



CLASS OF 2027: SENIOR PARENT INFORMATION

William Henry Harrison High School
SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2026

CONTACT INFORMATION

School Counselors:

- **Brittani Truitt (A-G)**

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- **Nicole Schade (H-O)**

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- **Karley Groene (P-Z)**

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Graduation Information:

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Senior Advisors:

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Graduation Requirements

STEP 1: EARN CREDITS

Minimum: 21 Credits

English – 4

Math – 4

Science – 3

Social Studies – 3

Fine Arts – 1

Health – 0.5

PE – 0.5

Financial Literacy – 0.5

Electives – 4.5

STEP 2: SHOW COMPETENCY

Pass EOC Tests:

- Algebra I
- English II

If not passed after 2 tries:
→ Alternative pathways
available

STEP 3: SHOW READINESS

Earn 2 Diploma Seals
(1 must be Ohio seal)

Examples:

- OhioMeansJobs
- Industry Credential
- College Ready
- Citizenship
- Community Service
- Fine Arts

Honors Diploma Requirements

MUST MEET 7 OF THE 8:

1. 4 credits of Math (4th math higher than Algebra 2)
2. 4 credits of Science (4th science is an advanced science)
3. 4 credits of History
4. 3 years of a Foreign Language or 2 years of 2 languages
5. ACT 27 or higher, SAT 1580 or higher
6. UNWEIGHTED GPA of 3.5 or higher
7. 4 seals (excluding the Honors diploma seal and Ohio Means Jobs Seal if using for #8)
8. Experiential Learning (Ohio Means Jobs Seal, Work Based Learning, Portfolio, etc.)

Students can “sub out” any of the 3 highlighted ones if they meet alternate requirements (such as 250 hours of WBL, 12 CCP hours, etc.)

****Students are required to APPLY for the Honors Diploma, and applications are due by April 1st.**

SCHOOLINKS

- School counselors meet with seniors within the first month of school
- Sign up for college/career rep meetings at WHHHS
- Request transcripts
- Request teacher recommendation letters (if needed)
- Manage the college application process
- Career Interest Inventories
- Search for outside scholarships
- Research colleges and careers
- Complete graduation survey (in April)
- SchoolLinks URL: <https://app.schoollinks.com/dashboard>
- Parent Access to School Links (instructions on next slide)

TRANSCRIPT REMINDER

- Transcripts **WILL** be sent by the college deadlines
 - Students must request transcripts on SchooLinks two weeks before the application deadlines
 - If the student has taken any CCP courses, they will need to request an official transcript from every college they've taken a class through (typically mid-year, end of year transcripts)
 - Counselors have up to the application deadline to send in transcripts and letters of recommendation
 - **Student can submit their application without these being completed!!**
 - In order to write the best recommendations you must give the teacher/counselor time, your patience is appreciated, counselors have to do more than just sending the transcript.

SENIOR
YEAR
TIMELINE
REMINDERS

1st Semester Important Dates

- ASVAB: October 28th at 8 am
 - Will be at WHHHS in Makerspace
 - Email Mr. Pollitt to sign up
- Financial Aid Nights at WHHHS AC Auditorium
 - Miami University Financial Aid department presents.
 - September 24th at 5:00 pm
 - October 6th and 6:00 pm
- FAFSA Opens October 1st
- Early Action/Early Decision deadlines- typically November 1 (some schools have as early as October 15th)
 - More scholarships available if applying early action/decision vs. regular decision
- Order Cap and Gown before December 1st.
- College Athletes set up student portal if they haven't already (see Mrs. Schade for details/help)

December/January

- NCAA/NAIA/NJCAA eligibility registration should be complete by this time
- Complete college applications before leaving for break
 - www.commonapp.org
 - Individual school websites
- Start looking for outside scholarships
 - SchooLinks, Parent Square, etc.

