

# Junior Conference Timetable Checklist

## WINTER/SPRING of Junior Year

- \_\_\_ Keep your grades up to maintain your GPA!
- \_\_\_ Register & take required tests: **SAT Reasoning Test, SAT Subject Test, ACT**
  - Do test prep! (such as [Khan Academy](#) or the [WOHS Boot Camp](#))
- \_\_\_ **Research colleges.** Conduct college searches and add schools to your list on Naviance Family Connection. Colleges Tab>Colleges I'm Thinking About
- \_\_\_ **Go on campus visits** (see enclosed Campus Visit Tips)
- \_\_\_ Sign up for in-school college info sessions (Naviance Students – Colleges Tab) \_\_\_ NCAA-Students must register with the Eligibility Clearinghouse if they are interested in playing Div I or II sports ([www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org))

## **HOMEWORK: To be completed ASAP**

- Complete the following on Naviance Students (ABOUT ME Tab)
  - Survey for Letter of Recommendation
  - Activities Resume
  - *Note: You will be unable to obtain any letters of recommendation until you complete these two tasks!*

## SUMMER before Senior Year

- \_\_\_ Continue college visits
- \_\_\_ Continue to work on your college list. Keep an eye on the deadlines!
- \_\_\_ Begin filling out **college applications** (do not submit yet)
- \_\_\_ Create college application accounts:
  - 1.) Directly on a college's website; 2.) Common Application [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org); 3.) Coalition Application <http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org>
- \_\_\_ Check out college application essay prompts and begin working on a draft of your essay(s)
- \_\_\_ Register for SAT/ACT if re-taking over the summer or early fall

## 1<sup>st</sup> SEMESTER of Senior Year

- \_\_\_ Meet with school counselor for senior meeting
- \_\_\_ Continue College Research (campus visits, in-school visits, Fall College Night)
- \_\_\_ Finalize list of colleges and prioritize based on deadlines.
- \_\_\_ Register for SAT Test(s) and/or ACT if taking in the Fall of Senior Year
- \_\_\_ Speak to 2 teachers --in person--to request letters of recommendation
- \_\_\_ Submit transcript requests to The School Counseling Department at least **15 school days** prior to application deadline in order to ensure transcripts and letters of recommendation arrive by deadline \_\_\_ Send SAT/ACT scores to college directly from testing website
- \_\_\_ Complete all applications requirements and observe DEADLINES.
  - \_\_\_ Follow up on applications by calling admissions offices to make sure applications are complete.
  - \_\_\_ Begin Financial Aid (FAFSA) & Scholarship Applications (see enclosed flier for additional information). The FAFSA opens up on October 1st - the earlier it is completed, the better!

# COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS



	SAT	ACT
<b>Why Take It</b>	Colleges use SAT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.	Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.
<b>Test Structure</b>	Reading Writing & Language Math Essay (Optional)	English Math Reading Science Reasoning Essay (Optional)
<b>Length</b>	3 hours (without essay) 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay)	2 hours, 55 minutes (without essay) 3 hours, 40 minutes (with essay)
<b>Reading</b>	5 reading passages	4 reading passages
<b>Science</b>	None	1 science section testing your critical thinking skills (not your specific science knowledge)
<b>Math</b>	Covers: Arithmetic Algebra I & II Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis	Covers: Arithmetic Algebra I & II Geometry and Trigonometry
<b>Calculator Policy</b>	Some math questions don't allow you to use a calculator.	You can use a calculator on all math questions.
<b>Essays</b>	Optional. The essay will test your comprehension of a source text.	Optional. The essay will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues.
<b>How It's Scored</b>	Scored on a scale of 400-1600	Scored on a scale of 1-36

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## ADDITIONAL TESTING INFORMATION

***STUDENTS are responsible for registering to take each test:***

- SAT: [www.sat.org](http://www.sat.org) or ACT: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

### ***Fee-Waiver Service***

- Students on Free/Reduced Lunch are eligible for fee waivers
- Fee Waivers are distributed by the School Counseling Office
- Two (2) ACT Reasoning Test registrations
- Two (2) SAT Reasoning Test registrations
- Two (2) Subject Test registrations (for a maximum of six Subject Tests)

