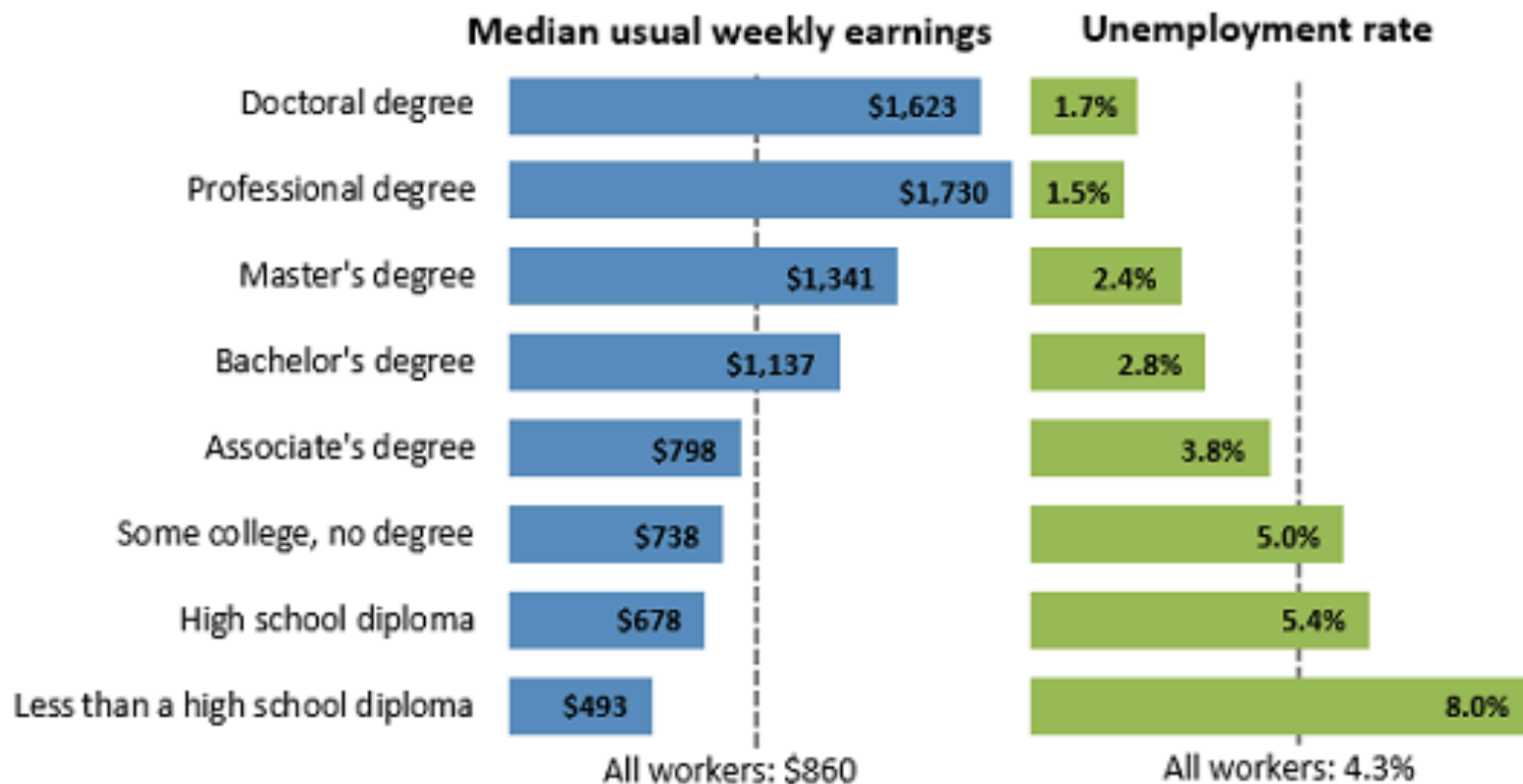


# So, you want to go to college?

Thursday, October 13, 2016



## Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment, 2015

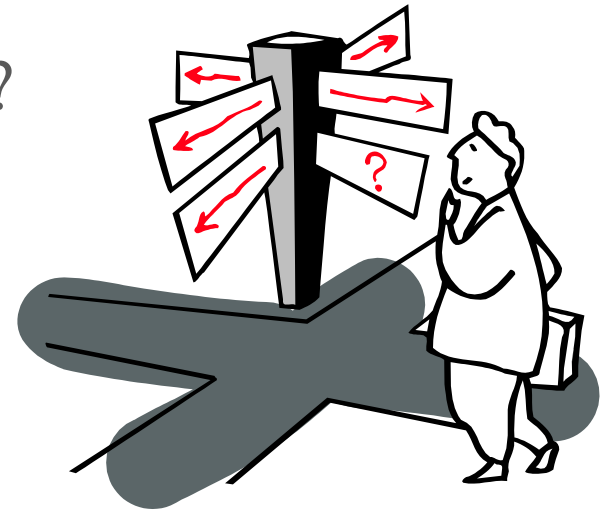


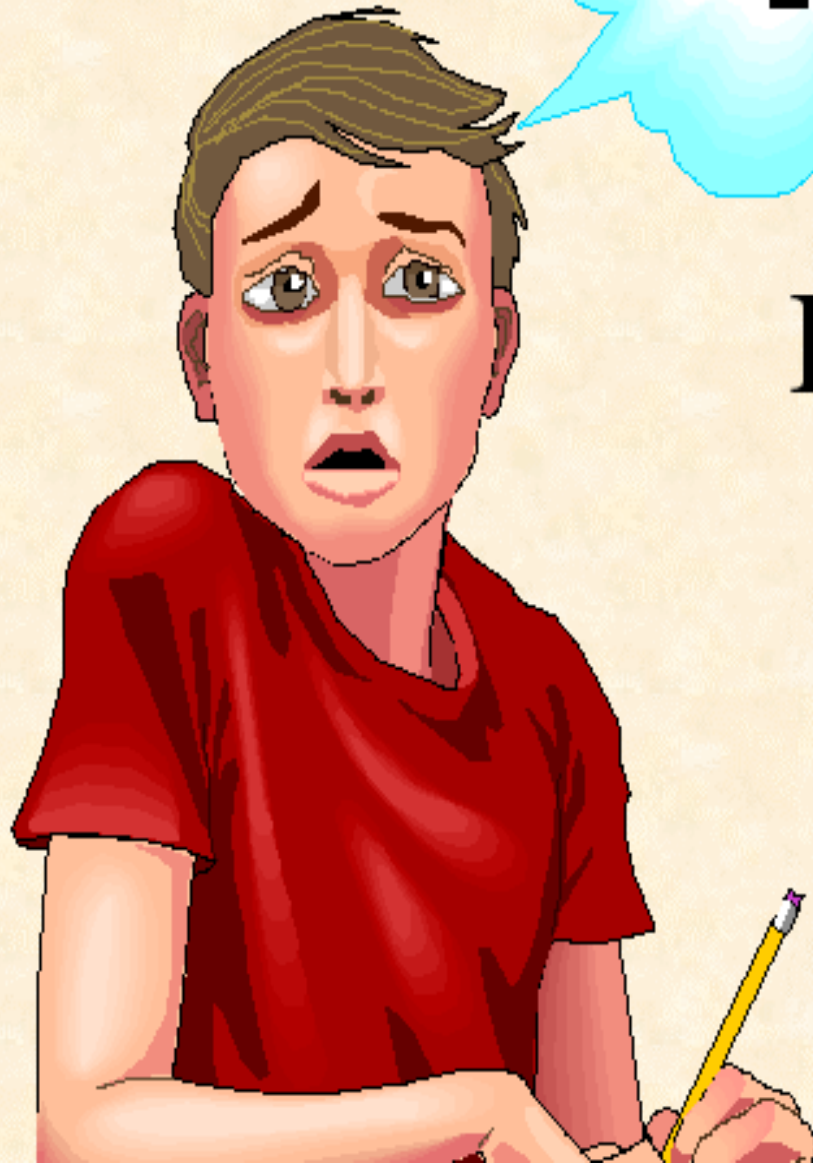
Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

# Some questions you might have:

- 💧 What courses should I take in high school?
- 💧 What will I major in?
- 💧 Where should I go?
- 💧 Big, small, something in between?
- 💧 Public, private?
- 💧 Closer or farther?
- 💧 Should I stay in the Midwest?
- 💧 Uncle Joey says...





**It's natural at  
this age to  
change your  
mind often!**

# So, you want to go to college, but what are the college options?

- ◆ Community/Junior Colleges: Two-year institutions with associate degree and certificate programs.
- ◆ Colleges: Four-year institutions offering degrees in a number of areas.
- ◆ Universities: Four-year institutions with a collection of colleges offering four-year and, usually, masters, doctorate and professional degrees.

