



2018 - 2019
Wauwatosa West High School
Post-Secondary Planning Guide

Wauwatosa West High School

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School Year Hours:

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Introduction to College Planning

When selecting the right college for you, you should look at three distinct areas:

- 1) Academic 2) Financial 3) Personal

All of these aspects are important. There is not one area that is more important than the other. The academic fit makes sure that you are going to learn what to do in your chosen career. The financial fit makes sure the college is affordable for you. The personal fit makes sure that you like where you are going to spend the next four years of your life. When looking at these categories, it is recommended that you apply to around seven colleges:

- 1 – 2 Reach Schools:
 - You would be in the bottom 25% of students for GPA and ACT scores
 - Usually < 20% are accepted
- 3 – 4 Target Schools:
 - You would be in the mid-50% of students for GPA and ACT scores
- 1 – 2 Foundation Schools:
 - You would be in the top 25% of students for GPA and ACT scores
 - You would possibly qualify for Honors Program and/or scholarships

This information for each school is found on the college's website.

Career Cruising

Career Cruising is a comprehensive website that students and families can use to help in making decisions about your future. This service is used district-wide and students should have been using it since middle school. We use this service to track data so we can help West students make a personal Academic and Career Plan. Students **MUST** use Career Cruising when they are planning to apply to college.

Career Cruising will allow you to:

- **Get involved in the planning and advising process:** Build a resume, complete online surveys, and manage timelines and checklists for making decisions about colleges and careers.
- **Research Colleges:** Compare GPA, standardized test scores and other statistics to actual historical data from our school for students who have applied and have been admitted in the past.
- **Research Careers:** Research hundreds of careers and career clusters. Take career assessments and link them to post-secondary options.
- **Organize Your College List:** Rank colleges based on the three categories. Keep track of deadlines and admissions needs.

Career Cruising Website: www.careercruising.com

Username: TOSA-Student Username (must include TOSA and dash)

Password: Student Password

2019-2020 Junior – Senior Year Timeline

Spring, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register for ACTs and/or SATs • Take February 20th ACT at Tosa West • Begin to research College/Universities • Begin campus visits • Take AP Tests if applicable • Get good grades!
Summer, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop academic resume (community service/employment/other enrichment opportunities)
Fall, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Group Meetings • Complete College Applications • Attend financial aid night • Send Transcripts via Parchment • Arrange for Letters of Recommendation if Necessary • Have ACT/SAT scores sent • Repeat ACT/SAT tests • Take SAT subject tests if needed • UWM Early Admission Day at West • First day to submit FAFSA (Oct. 1st) • College Goal Wisconsin (FAFSA help) • Take ASVAB for career exploration or military • December 1 MATC Promise deadline • Campuses have open house events • Continue to work on grades
End of First Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Order Mid-Year Reports/Transcripts via Parchment • Local scholarships posted mid month
February, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local scholarships due • Update FAFSA information • Take the ACT practice test
March, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UW-System Regional Placement testing begins
Spring, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit tuition and housing deposits • Evaluate financial aid packages
Late Spring, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some competitive schools announce admission decisions
April, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend graduation meeting
May, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 1 admission decision deadline • Take AP tests if applicable
June, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation! • Send final transcript to your college

College Entrance Tests

Wauwatosa West CEEB Code: 502433

Most colleges will require that you take either the ACT or the SAT. In the state of Wisconsin, it is required that you take the ACT. You will take this in February at Wauwatosa West. Most schools will take either the ACT or SAT, but there are circumstances in which you may want to take both. Talk to your counselor.

ACT

- Juniors will take the ACT on **Wednesday, February 20th** at Wauwatosa West
- See below for other available dates
- Two Options
 - Writing
 - Not necessary for every school
 - Only need to take the Writing portion once
 - Non-Writing
- Scoring
 - Score Range is from 1 to 36
 - Four Sub-Scores (Math, Reading, English, Science)
 - One Composite Score
 - National Average: 21
 - Wisconsin Average: 21
 - Super score
- Register
 - www.actstudent.org
 - Fee Waivers are available. Talk to your counselor.