**SPRING 2021**

## ACT & SAT Testing Dates & Registration Deadlines

DEADLINE  
ACT DATES REGISTRATION  
DEADLINE

### SAT DATES REGISTRATION

\*March 13, 2021 February 12, 2021 \*February 6, 2021 January 10, 2020 May 8, 2021 April 8, 2021  
April 17, 2021 February 28, 2020 \*June 5, 2021 May 6, 2021 \*June 12, 2021 May 8, 2020 August  
2021 TBD July 17, 2021 June 19, 2020 October 2021 TBD September 2021 TBD November 2021  
TBD October 2021 TBD  
December 2021 TBD December 2021 TBD \*Being offered at WOHS

### SAT Subject Tests

- One hour tests that measure your knowledge and skills in particular subject areas
- Given on the same dates as the SAT Reasoning Test
- Take up to 3 subject tests on one date
- **Usually recommended or required by the more competitive schools (check with the schools directly).**
- Subject Tests fall into five general subject areas

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## CHOOSING THE RIGHT SCHOOL FOR YOU



### Factors to Consider When Choosing a College

#### **Cost and financial support**

How much can your family afford to spend on college? If a school interests you, explore all financial aid opportunities and resources available to you, then wait to see what the financial aid packet may look like before deciding whether it's too expensive or not. What a school costs and what you actually pay may be two different things. Ultimately, what you can afford to pay will be a critical factor in deciding which school to attend.

#### **Admissions Selectivity**

How competitive is the school? What percent of applicants are admitted? What are the Grade Point Averages (GPA) and SAT/ACT scores of those admitted? How do your scores compare? There's nothing wrong with having one or two schools on your list that are a little bit of a reach, but most schools on your list should be within your reach.

#### **Location**

Where is this school located? Is it close enough or far enough away from home? If far away, how expensive will it be to fly back and forth? Do you want to be in or near a big city? Or do you prefer a suburban campus lined with trees and green grass? Do you want to be close to home or do you prefer to venture out and claim your independence? What is the weather like? Is the campus beautiful or unattractive?

### **Campus Culture**

What is the academic atmosphere like? ...hi-stress, supportive, laid back? What is the social atmosphere like? ...lots of partying, friendly and sociable, quiet and subdued?

### **Student Body & Diversity**

What is the composition of the student body? Is the campus ethnically diverse or homogeneous? Do the students come from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds? Do they come from different states, different countries? The composition of the student body will tell you a little about who you will meet and learn from, who has the potential to be a lifelong friend or professional contact. Your education goes far beyond the courses you take. It also comes from your peers... so choose a student body you want to learn from and belong to.

### **Institutional Size**

Consider how you might fit in a large school, medium-sized school, or small school? Which environment might best suit you or are you adaptable to different environments? Explore the pros and cons of different settings for you.

### **Programs of Study**

What area of study do you think you might be interested in? Does the school have that major? Is the school strong in this area? Is it strong in other areas too, in case you decide to change your major? Investigate what the school has to offer. Fact: Over half of all college students change their major at least once.

### **Fit**

The most important factor is fit... finding a school that's right for YOU!

## College Terms/Definitions

### Types of Schools

- A **liberal arts college** offers a broad base of courses in the liberal arts — literature, philosophy, history, languages, mathematics, humanities, and social and natural sciences. They typically offer four-year programs that lead to a bachelor's degree; students usually take courses in a range of subjects during their first two years and then choose a major. These colleges prepare you for a variety of careers, as well as for graduate work in many fields, including professions such as law, medicine and business.
- A **university** is generally larger and offers more majors and degree options than other types of colleges. Most universities contain several smaller colleges; for example, colleges of agriculture, teaching, and liberal arts. At a university, you can prepare for many types of careers or for further study in graduate school.
- **Public 4-Year Colleges And Universities**  
Four-year colleges and universities offer bachelor's degrees in many fields of study. Many also offer graduate programs with opportunities to earn a master's degree, doctorate, or professional degree. Public colleges and universities are subsidized by tax money from the state in which they are located and are generally less expensive than private colleges. However, the low rates are normally available only to residents of the state. Out-of-staters, or non-residents, usually pay higher rates. They also may have limited financial aid funds for

students.