# College Options - continued

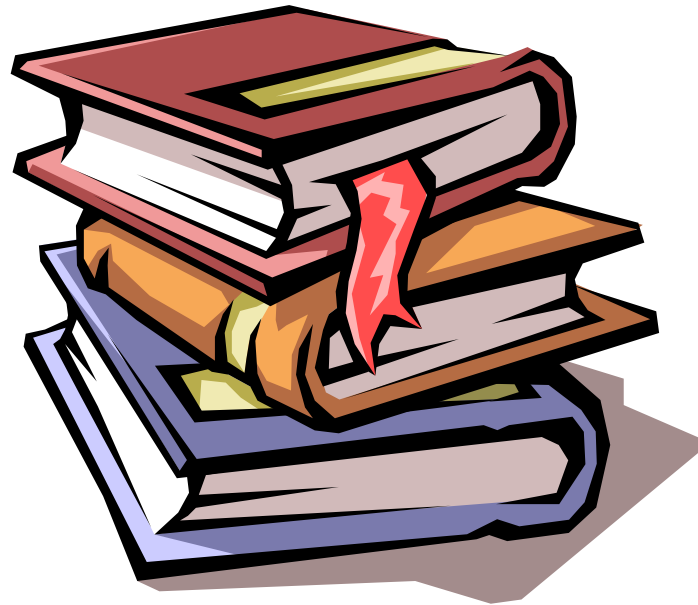
- ◆ Liberal Arts College: Four-year schools that encourage the exploration of a wide variety of undergraduate courses and subjects focusing on developing thinking and communication skills.
- ◆ Engineering or Technical Schools: Two and four-year programs in science, engineering and/or technical programs.
- ◆ For Profit Schools

Many of those questions will be answered over time. For now what you can do is focus on 5 areas:

1. Academics
2. Involvement
3. Testing
4. Career & College Exploration
5. Resources

# 1. Academics

Make sure you are taking the right courses and that you are successful in those courses!





# ACT reports

- ◆ 2/3 of 8th graders plan to finish college
- ◆ Only 1/3 plan to take college prep courses in high school
- ◆ About 1/2 of the students entering college are not prepared for credit-bearing college-level work and, as a result, have to take remedial courses

# What does this mean?

- ◆ Without the right college prep courses you may not be able to get in to college.
- ◆ If you do get in to college, you may not complete college.
- ◆ Always ask not only “Can I get in to that college?” but also “Can I graduate from that college?”

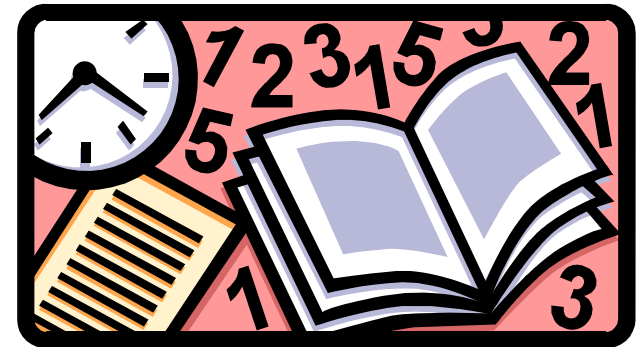
# Recommended High School Core Courses

21 credits required to graduate (students typically earn a minimum of 6.5 per year)

- ◆ English - 4 years
- ◆ Math (algebra and above) - 4 years
- ◆ Science - 3 to 4 years
- ◆ Social Science - 3 to 4 years
- ◆ Foreign Language - 2 to 4 years (of the same language)
- ◆ Other: 1 year of arts, technology and/or other academics

# It's not just taking the courses, but doing well in the courses

- ◆ Learn to be a good student
- ◆ Participate in class
- ◆ Keep up with assignments
- ◆ Ask for help
- ◆ Develop good study habits
- ◆ Use time wisely
- ◆ Challenge yourself – AP?



# GPA

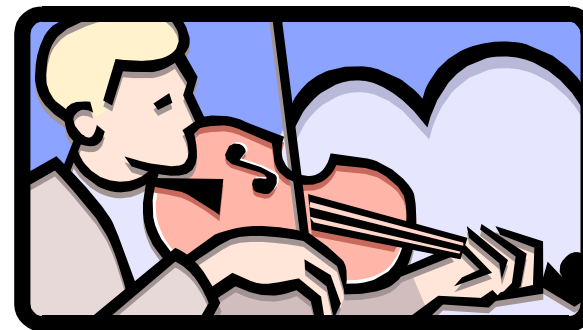
- ◆ GPA = Grade point average: by semester and cumulative
- ◆ Weighted/Non-weighted GPA
- ◆ In college admissions decisions, over 84% of colleges surveyed reported grades in college prep courses as the most important factor.



