year old a professional with 20 years' experience. Be careful of overextending yourself by making your topic too broad or too philosophical. There is a word limit to most essays, so being concise with your topic can keep your essay focused. Slang and swear words have no place in a college essay, neither do contractions. Avoid repeating information in your essay that is already included in a different part of your application.

A well written essay, free of grammatical mistakes and typos sends the message that you are a serious candidate deserving serious consideration.

## LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

**Greenhouse Scholars** 4 year scholarships of up to \$5000 a year to help students meet unmet need. Students must have at least a 3.5 GPA and demonstrate financial need. Household annual income may not exceed \$70,000 . Greenhouse Scholars are paired with a mentor for ongoing support and have the opportunity to access career advice from professional liaisons. Greenhouse Scholars attend a Summer Symposium for leadership training and will complete at least one internship before the start of the senior year. For more information go to: [www.greenhousescholars.org/eligibility.html](http://www.greenhousescholars.org/eligibility.html) Deadline: January 4

**GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program** Numerous recipients receive a \$10,000 scholarship renewable for up to an additional six years – up to \$40,000 total per recipient. Awards may be used for education-related expenses, including tuition, fees, books, supplies, room, and board. In addition, Scholars are invited to participate in a special awards program. To be eligible for this award, applicants must: Demonstrate at school, at the workplace, and within the community the attributes of leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship, demonstrate strong academic performance (minimum 3.0 GPA), demonstrate financial need, be a US citizen, be high school seniors attending high school in the US and graduating in 2018, DEADLINE: January 7, 2018 or until 25,000 applications are submitted, whichever comes first. [www.scholarshipamerica.org/ge-reagan/](http://www.scholarshipamerica.org/ge-reagan/)

## RESOURCES

### *Financial Aid*

[FAFSA](#)

[FSA ID](#)

[CSS/PROFILE](#)

## COLLEGE VISITS

Nov 1	Regis University
Nov 1	Notre Dame Univ
Nov 6	Harding University
Nov 8	Colorado Mesa Univ
Nov 15	US Naval Academy

## “IN THE MIST OF CHOOSING COLLEGES”

The following are bloopers from admissions essays received by Bates College in Lewiston, Maine:

- If there was a single word to describe me, that would have to be ‘perfectionist’.
- I was abducted into the national honor society.
- I function well as an individual and a group.
- I want to be fully bilingual in three or more languages.
- I proliferate with English courses.
- I can read, speak and write fluently in Greek. My other sports are tennis and volleyball.
- I have taken many curses in literature and writing.
- At night we stayed in a youth hostile.
- I have never been to New England, but from what I’ve heard it is a beautiful country.

---

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Financial Aid Night: November 2**

Mrs. Fruh will explain the ins and outs of all things related to college financial aid. We will meet at MacLaren at 6:30pm.

### **Denver Performing & Visual Arts Fair: Nov 6**

**7:00-9:00pm** Denver Center for the Performing Arts—Seawell Ballroom. Register [here](#).