- **Private 4-Year Colleges And Universities**

Private institutions are funded primarily by organizational endowments, tuition, alumni contributions and other funding outside of government agencies and taxpayer funds. The cost of attending private colleges and universities is usually much higher than public colleges and universities. Although tuition may cost more, do not count these private colleges and universities out -- they tend to offer more financial aid and scholarships than public institutions.

- **Arts Colleges**

There are many colleges and conservatories that focus on the arts. In addition to regular coursework, these colleges provide training in, for example, photography, music, theater or fashion design. Most of these colleges offer associate or bachelor's degrees in fine arts or a specialized field.

- **2-Year Colleges/Community Colleges**

Community colleges are the most common type of two-year college. These colleges prepare you to continue your education or to enter the workforce immediately. They offer associate degrees that get you ready to transfer to a four-year college and earn a bachelor's degree. Other types of associate degrees and certificates focus on career readiness. Community colleges are often an affordable and convenient option; they charge relatively low tuition to in-state residents. Many students can also save money by living at home.

- **Vocational Training/Technical/Trade Schools**

Vocational-Technical schools offer specialized training to students who are interested in a particular industry or career, such as computer technology, cosmetology, mechanical repair, court reporting, paralegal services, office administration, and medical technologies. Vocational courses take from five to 12 months to as much as three years to complete. Vocational training schools usually have open admissions; which means they will admit all students interested in attending. When you complete your program, you receive a certificate of completion or an associate degree.

## Additional Relevant Terms/Definitions

- **Coalition Application:** <http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/> An application students can use to apply to a large # of schools with only 1 application. A list of schools can be found on the site.
- **Common Application:** [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) An application students can use to apply to a large # of schools with only 1 application. A list of schools can be found on the site.
- **Admission Deadline:** The date by which colleges want you to submit your application to them. Each school has its own deadline, so you must find out when each school requires you to apply by.
  - **Early Action:** Admission deadlines are much earlier than if you apply "Regular Decision," and you receive a decision more quickly. Early Action is "non-binding," meaning that if you are accepted, you are not required to go that school. Some schools call this **Priority Decision**.
  - **Early Decision:** The admission deadlines are earlier than if you apply "Regular Admission," and you receive a decision more quickly. Early Decision is binding, meaning if you are accepted, you MUST go to that school. You can only apply to 1 school Early Decision.
  - **Rolling Admission:** A type of deadline in which the sooner you submit an application to a school, the sooner you hear back from them. There is no set deadline, but the earlier you apply, the better.
- **EOF/EOP: Educational Opportunity Fund/Plan:** If you are eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch and you go to college in NJ, you are eligible for a school's EOF program. The program allows students' with lower GPAs and SAT scores an



## How Many Schools Should I Apply To?

On average, students apply to 10 or less schools.

Those schools need to be a mix of:

- **Reasonable Reach:** Your GPA and SAT scores are slightly below what a school typically accepts.
- **Match:** Your GPA and SAT scores are in line with what a school typically accepts. \*\*Majority of the schools you are applying to should fall within this category.
- **Safety:** Your scores and grades are above what this school typically accepts.

\*To best determine which category your schools fall into, visit the school's website and Naviance.

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## WOHS - COLLEGE ADMISSION INFORMATION

COLLEGE GPA SAT\*\* ACT % ACCEPTED Bloomfield College 2.82 885 17 55  
 Boston University 4.37 1280 28 32 Caldwell University 3.21 940 19 46 UCONN 4.11  
 1200 27 42 Cornell University 4.58 1380 31 6% (7/116) University of Delaware 4.07  
 1190 25 48 Drew University 3.81 1100 24 37 Drexel University 4.02 1180 26 54  
 Fairleigh Dickinson University 3.35 1020 20 55  
 (Florham)