## 2. Involvement

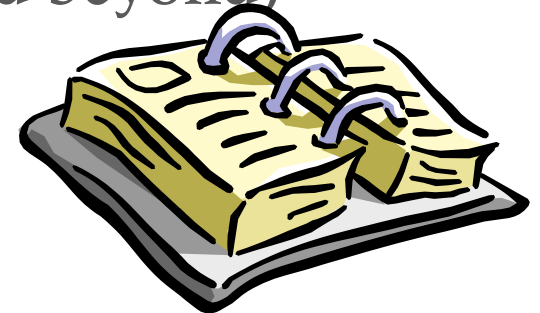


- ◆ School activities: less is more
- ◆ Community activities
- ◆ Career activities
- ◆ Keep a folder and hour/activity log
- ◆ Naviance - Resume



# 3. Testing (Required)

- ◆ EXPLORE - 8th Grade (Class of 2019)
- ◆ PSAT8 - 8th Grade (Class of 2020 and beyond)
- ◆ PSAT9 - 9th Grade (Class of 2020 and beyond)
- ◆ Illinois State Science Assessment (Biology students)
- ◆ PSAT10 - 10th Grade (Class of 2018 and beyond)
- ◆ SAT -11th Grade (Class of 2018 and beyond - in school)



# 3. Testing (Optional)



- ◆ PSAT/NMSQT in 10th grade (mid-October as a practice for the PSAT/NMSQT in fall of grade 11) \*
- ◆ PSAT/NMSQT in 11th grade (mid-October)\*
- ◆ ACTs in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grades ([www.actstudent.org/](http://www.actstudent.org/))
- ◆ SAT in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grades\*
- ◆ Test Prep Courses (through District March of Junior year)

\*Go to: [www.collegeboard.com/testing/](http://www.collegeboard.com/testing/)



# A Note on Testing

**The State of Illinois officially switched from ACT to SAT in the 15-16 school year but will begin paying for and requiring a spring SAT beginning with the class of 2018.**

**Current Freshman, Sophomores and Juniors are encouraged to take the ACT in April of their junior year and, perhaps, again before October of their senior year.**

# What do ACT test results tell colleges?

## ACT College Readiness Benchmarks\*

College Course	ACT Subject-Area Test	ACT Benchmark
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	21
Biology	Science	24

Harper: Reading 19 and English 20, Math 22

For 2016 the National ACT composite average was 21.

The 2016 Illinois ACT composite average was 21.3.

The 2016 District ACT Composite average is 23.4



# 4. Career & College Exploration

- ◆ Career Cruising User: (contact your counselor)  
Password: (contact your counselor) Log in at  
<http://www.careercruising.com/>
- ◆ Family Connection – Naviance
- ◆ Friends and family
- ◆ Courses and Internships
- ◆ Using the Career Advisor
- ◆ D214 Career Nights



## 5. Using Resources

- 💧 Talk to your counselor
- 💧 College and Career Room (CCR)
- 💧 Your school's CCR website
- 💧 College Fairs

# 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grades

1. Academics
2. Involvement
3. Testing
4. College & Career Exploration
5. Resources

# 11th Grade

1. Academics
2. Involvement
3. Testing
4. College and Career Exploration
5. Resources
6. Group and Individual Guidance via the CCR
7. College Fairs and Visits.
8. D214 College Counselor Programs

# 12th Grade

1. Academics
2. Involvement
3. Testing
4. Career Exploration
5. Resources
6. Group and Individual Guidance via the CCR
7. School/Scholarship/FAFSA Applications
8. D214 College Counselor Programs

# NACAC ADMISSIONS TREND

Percentage of colleges attributing different levels of importance to factors in the admission decision: 2011

