

More Info From the Counseling Office

Seniors: If you are planning to attend a 2-year or 4-year college after high school, you should already have applied for admission and be well along in the financial aid application process. If you haven't done it yet, complete and submit financial aid forms and scholarship applications ASAP. Here is free information and advice about how to complete the FAFSA at several websites: www.fafsa.ed.gov, www.financial.org, www.finaid.org, and www.fastweb.com.

Approximately 1-3 days after filing the FAFSA you should receive your Student Aid Report (SAR). This is a summary of the information you entered on the FAFSA. It will inform you of your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), and of whether you are eligible for a Pell Grant. **Check the information immediately!** The *FastWeb Student Bulletin* explains the SAR and the EFC. Read it online at www.fastweb.com.

Some students may be interested in participating in some **special programs of study** which are available at JHS and are designed to enhance a student's high school program. Some of these include:

- **Advanced Placement (AP)** is a program administered by the College Board. It includes courses for highly motivated students who wish to pursue college-level studies in the high school setting. Qualifying grades on end-of-year AP examinations can be submitted for college credit and/or waiver of course requirements in the freshman year of college. JHS offers AP classes in English, mathematics, music, science, social studies, and world languages.

IMPORTANT AP INFORMATION!!: Registration for this year's AP exams will take place from 3/6 – 3/17. The cost is \$96 per test. The tests are held at Juanita High School 5/1 through 5/11. Students will register and pay at the bookkeeper, and bring the receipt to the counseling office so we can order the correct number of tests. Students that qualify for free or reduced lunch can request a fee reduction from Ms. Zhou in the counseling office and pay only \$12 per test.

- **WaNIC** (Washington Network for Innovative Careers) is a consortium that offers approximately dozens of professional/technical classes to high school students in participating school districts like Lake Washington School District. Courses are intended for juniors and seniors in good academic standing. To register for a WaNIC course, please see Ms. Johnson in the Career Center.
- **Running Start information sessions are on 3/1 and 3/2!** Running Start is a dual enrollment program through which participating students may take college-level courses, tuition-free, at one of the area community colleges. Students simultaneously earn high school credit and college credit in eligible Running Start course work. Students interested in Running Start should have junior or senior standing in high school in 2017-2018 and attended one of the Information sessions. **We'll offer an orientation session on 3/1 (Bellevue and Cascadia College interest) and one on March 2 (Lake Washington Institute of Technology interest).** Both sessions will take place in the library after school.

- **Tech Prep College Connections** is a program that combines high school and community/technical college classes in one course of study taken at the high school. Students who are successful in a Tech Prep class can receive community college or technical college credit by submitting an application for credit. Many of the courses offered in the Occupational Education department at JHS are eligible for CC&CN credit. These courses have a special designation in the *Course Catalog*.

PE Assessment and Fitness Plan

3/8/17 is the deadline for submitting the last Fitness Plan of the year and for taking the last PE Assessment. For more information and registration forms please stop by the counseling office, or download them directly [here](#).

Juniors: In the months of April and May counselors will conduct Pre-Senior meetings with all their 11th graders. The meetings will take place during the school day and will last 15 minutes. At this time we'll review graduation requirements, course selection for their senior year, plans for credit retrieval if needed, and college planning. Students will receive a notification for the time and day of their conference a week or so in advance, and a list of names, times and dates will be posted outside the counseling office for further review. It is the responsibility of the student to arrive on time for their meetings. Parents are welcomed to join their students, but, due to the sheer number of students, meetings cannot be rescheduled to accommodate their attendance.

Juniors, your preparation for high school graduation and college admission becomes more intense as you complete the junior year. Your entire academic record, with particular attention to the junior year, is the basis of the initial academic evaluation done by colleges to which you apply. Maintain your studies so that you will have a strong finish to your academic year. If you plan to attend a four-year school after high school, you should take strong and challenging courses in the senior year. Colleges recommend that in the senior year you increase the rigor of your program and take at least four one-year academic courses, including world language and mathematics.

Plan to take a college admission test, such as the SAT or ACT, before the end of your junior year. If you have an advanced class, such as an AP class, you may want to take an SAT II (Subject test) in June. These tests are required by some selective institutions of higher learning, and you will achieve best results if you take the test as you complete the course in which the content of the test is taught. Registration for these tests is in April and May. Check testing dates on www.collegeboard.org and www.act.org

Important Dates in March and April 2017

March 1 and 2	Running Start Orientations after school in the library
March 2	Course Registration Sheets are due and online registration will be completed during homeroom
March 3	Registration deadline for the 4/8 ACT
March 6-17	AP registration
March 8	Last PE Assessment and Fitness Plan deadline
April 3 – 7	Spring Break
April 7	SAT registration deadline for 5/6 test date