Fordham University 4.25 1215 26 26 Howard University 3.61 1100 23 38 Kean  
 University 2.97 930 19 30 University of Maryland (College Park) 4.16 1220 27 43  
 Monmouth University 3.5 1030 21 43 Montclair State University 3.44 1000 21 41  
 New Jersey City University 2.86 880 17 45 NJIT 3.74 1150 24 47 The College of NJ  
 4.21 1240 27 40 NYU 4.45 1330 29 20 Northeastern University 4.37 1280 29 32  
 Pace University (NYC) 3.43 1030 21 48 Penn State University (University Park)  
 3.76 1120 24 61 UPENN 4.56 1300 29 3% (3/95)  
 University of Pittsburgh 4.19 1220 27 51 Princeton University 4.9 1480 28 8% (8/99)  
 Ramapo College 3.54 1100 22 34 Rider University 3.42 1010 20 45 Rowan

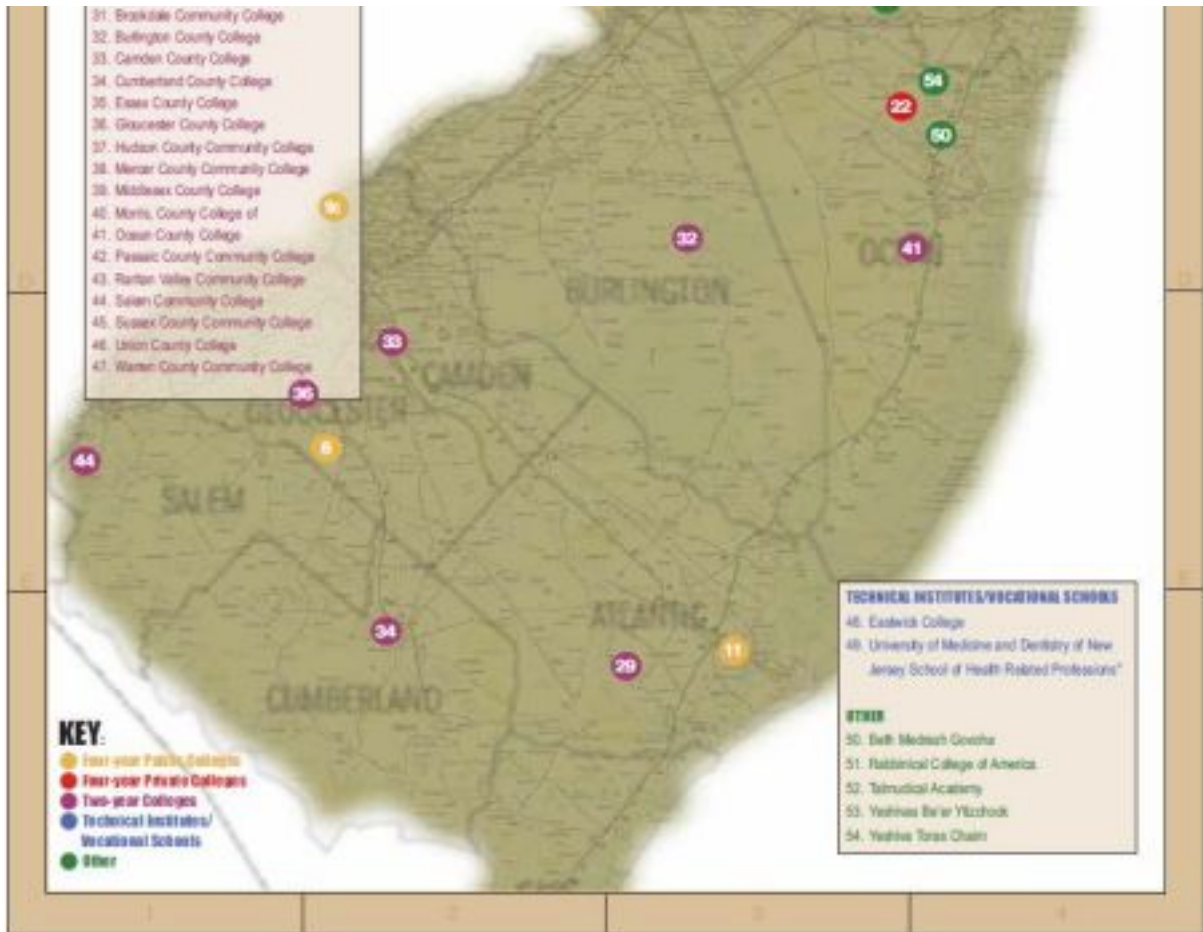
**University 3.39 1070 21 28 Rutgers (New Brunswick) 4.04 1190 26 54 Rutgers (Newark) 3.53 1050 22 53 St. Peter's University 2.99 910 18 43 Seton Hall University 3.58 1060 22 53 Stockton University 3.41 1050 21 35 Syracuse University 4.05 1180 26 32 Temple University 3.75 1100 24 36 Umass - Amherst 4.01 1190 25 50 William Paterson Univ. of New Jersey 3.27 1000 20 33** \*Information based on averages obtained from Family Connection/Naviance of West Orange High School students classes 2010-2016