Factor	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance	Limited Importance	No Importance
Grades in college prep courses	84.3%	11.9%	2.3%	1.5%
Strength of curriculum	67.7	20.4	5.8	6.2
Admission test scores (SAT, ACT).	59.2	29.6	6.9	4.2
Grades in all courses	51.9	39.2	6.9	1.9
Essay or writing sample	24.9	37.5	17.2	20.3
Student's demonstrated interest	20.5	29.7	24.7	25.1
Counselor recommendation	19.2	39.8	27.2	13.8
Class Rank	18.8	31.0	31.4	18.8
Teacher recommendation	16.5	41.9	26.5	15.0
Subject test scores (AP, IB)	6.9	31.2	31.5	30.4
Portfolio	6.6	12.8	30.2	50.4
Interview	6.2	25.4	25.8	42.7
SAT II scores	5.4	9.7	22.6	62.3
Extracurricular activities	5.0	43.1	38.1	13.8
State graduation exam	4.2	14.9	23.8	57.1
Work	2.3	17.0	43.2	37.5

SOURCE: NACAC Admission Trends Survey, 2011



# What did families ask for in past years?

1. Information on the application process
2. Information on testing
3. Information on selective schools
4. \$\$\$: The cost of college, scholarships...

# Planning on participating in college athletics? Attend the annual D214 Athletic Night

The District 214 College Counselors Present:

Advising the College Bound Student - Athlete  
(for parents and student athletes)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21st  
FOREST VIEW EDUCATIONAL CENTER THEATER  
Time: 7:00 pm

Presenter: MAUREEN A. HARTY  
Associate Director - National Collegiate Athletic Association  
(NCAA)

# College Options

The D214 College Counselors Present

## **ASK THE COLLEGE NIGHT**

**Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 7:00 PM**  
**Forest View Educational Center Theatre**  
**2121 South Goebbert Rd., Arlington Heights**

Come learn what it would be like to attend different types of institutions: your local community college, a two-year residential college, a four-year in-state public school, a four-year out-of-state public school, and a four-year private school. Each presenter will share what it is like to attend his or her type of institution. You will have the opportunity to ask the school representatives any questions you may have about these types of schools.

### **Presenters:**

Juanita Bassler, Recruiting Specialist, Harper College, Palatine, IL  
Laura Lavender, Admission Counselor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Scott Siegel, Sr. Associate Director, Regional Recruitment, Indiana University - Bloomington  
Lilianna Bernstein, Assistant Director of Admission, Drake University, Des Moines, IA



Don't  
forget!

### **PLAN TO ATTEND THESE UPCOMING JUNIOR GUIDANCE PROGRAMS:**

*March 13, 2017, 7:00 PM, RMHS Theatre – D214 Junior Financial Aid Night*

*April 4, 2017, 6:00-8:30 PM, Forest View Educational Center Field House – D214 College Night*

# Other D214 College Counselor Programs

- ◆ Senior Financial Aid Night (Thursday, September 29, 7PM, Rolling Meadows High School Theatre)
- ◆ Senior FAFSA Completion Night (Tuesday, October 18, 6:30PM and 7:45PM, Wheeling High School Library)
- ◆ Junior Financial Aid Night (Monday, March 13, 7PM, Rolling Meadows High School Theatre)
- ◆ College Night (Tuesday, April 4, 6PM, at Forest View Educational Center Field House )
- ◆ Other programs specific to buildings

# D214 College Counselors

Buffalo Grove High School - Kathy Fox 718-4067

Elk Grove High School - Paul Genovese 718-4441

John Hersey High School - Nancy Davis 718-4846

Prospect High School - Diane Bourn 718-5279

Rolling Meadows High School - Robert Yerkan 718-5660

Wheeling High School - John Hammond 718-7045

Emails: [firstname.lastname@d214.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@d214.org)

# Harper Promise

- ◆ Freshmen sign up by December 15, 2016.
- ◆ Up to two years of free tuition at Harper if demonstrate:
  - ◆ Good attendance (set number of permissible absences)
  - ◆ Rigor of study (minimum GPA after each year in school)
  - ◆ Persistence (meet minimum credits each year/graduate on time)
  - ◆ Community service (meet minimum hours needed each year)
- ◆ First semester at Harper is free, the following three semesters can be free IF students meet the guidelines while a Harper student.
- ◆ <http://goforward.harpercollege.edu/about/promise/>

# Additional Resources

- ◆ Frequently Asked Questions
- ◆ Student Misconceptions
- ◆ ACT – Your Career Connection
- ◆ Learn More Earn More
- ◆ State Universities at a Glance
- ◆ Foreign Language Requirements
- ◆ Scholarship Scams
- ◆ D214 Career Nights

Start building the foundation for your future plans!