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration (fee required)
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018	November 3 – 19, 2018
February 9, 2019	January 11, 2019	January 12 – 18, 2019
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	March 9 – 25, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 4 – 20, 2019
July 13, 2019	June 14, 2019	June 15 – 24, 2019

College Admissions Representative Visits

As a junior and senior, you are allowed to come to the Career Center during the school day to meet with College Admissions Representatives. This fall we will have over 70 different colleges come to talk with our students. This is a great place to start your college search process, meet the person who could be reading your application, and/or narrow down your list of prospective colleges. To request a pass to visit with a College Admissions Representative, follow the steps below:

- 1) Get a pass from your School Counselor or Career Center Coordinator prior to the day of the college visit.
- 2) Get your pass signed by the teacher whose class you will be missing and by your counselor or Mrs. Kraetz.
- 3) Bring your pass to the Career Center on the day and time of the college visit.

Why MATC?

Affordable

- Outstanding value compared to four-year options
- Associates Degree – 15 credit load at \$1368 per semester
- Four-Year College Transfer – 15 credit load at \$4,794 per semester (UWM)

Accessible

- 4 locations: Downtown Milwaukee, Mequon, Oak Creek, West Allis
- Day, evening, weekend, and online courses

Comprehensive

- Over 160 programs covering 16 career clusters
- Gain transfer credits that can go to a BA degree
- Complete the first half of a BA degree (Liberal Arts and Sciences)
- Apprentice in a traditional trade
- Employment skills

Practical

- Hands on training
- Instructors have “on-the-job” experience
- Programs that partner directly with employers
- Small class sizes

The Application Process

There are many parts of a college application. Below are just some. Be sure to check with each individual school for their specific requirements.

- 1) Application – You send in
 - a) School’s Own Application
 - b) Common Application
 - c) Coalition Application
- 2) Essay – You send in
- 3) Test Scores – You send in
 - a) Can be sent via: www.actstudent.org
- 4) Resume – You send in
- 5) Application Fee – You send in
- 6) Transcript
 - a) Common Application – Counselors upload transcripts for you
 - b) All Other School Applications – You send in via Parchment
 - i) www.parchment.com
 - ii) Please see Appendix entitled (How to send a transcript via Parchment)
- 7) Counselor Recommendation – Your counselor will send in for you
- 8) Teacher Recommendations – Your counselor will send in for you

Type of Admission Options				
STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST <i>SUITS</i> YOU?				
Non-Restrictive Application Plans			Restrictive Application Plans	
Regular Decision	Rolling Admission	Early Action (EA)	Early Decision (ED)	Restrictive Early Action (REA)
DEFINITION:	DEFINITION:	DEFINITION:	DEFINITION:	DEFINITION:
Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.	Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.	Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution’s regular response date.	Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted, they definitely will enroll. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.	Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.
COMMITMENT:	COMMITMENT:	COMMITMENT:	COMMITMENT:	COMMITMENT:
NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING	NON-BINDING	BINDING	NON-BINDING

Speak the College Admissions Language

If you are not familiar with the college admissions process, it does seem to have a language all of its own. Following are some definitions to help you learn the lingo.

ACCEPTANCE RATE: The percentage of applicants a college accepts for admission.

ACCREDITATION: Certification that a college meets the standards of a state, regional, or national association.

CANDIDATES REPLY DATE AGREEMENT (CRDA): This agreement, sponsored by the National Association for College Admission Counseling, states that in order to allow students to consider all their college options, students have until May 1st to accept any college's offer of admission.

COMMON/UNIVERSAL APPLICATION: Standardized application forms accepted by many colleges. After you fill out the Common or Universal Application, you can send it to any college that accepts it as the institution's own application.

COMPETITIVE COLLEGE (OR HIGHLY SELECTIVE): A college with a rigorous, highly selective admissions process. Competitive colleges typically admit fewer than 25 percent of applicants.

DEFERRED ADMISSION: A student's option to defer an offer of admission for up to two years.

PERSONAL STATEMENT: Sometimes referred to as a college application essay, personal statements are essays that give admissions officers insights into your character, personality, and motivation.

RETENTION RATE: The percentage of students who return to a college for their sophomore year. An indicator of student satisfaction.

STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO: The number of students at a college compared to the number of faculty. Some colleges see this as an indicator of class size and professor accessibility, but a lower ratio doesn't guarantee either. For true indication of class size and professor accessibility, speak with students and professors at a college.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL: Items you include with your college application to provide more information about your talents, experiences, and goals. Materials could include work samples, additional essays, newspaper clippings, music CDs, or art slides. Verify if a college welcomes (or requests) these materials before sending.

TRANSCRIPT: An official record of classes you have taken and the grades you received. Usually you must provide a high school transcript with your college application.

WAITLIST: A list of students a college may eventually decide to admit if space becomes available.

YIELD: The percentage of accepted students who go on to enroll at that college. Competitive colleges have high yield rates.

What Do Colleges Look At?

Every year **the National Association for College Admission Counselors** sends out a survey to see what are the most important factors to colleges regarding admission. Here are the results.

Factor	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance	Limited Importance	No Importance
Grades in College Prep Courses	79.2%	13.0%	6.9%	0.9%
Grades in all Courses	60.3%	31%	8.70%	N/A
Strength of Curriculum	60.2%	26.8%	10.0%	3.0%
Admission Test Scores	55.7%	32.5%	7.9%	3.9%
Essay	22.1%	39%	21.6%	17.3%
Counselor Recommendation	17.3%	42.4%	27.3%	13%
Student's Demonstrated Interest	16.9%	33.3%	26.8%	22.9%
Teacher Recommendation	15.2%	43.5%	27.8%	13.5%
Subject Test Scores (AP)	7.0%	35.2%	32.6%	25.1%
Portfolio	6.6%	10%	30.6%	52.8%
Extracurricular Activities	5.6%	43.3%	34.6%	16.5%
SAT II Scores	5.3%	8.4%	23%	45%
Interview	3.5%	23.1%	28.4%	45%
Work	0.9%	21.3%	44.8%	33%

Financial Aid Process

There are three main types of financial aid that students can apply for:

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Loans

Scholarships

These are usually based on merit and can be found from a variety of places:

- Schools you are applying to
- Local Organizations
- Family Workplaces
- www.fastweb.com

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid

If you are applying for financial aid, you MUST complete the FAFSA application. It can be filled out any time after October 1st: It can be found at www.fafsa.gov. The report will generate an EFC (Expected Family Contribution) number. This number is what schools and the government use to calculate the amount of needs-based financial aid a student qualifies for. There are two types of financial aid available from the FAFSA:

- Grants – Grants are money that does NOT need to be paid back and is distributed based on financial need.
- Loans – Loans are money that students DO need to pay back after graduation.

Apprenticeship Programs

Apprenticeship programs are another post-secondary option. Only a portion of your skills are learned in the classroom. Most of your training will be on-the-job. Being employed is the primary requirement during your apprenticeship. You are actually getting paid a competitive wage while learning your trade. A Wisconsin Technical College is usually where the classroom instruction time takes place.

Who: You must be 18 years old. Most people start after graduating from high school instead of going to a four-year university or college.

Five (5) Steps:

- 1) Get Prepared
 - a) Take courses in math, science, and technology
- 2) Graduate from High School
 - a) Graduate with the highest GPA possible
 - b) Programs are competitive
- 3) Find a Trade
 - a) Construction Sector
 - i) Contact local Trade Committee
 - ii) Complete application
 - iii) Aptitude test is required
 - b) Industrial, Service, and Utility
 - i) Apply directly to employer
 - ii) Job Center of Wisconsin
 - iii) Find your own
- 4) Know the Entrance Process
 - a) Entrance processes vary by trade, occupation, and geographic area
 - b) Visit dwd.wisconsin.gov/apprenticeship for more information
- 5) Start Your Career
 - a) Very competitive
 - b) There usually is not a definitive start date