\*\* SAT avgs. are based on 1600 scores (EBRW & MATH)

[Click here for the full guide to Going to College in New Jersey](#)







# CAMPUS VISIT CHECKLIST

where to go ...

... what to ask

## CAMPUS QUAD

- How friendly and welcoming is the campus?
- How easy is it to get around campus?
- How easy is it to get from campus to the nearest town or city?
- What is the relationship between the school and neighboring community like?
- Where do students do their shopping (groceries, dorm essentials, clothing, etc.)?

## DORMS

- What is the campus crime rate like?
- Is there any sort of late-night shuttle service?
- How many dorms are there, and how do they differ?
- What is the dorm's security protocol like?
- What are the off-campus living options, and what do they typically cost?

## LIBRARY

- What's the academic vibe like on campus?
- What are midterms and finals like?
- How many computer labs are available to students, and is there IT assistance?
- How many quiet spaces are there for studying?
- Does the school have access to any additional library collections (local or other school libraries)?

## STUDENT UNION

- What's the social vibe like on campus?
- What's the campus like on weekends?
- How involved are students in extracurriculars?
- Which activities are most popular?
- Are any art or music practice spaces available to non-majors?
- What's Greek life like, and how do students feel about it?
- What do students do for fun on campus and off?

## GYM

- How popular is the gym, and how late is it open?
- Do non-varsity players have access to all athletic facilities?
- How active is the student body in terms of sports?
- How engaged are student fans in campus sporting events?

## DINING HALL

- How's the food? (Pro tip: eat it!)
- Are meal plans required?
- What other dining options are there on and around campus?
- Do they cater to food allergies or other special dietary needs?

## ACADEMIC CENTER

- Do teaching assistants ever teach classes?
- How accessible are professors typically?
- What student-faculty research opportunities exist for undergraduates?
- What kinds of mentoring and advising relationships do students and faculty have?
- What tutoring services are available to students?
- How do class sizes compare between freshman/introductory courses and upper-level classes?

## CAREER CENTER

- Where have students interned?
- How long does it typically take recent grads to find a full-time job in their career field?
- Are there any formal internship arrangements with companies in the area?
- What kind of career advisement is offered?
- Do students have access to these services after they graduate?
- What networking or career fairs are held each year?
- How involved are alumni?
- What kinds of on-campus or local part-time jobs are available?

## WELLNESS CENTER

- What services does the health center offer?
- How do students typically pay for wellness center services and treatment?
- What kinds of counseling and/or mental health services are available on campus?
- Are any stress-relief initiatives offered during midterms and finals?

## Types of Financial Aid

- **Scholarships and Grants:** referred to as “gift-aid”; they do not have to be repaid.
- **Student Loans:** must be paid back; vary in terms and conditions (i.e. subsidized vs. unsubsidized, interest rates, repayment terms, amount, etc.)
- **Parent Loans:** Parents of dependent students can take out loans to supplement their children's aid packages. The Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) lets parents borrow money to cover any costs not already covered by the student's financial aid package, up to the full cost of attendance. Parents may also choose to take out loans from private sources.
- **Work-Study:** work opportunities offered through the financial aid office at the college. Jobs are not guaranteed.

