





#### **Important Dates:**

**Feb 16** FHS Colors Day

Dance 9:30-11:30

pm

**Feb 27** Civics Test for

seniors who have not taken this

exam.

**Feb 27** WorkKeys test

for seniors

Mar 18 - 22 Spring Break -

No School

**Apr 22** AP Scholar

Luncheon from llam to lpm in

library

May 6 - 17 AP Testing

May 14 Honors and

Awards Night for Seniors

May 16 Graduation at

Bud Walton

Arena, 7pm



# College Reps and Career speakers visiting FHS in February, 2024

Click <u>HERE</u> to see the complete list which is updated daily.!

All college and career visits take place in the Phase 4, 3rd floor commons and students may sign up for the college visits in RTI scheduler on Monday in advisory.

FYI: The college reps who visit our school are the same people who will be reading

# Scholarships on Naviance

Scholarship season is underway and we have been busy entering our newly received scholarships. This will continue throughout April so students need to check the site frequently. Students can access this list of scholarships by logging into Naviance and choosing the **Colleges** tab, then, under the **Scholarships & Money** Headline, selecting the **Scholarship Search** link. This will take them directly to our FHS scholarship list. If students want to look at school specific scholarships, they can select that link under the Scholarships & Money Headline. If students wish to do a national scholarship search (private scholarships that are available to students nationwide) they can select that link. **There are currently 41 active scholarships on Naviance with more to come!** 



# **DON'T FORGET ABOUT THESE!**



**The Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship** - \$40,000 over four years and you qualify with a 32 superscore on your ACT

**Arkansas Future Grant** - the state of Arkansas pays ALL TUITION AND FEES for a 2-year or trade school program that qualifies as high need or high demand.

Apply HERE!

# Mid-Year Reports and 7th semester transcripts/GPAs

The snow days slowed us down a bit in terms of entering first semester grades; however, as of January 24, all mid-year reports (including 7 semester transcripts) have been sent digitally to colleges. Students needing a transcript for scholarships will still need to request a transcript through Naviance.

# **University of Arkansas Housing - Important Dates**

<u>February 6</u> - Roommate selection begins at 10:00 am. This is Phase 3 in the housing process. At this point, students can link with their roommates if they have decided who those roommates will be.

<u>March 1</u> - The university may retain the full two-hundred and forty dollar deposit (\$240) if your housing contract is not canceled by noon on March 1, 2024.

March 26 - Honors Fellows select dorm rooms

<u>March 26 - 29</u> - Honors College room selection (reserved for those students who were accepted into the Honors College prior to December 15, 2023) <u>April 9 - 12</u> - Room selection, Round 1 your applications for admission. It is to your advantage to make contact with them while they are on our campus.

# **Helpful Resources**:

FHS Counseling Website

Students can access this site for resources regarding testing, college applications, mental health, and other FAQs related to the counseling center.

**FAFSA Website** 

Free ACT Prep Resource that can be ordered directly from ACT

# Are you a first-generation student?

If you are the first in your immediate family to attend college, the whole college process can be overwhelming. The College Tour offers a free online class that will help you get more information on the process. Check out this LINK for more information and to begin.

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# Free/Reduced Meals

Remember to submit your free/reduced lunch application by going to: https://www.myschoolapps.com/Home/. If you qualify for this program, you may be eligible to have your college application fees waived, get up to 2 fee waivers for the ACT, and get the NCAA initial application fee waived.

**Project Graduation Link** 

<u>AP Testing Schedule Link</u>

<u>April 23 - 26</u> - Room selection, Round 2

May 14 - 17 - Room selection, Round 3

May 28 -31 - Room selection, Round 4

June 18 - Select your arrival time on move in day

Students will receive an email in their U of A portal indicating their assigned time and date to choose a dorm room. A piece of advice - don't wait until the assigned day to look online at the dorms on campus. On the housing site, there are pictures, floorplans and facts about each dorm on campus. Make sure you look at a campus map to determine the location of the dorm and its proximity to other places on campus you might frequent. The U of A housing website is linked HERE.

## **FAFSA Update**

The 24-25 FAFSA did not go according to plan during the December 31, 2023 rollout. The site was glitchy (to say the least) and was only open during certain hours - which made logging on and completing the form almost impossible. According to a statement issued by the U.S. Department of Education on January 24, the FAFSA includes a mistake that would make some applicants appear to have more income than they really do, meaning they would get less aid than they should. The ED's FAFSA math, for deciding how much aid a student should get, is wrong. An Education Department spokesperson finally confirmed that the department will fix this mistake in time for the 2024-2025 award year, though they could not provide details on how or how quickly. For the first time, the department also gave a sense of how much federal student aid students could lose out on if it's not fixed: \$1.8 billion dollars. With no further details, college financial aid offices are worried, and financial aid timelines are still in the air. Most colleges are extending deadlines for a FAFSA form to be submitted and considered for aid. The Arkansas Department of Education has issued a statement indicating that they have moved their deadline to August 1, 2024 to file a FAFSA. This is not a deadline to apply for scholarships and students must still adhere to ADHE scholarship deadlines. A link to helpful FAFSA videos can be found HERE!

#### John Brown University offering FAFSA assistance

In an effort to make the FAFSA less overwhelming, JBU is making their staff available to assist families. The financial aid office is hosting FAFSA and financial aid open houses at coffee shops across NWA to help students (and parents) fill out the FAFSA or answer questions about their financial aid from JBU. These come-and-go open houses are totally free, and JBU will even cover the cost of their coffee if they stop by.

This event is open to all seniors, not just those who have applied to or are considering JBU. Students or parents can text JBU at (479) 320-2672 or email admissions@jbu.edu with any questions.

- Bentonville Thur, Feb 15, 4–7 PM at Airship Coffee at 5th Street
- Springdale Tues, Feb 27, 3–6 PM at Red Kite Coffee Co
- Fayetteville Wed, Mar 6, 3–6:30 PM at Summer Moon Coffee

#### Senioritis?

Senioritis is a real thing and often hits seniors around this time of the school year. Symptoms sometimes include tiredness or weariness with school, skipping classes, and procrastination of assigned work. It's important to remember that this is not the time to slack off. Colleges will see a student's final transcript this summer, and they do have the right to

rescind (i.e., take back) their offer of admission if your spring grades drop significantly

### **Admitted Student Days**

Admitted Student Days are events held by colleges for students who have received an offer of admission. They are usually held in the spring semester and offer opportunities for admitted students and their guests to explore campus, meet the faculty and students, and learn more about the academic and social life of the institution. Admitted Student Days can help families decide whether their student should enroll in a particular school or not. If possible, attend in-person and virtual events for admitted students to get your questions answered and help inform your decision-making process.

## **Reminder: Check Your Emails and Applicant Portals**

You must check your emails and portals daily throughout the spring semester. If you miss a request for more information or an additional document, it could jeopardize your admissions chances so check regularly. As a senior, there are so many things going on that sometimes it's an easy thing to forget. However, this is how colleges, scholarship committees, your high school and your counselor communicate with you about time sensitive issues. You don't want to lose out on a scholarship or miss an opportunity you didn't know about because you forgot to check your email!

#### **ACT Information**

Go to <u>act.org</u> to sign up. If this is your first time to take the test, you will need to create an account. Once you sign up, check your ticket and go to the appropriate location you signed up for on the testing day. If you have free or reduced lunch, you can request up to 2 fee waivers during your senior year.

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Fee Registration Deadline
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 22, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 17, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024