Appendix A

Where Do Our Students Go? Class of 2018

College Name	Number of Students Attending	Tuition*
University of Wisconsin – Madison	34	\$10,534
University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee	26	\$9,565
MATC	18	\$3,911
University of Wisconsin – La Crosse	15	\$9,231
U.S. Military	13	
Cardinal Stritch	11	\$29,998
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities	8	\$14,760
University of Wisconsin – Whitewater	5	\$7,672
University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh	5	\$7,587
Marquette University	3	\$41,290
Carroll University	3	\$32,080
University of Wisconsin – Green Bay	3	\$7,878
WCTC	3	\$4,000
University of Wisconsin – Waukesha	2	\$2,375
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire	2	\$8,900
DePaul University	2	\$39,369
University of Wisconsin – Platteville	2	\$7,536
University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point	2	\$8,210
University of Wisconsin – Stout	2	\$9,457
Marian University	2	\$34,000
Milwaukee School of Engineering	2	\$39,039
Ripon College	2	\$44,713
St. Norbert College	2	\$37,314
Iowa State University	1	\$23,392
Lawrence University	1	\$45,801
St. Louis University	1	\$43,160
Columbia College – Chicago	1	\$26,090
Lawrence University	1	\$47,175
Loyola University-Chicago	1	\$39,942
University of California – Los Angeles	1	\$42,217
Savannah College of Art & Design	1	\$36,630
The George Washington University	1	\$55,140
University of St. Thomas	1	\$30,690
Illinois Wesleyan University	1	\$47,434

*The cost of each college listed is tuition only. There are still fees for room and board, books, transportation, etc. These other fees can be found on each specific college's website.

Appendix B

Wauwatosa West Career Center Services

The Wauwatosa West Career Center offers a wide range of services to assist our students with post-secondary planning. It is located across from the Counseling Office.

- Register for the ACT or SAT
- Find out about ACT/SAT test preparation
- Attend a college admissions visit
- Complete a skills or interest assessment
- Research careers
- Shop for colleges
- Work on college applications and essays
- Get help ordering your transcript through Parchment
- Get help with filling out your FAFSA form (beginning Oct. 1st)
- Get information about financial aid and scholarships
- Look for a part time job or volunteer opportunity
- Sign up for the Mayfair Rotary Club breakfast
- Ask other questions about college, military, or career

For more information, visit the West Career Center page at:

<https://www.wauwatosa.k12.wi.us/Page/4979>

Wendy Ashley
Career Center Coordinator
ashleywa@wauwatosa.k12.wi.us
(414) 773-3029

Appendix C



YOUR GUIDE TO
THE COLLEGE PROCESS

Fall 2019 Application Essays Are Now Available

Here's your chance to tell your story based on specific questions or prompts.

UW System campuses will now share one common essay. Several of the campuses will also have an additional essay.

You will find the shared essay on the "Essay" section of the [online application](#) and the campuses that will require an additional essay will include it on their specific page. Below see the shared application essay and any campus specific additional essays.

SHARED ESSAY

All campuses use the following essay:

Tell us about your academic and personal achievements. What have you learned from your successes and/or challenges, and how will this influence you as you pursue your college education?

ADDITIONAL ESSAYS

Several campuses have additional essays.

Campus	Additional Essay
UW-Eau Claire	<i>Why are you interested in the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire? What aspects of UW-Eau Claire are especially important to you? How will your particular life experiences, talents, commitments, and/or interests help to enrich our community? (NOTE: This question is an important part of your application and may be used for admissions to other campus programs and for scholarship review.)</i>
UW-La Crosse	Please respond to one of the following: 1) <i>How will your life experiences, commitments, and/or characteristics enrich the UW-La Crosse Campus community?</i> 2) <i>Tell us why you are interested in attending the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and what aspects of the campus are especially important to you.</i>
UW-Madison	<i>Tell us why you would like to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In addition, please include why you are interested in studying the major(s)</i>

you have selected. If you selected undecided, please describe your areas of possible academic interest.

UW-Platteville

Tell us why you decided to apply to the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. What aspects of UW-Platteville are the most interesting and important to you and how will you enrich the university community through your life experiences, talents, and/or interests?

**UW-Baraboo/
Sauk County**

Tell us why you decided to apply to the University of Baraboo/Sauk County. What aspects of UW-Baraboo/Sauk County are the most interesting and important to you and how will you enrich the university through your life experiences, talents, skills, and/or interests?