## Financial Aid Assistance:

- WOHS offers two financial aid training events in the evening, usually in December and February. Specific dates for these events for next year will be posted.
- NJ FAFSA Days are local events offering assistance to families with completing the FAFSA:  
<http://www.njfafsadays.org/>

## The Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)- Federal Aid

The FAFSA Application is online: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

- All families applying for financial aid **must** fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). (FAFSA) is used to ensure maximum consideration for Federal, NJ State, and institutional financial aid.
- The FAFSA will determine if you qualify for Gift Aid -unlike loans, grants do not have to be repaid.
  - ❖ Federal Pell Grant: (\$6,195 maximum award)
  - ❖ Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant- (\$4,000 maximum award)



## **NJ State Financial Aid**

<http://www.hesaa.org>

**HESAA**, the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, is the only New Jersey state agency with the sole mission of providing students and families with financial and informational resources for students to pursue their education beyond high school.

**\*\***The FAFSA must be RECEIVED first to be considered for NJ State financial assistance.

### **Tuition Aid Grant (TAG):**

One of the nation's largest and most generous financial aid grant programs, TAG may cover up to the cost of tuition. The amount of an individual grant varies based upon the student's need, the cost of attendance and available funding. Grants must be applied for annually within established State deadlines and applicants must meet all program requirements.

**Equal Opportunity Fund (EOF):** grant is available to students from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds who meet eligibility requirements. Award amounts vary depending on enrollment status, college costs and financial need.

**NJ STARS:** New Jersey residents who rank in the top 15% of their class at the end of either the junior or senior year of high school may be eligible for the NJ STARS program. NJ STARS awards cover tuition only for up to eighteen college-level credits per semester, for up to five semesters.

Tuition Aid Grant (TAG) Full-Time \$1,220 - \$12,938

Tuition Aid Grant (TAG) Part-Time \$610 - \$2,088

Equal Opportunity Fund (EOF) Up to \$2,650

NJ STARS Tuition Only

## **Additional Financial Aid**

**The CSS Profile:** This form is administered by the College Scholarship Service (CSS), the financial aid division of the College Board. The CSS PROFILE is used to determine your eligibility for non-government financial aid, such as the institution's own grants, loans and scholarships. To check if the college where you are applying require this documentation, please visit [collegeboard.org/cssprofile](http://collegeboard.org/cssprofile)

# Scholarship Resource List

The WOHS School Counseling Department keeps an active list of scholarships on Naviance (see diagram below). In addition, each scholarship is publicized through Naviance email--make sure your email address on file is up to date!

The screenshot shows the Naviance 'family connection' interface. The top navigation bar includes 'courses', 'colleges', 'careers', 'about me', and 'my planner'. The left sidebar has a search bar and a 'scholarships & financial aid' link highlighted with a black arrow. The main content area is titled 'scholarships and financial aid' and contains a table of scholarship listings.

Name	Deadline	Maximum Award	Merit Based	Need Based	Essay Req	Service Req
Alford and Fenner Scholarship Program	6/14	\$1,500			X	
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority (Theta Phi Omega Chapter)	2/26	N/A				
American Legion Auxiliary Chapter of Women National Presidents Scholars	3/1	5,000	X	X	X	X
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS SCHOLARSHIP	3/23	\$1,500			X	
Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship Program	6/1	N/A				
Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship Program	6/1	1,000	X		X	
Beverly Cochran Chapter Classic	4/22	\$5,000	X	X		X
BKGSU Scholarships 2018	6/18	\$500			X	
Commonwealth Foundation of NJ Scholarships	5/8	\$4,000	X	X	X	X
Dean Michael Claude Cancer Scholarship	5/1	N/A			X	
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc (North Jersey Minerva Corporation)	2/9	N/A		X		
Edmore Foundation Scholarship	4/27	1,000	X	X	X	X
ESA Youth Scholarship	3/18	\$1,500	X		X	X
Essex County School Nurses Association Scholarship for Prospective Nursing Students	4/17	\$500.00			X	

Other helpful scholarship resources:

- ❖ FastWeb: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- ❖ <https://www.scholarships.com/>
- ❖ College Board Scholarship Search: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
- ❖ Cooperman College Scholars: <http://coopermanscholars.org/>
- ❖ Hispanic Scholarship Fund: <https://www.hsf.net/>
- ❖ Individual college's financial aid & scholarship website

❖ RaiseMe: <https://www.raise.me/> (Rewards for grades, goals, and doing well in

school) 12