February/March/April

- Schedule final college visits
- Be sure to regularly check your e-mail/college accounts for college information.
- Senior Survey complete by April 1
- Honors Diploma application is due 4/1.
- Request Mid-Year Transcripts (*IF NEEDED*)

May

- Make college decisions by May 1 - Senior Decision Day
- Take AP exams
- Senior Fine Arts Signing
- Senior Academic Signing
- Request final transcripts
- Students must indicate in SchoolLinks where the final transcript should be sent
- Graduation 😊

COLLEGE VISITS/JOB SHADOWING

- Students are still allowed to take up to 3 days to visit colleges or job shadow each school year.
 - You will schedule college visits with the university of your choice. You will then let the school counseling office know the date of your college visit and pick up needed paperwork.
 - Parent note stating the date of college visit is required before the paperwork is given.
 - It is your responsibility to find a job shadowing placement. The same paperwork process used for college visits will need to be filled out in advance for these as well.
 - These visits do NOT count against your excused absences limit.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- 3 avenues to acquire scholarships typically:
 - Local- ones that are Harrison/Cincinnati specific
 - Ms. Groene will post on SchooLinks and StudentSquare
 - Most of these will be available 2nd semester to apply
 - College- college specific, check school websites
 - These will vary college by college
 - Early Action/Early Decision opens the door for a lot more college specific scholarship opportunities.
 - National- National databases of scholarships
 - Competing against all students across the nation
 - Examples include Fastweb, Niche, Goingmerry

GMS/OGA

- Governor's Merit Scholarship- Ohio specific scholarship offered to the top 5% of the graduating class as of the end of their junior year.
 - Already predetermined, GMS sends each school the number that is the top 5%, we send them the list from the end of junior year.
 - Mrs. Truitt will be calling down the students who are being considered once the GMS committee sends us the final number that are eligible.
 - Only valid to use if enrolling in an Ohio college/university-if you transfer out of Ohio, you lose the scholarship
 - Strongly encouraged to stay in Ohio for their career after the completion of college.
- Ohio Guaranteed Admission- top 10% of the graduating class
 - Compliments GMS
 - Top 5%- guaranteed admission to the main campus of their choice (all public in Ohio, some private- program is NOT guaranteed)
 - Top 10%-guaranteed admission to at least the branch campus of the college of their choice.
 - Mrs. Truitt will give the qualifying students the validation form to send to college when released.

Ohio Direct Admission

- New for class of 2027
- The Ohio Direct Admission program allows eligible high school students to receive proactive college admission offers without submitting traditional applications, simplifying access to higher education in Ohio.
- How ODA Works:
 - Opt-In:
 - Colleges opt-in to participate and set their own admissions criteria.
 - The high school opts in to participate and determines the process to allow students to opt in/out.
 - Matching: High schools share accurate and timely academic data (i.e. GPA, class rank, and test scores). Where possible, this may be facilitated through data sharing to minimize the information that must be uploaded. Student information will be automatically compared to institutional acceptance criteria to determine admissions.
 - Notification: Students are notified of admissions decisions through a centralized online portal.(around Nov 1)

THINGS YOU SHOULD BE DOING NOW

- Create CommonApp if you haven't already.
- Link SchoolLinks and CommonApp
- Create the guardian account, and sign FERPA authorization when your student sends the email request from SchoolLinks- unique claim code required.
- Student meets 1:1 with your counselor to review credits, post secondary plan, any questions you have. (We are calling the students down)
- Talk to your counselor about NCAA eligibility in college.
- Organize student's activities, awards, and community service
- Get resume prepped
- Make note of college deadlines, start submitting applications! Early Action deadline to apply to *most* colleges is Nov 1st!

SchooLinks Parent Log In/FERPA Authorization

The student needs to:

- Log into the student account
- Click the gear icon (top right) → Account Settings → Your Guardians
- Click “View Guardian Instructions and Unique Claim Code”
- Copy the link or the email instructions and send them to the parent

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