UW-Richland

Tell us why you decided to apply to the University of Wisconsin-Richland. What aspects of UW-Richland are the most interesting and important to you and how will you enrich the university community through your life experiences, talents, skills, and/or interests?

Appendix D

NATIONAL TEST DATES – 2018 / 2019 Wauwatosa West School Code: 502-433

ACT

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Regular Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration</u>
October 27, 2018	September 28, 2018	Sept. 29 – Oct. 14, 2018
December 8, 2018	November 2, 2018	Nov.3 – Nov. 19, 2018
February 9, 2019	January 11, 2019	Jan. 12 – 18, 2019
April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019	Mar. 9 – 25, 2019
June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 4 – 20, 2019
July 13, 2019	June 14, 2019	June 15 – 24, 2019

SAT

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Regular Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration</u>
October 6, 2018	September 7, 2018	Sept. 18 – 26, 2018
November 3, 2018	October 5, 2018	Oct. 16 – 24, 2018
December 1, 2018	November 2, 2018	Nov. 13 – 20, 2018
March 9, 2019	February 8, 2019	Feb. 19 – 27, 2019
May 4, 2019	April 5, 2019	Apr. 16 – 24, 2019
June 1, 2019	May 3, 2019	May 14 – 22, 2019

AP TEST DATES

Monday, May 6 through Thursday, May 16, 2019

Day	8:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
Monday, May 6	U.S. Gov. and Politics	
Tuesday, May 7	Seminar Spanish Lang/Culture	Physics 1: Algebra-Based
Wednesday, May 8	English Lit/Comp	French Lang/Culture
Thursday, May 9	Chemistry	German Lang/Culture Psychology
Friday, May 10	United States History Studio Art	Computer Science Principles
Monday, May 13	Biology	Physics C – Mechanics Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism (2:00 p.m.)
Tuesday, May 14	Calculus AB Calculus BC	Human Geography Art History
Wednesday, May 15	English Lang/Comp	
Thursday, May 16		Statistics

Appendix E

GET THE MOST OUT OF A CAMPUS VISIT IN **6 STEPS**

1 DECIDE WHERE AND HOW

See if your school arranges group trips to colleges or if you could get a group of friends together and visit the campus. A family trip is another option and allows you to involve your family in the process.

2 PREPARE FOR YOUR VISIT

Before you set out, get a map of the college campus and pick out places of interest. Call the college's admission office to schedule a guided tour of the campus.

3 TAKE YOUR OWN TOUR

Just wandering around the campus on your own or with friends can be the best way to get a feel for what a college is like.

4 EXPLORE THE FACILITIES

Find the spots on campus where students gather or ask a student where the best place to eat is to get a feel for the character of the college. Visit the library and check out the gym or theater. Ask an admission officer if you can tour a dorm and a classroom.

5 MAKE CONNECTIONS

Talk to current students. Ask the students at the next table or sitting nearby what they like best about the college.

6 TAKE NOTES

During your visit, write down some notes about your experience. What did you see that excited you? Are there aspects of the college that you don't like? If so, what are they?

Questions to Ask During Your Visit:

ASK TOUR GUIDES/STUDENTS

- What are the best reasons to go to this college?
- What's it like to go from high school to college?
- What do you do in your free time? On the weekends?
- What do you love about this college?
- What do you wish you could change about this college?
- Why did you choose this college?
- What is it like to live here?
- What does the college do to promote student involvement in campus groups, extracurricular activities, or volunteerism?

ASK PROFESSORS

- What are the best reasons to go to this college?
- Can a student be mentored by professors, graduate students, or upperclassmen?
- How are professors rated by the college? Does the college think mentoring and meetings for project guidance are important?
- How does the college help students have access to professors outside class? Do professors join students for lunch, help with community service groups, or guide student organizations?
- How many students do research or other kinds of projects for a semester or more?

ASK THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

- How much has your total college cost for each student risen in the past year?
- How much do your students usually end up owing when they graduate?
- What is the average income of graduates who had the same major that interests me?
- Will my costs go up when your tuition goes up, or can we use the same tuition rate I started with so I'll know the costs for four years?
- How many students usually graduate in the major that interests me? How long do these students usually take to get their degree? In what ways does the college help students graduate in four years?