Welcome to your Senior Year at WCHS!

It's here! You're finally a senior! The end is in sight! Your year as a senior will be one of *endings* and *beginnings*. Several things will come to an end: your daily school routine, your involvement in clubs, sports teams, and performing groups, and your high school academic journey. At the same time, your life after high school is just beginning! You'll have new schools and new jobs. Some will move away to new homes. You'll make new friends and be involved in new groups. As an adult, you'll have new privileges and new responsibilities within your community. Life will never be the same again.

A huge part of our role in the Guidance Office at WCHS is to help you *end well* as you wrap up your time among us at WCHS, and *begin well* as you transition into your life beyond high school. These 2025-26 Senior Newsletters will help us communicate some important information to you as you make this transition.

Upcoming Important Dates:

- October 28: IN-SCHOOL SAT Testing. Sign-up deadline is August 29.
- September 15: Career Fair at the Fairgrounds.
- **September 17: SENIOR SOAR NIGHT.** Informational meeting and cookout for all seniors and their parents. WCHS Commons, 6:30pm. Dinner provided!
- September 20: MARDI GRAS SCHOLARSHIP application deadline.
- September 22-26: COLLEGE GO WEEK. Many Indiana colleges and universities waive their application fees during this week!
- September 30: COCA-COLA SCHOLARSHIP application deadline.

Scholarships

Below are some scholarship opportunities we know about. Check back regularly: this list is always growing and changing!

2025 Winchester Mardi Gras King and Queen Scholarships

Applications for these scholarships have been emailed to you previously. Paper copies are also available in the High School Office.

Indiana University Bloomington Wells Scholars Program

The IU Bloomington Wells Scholars Program nominations are open. If you are interested in attending IU Bloomington please let either Mr. Hendrickson or Mrs. Winkle know so we can consider you for nomination.

National Young Arts Foundation

National YoungArts Foundation identifies the most accomplished young artists in the visual, literary, and performing arts, and provides them with creative and professional opportunities throughout their careers. To apply or learn more visit www.youngarts.org

School Specific Scholarships

Many schools offer specific scholarships for students, both merit and need-based. Visit school websites and talk to schools' financial aid offices to find out what opportunities are available to you.

Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation is awarding \$3.55 million to over 1,400 students. Go to www.coca-colascholars.org to learn more and apply. **Deadline: September 30, 2025.**

Heisman High School Scholarship

The Heisman High School Scholarship program honors hundreds of the nation's most accomplished, community-minded high school senior athletes each year. This year, the college scholarship amounts have been doubled, increasing support for each student-athlete's education. The program will recognize a winner from each high school that has student participation. The top male and female applicants from each state will be awarded \$1,000. State winners will move on for the chance to become a national finalist and win at least \$2,000. Of the national finalists, a male and a female will be selected as the winner of the \$10,000 National Heisman High School Scholarship. To learn more and apply visit www.heismanscholarship.com

Horatio Alger Scholarships

The Horatio Alger Association honors the achievements of outstanding individuals in our society who have succeeded despite adversity and who are committed to supporting young people in pursuit of increased opportunities through higher education. To learn more and apply visit www.scholars.horatioalger.org Deadlines are different for each scholarship. Visit their website now to identify which scholarships you are interested in and note their individual deadlines.

CREATE YOUR FEDERAL STUDENT AID ACCOUNT NOW!

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) goes live in December. The first step to completing it is to create an account at www.studentaid.gov. I will be visiting the Government and Econ classes next week to help!

General Information

LearnMoreIndiana:

Take advantage of school websites and other related websites. A good state resource is www.learnmoreindiana.org which has career interest surveys, career surveys, college and university courses of study, admissions planning, and more. You can also check out http://www.indianacollegecosts.org/ for more information related to paying for college.

March2Success:

March2Success provides an online study program to help students prepare for standardized tests, improve your schoolwork, and review materials. To learn more visit www.march2success.com

CollegeBoard, SAT:

Register for the SAT, access SAT prep materials and more at www.collegeboard.org

ACT:

Register for the ACT, access ACT prep materials, and more at www.act.org

Indiana College Cost Estimator:

This is a comprehensive website for colleges and universities in Indiana. On this website, you can put in your family's financial information and see how much each school will cost you after financial aid is factored in. This is a great website to see how much college will actually cost. Visit www.indianacollegecosts.org to learn more.

<u>Individual school scholarship calculators:</u> Some colleges and universities offer online scholarship finders such as this one at Ball State: https://www.bsu.edu/admissions/financial-aid-and-scholarships/scholarship-calculator Simply enter your information about high school class rank, GPA, and SAT/ACT scores and they calculate which school scholarships you qualify for.

College entrance exams:

If you're planning on going to college, it's a good idea to take either the ACT, SAT or both. While the tests are *not currently required* for admission into most universities in Indiana, many of them award scholarships based on ACT and/or SAT scores. Taking the test can result in money for college!

2023-2024 ACT Schedule

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	<u>Late Registration</u> <u>Deadline (Fee)</u>
October 18, 2025	September 12, 2025	September 30, 2025
December 13, 2025	November 7, 2025	November 24, 2025
February 14, 2026	January 9, 2026	January 23, 2026
April 11, 2026	March 6, 2026	March 24, 2026
June 13, 2026	May 8, 2026	May 29, 2026
July 11, 2026	June 5, 2026	June 24, 2026

2023-2024 SAT Schedule

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (Fee)
Oct. 4, 2025	September 19, 2025	September 23, 2025
November 8, 2025	October 24, 2025	October 28, 2025
December 6, 2025	November 22, 2025	November 25, 2025
March 14, 2026	February 27, 2026	March 3, 2026
May 2, 2026	April 17, 2026	April 21, 2026
June 6, 2026	May 22, 2026	May 26, 2026