

Senior Scoop #4

December 2023

Ravenswood High School

Counseling Office

(HS Code 491-080)

1 Plaza Drive

Ravenswood, WV 26164

(304) 273-9301

sgerstell@boe.jack.k12.wv.us



IMPORTANT

- 12/10-ACT Test @ Ripley High School
- 12/13-UC Visit @ lunch
- 12/14-AR Deadline
- 12/15-Senior Trip
- 12/17-Deadline to submit virtual work for the 1st semester.
- 12/20-Last day of 1st semester & 3-hour early dismissal for students. Last day to submit Plato work.
- 12/18 Semester Tests (even)
- 12/19 Semester Tests (odd)
- 12/20-1/2 (Tues.) Christmas Break
- 1/2/24-Start of 2nd semester
- 1/3 College Student Visitation (6th period)
- 1/8-Report Cards
- 1/16-FAFSA Workshop 2-7 pm @ RHS
- 1/30-FAFSA Workshop 5-7 pm @ RHS
- 2/1-Final Cap & Gown payment
- 2/13-FAFSA Workshop @ RHS 6-8 pm

REFERENCES

Ask someone to do a reference letter 2-3 weeks before you need it. Ask the person first if they would be a good reference for you.

SCHOLARSHIP SOURCES

Check out scholarships at:
www.cfwv.com
www.fastweb.com
www.goingmerry.com
<https://studentscholarships.org>

GKVSF SCHOLARSHIPS

The GKVSF offers over 100 state-wide scholarships. Visit: www.gkvsf.org Applications are available online only. It is recommended that students use the Internet Explorer Browser to complete the application. Please read all instructions before applying. The deadline to submit the application and all attachments is 5 pm on 2/1/24. Review the listing of available scholarships and their eligibility requirements. Many scholarships have academic requirements & economic need. Some of the scholarships are renewable, worth a total of \$8,000 (examples are the WP Black & Ruth Ann Johnson). Students may only apply to two scholarships on the listing. Only one application is needed to apply to the scholarships chosen. In addition, the following documents must be scanned and uploaded with your application.

Income tax information (1st two pages)
FAFSA Student Aid report (SAR)
Most recent grades in pdf format
Save work and continue working.

Once submitted changes can't be made.
Note: James S. Kessel is strictly a Jackson County Scholarship.

FAFSA by Appointment

A rep. from WVHEPC will meet with seniors & their families to complete the 2024-2025 FAFSA on 1/16/24 from 2-7 pm. Other FAFSA workshops will be held on 1/30/24 from 5-7 pm and on 2/13/24 from 6-8 pm. All workshops will take place in the RHS library. See Mrs. Gerstell ASAP for an appointment for one of these sessions. The new FAFSA must be completed to receive monies for technical or 2-4 yr. college. Use a personal email on the FAFSA, since the school email will expire. A parent and their student will need to apply for separate FSA IDS at least 5 days before completing the FAFSA at www.studentaid.gov Make sure and save the FSA ID information in a safe place.

LOCAL SCHS.

Seniors will be able to apply for local sch. by 3/1/24. The deadline for the majority of local scholarships will be 4/16/24.

Sign up @

www.cfwv.com

for Text 4 Success

to receive college reminders via text. You can text them with questions, too.

GRADUATION SUPPLIES

Graduation supply packets are still available in the RHS Office. If you have questions, please call Herff Jones at (304) 776-7143 and talk to Joyce or Rod. Orders will be delivered in the spring. See Mrs. Gerstell if you have a financial hardship.

FINISH STRONG

Seniors make sure to keep your grades up. Check to make sure that any missing assignments have been turned in. All work for virtual classes must be submitted by 12/17/23. The first semester ends on 12/20/23, which is the deadline for all other coursework. These grades will go on your transcript. Don't find yourself behind in credits. Finish strong with the semester! Stay strong on your studies and keep track of missing assignments on Canvas!

NURSING

If you are planning to go into Nursing, many schools require a pre-admission test (HESI or TEAS). Check your school of choice to learn about their specific admission requirements for their nursing program. Application deadlines are often earlier than expected! If you are interested in Nursing at Marshall, see Mrs. Gerstell about signing up for a virtual information session. If you are interested in the LPN program at RJTC, contact Monica at 304 372-7335 for more information about taking the required test and other admission requirements.

WV INVESTS GRANT

Are you interested in obtaining a certificate or associate degree following high school? You may be able to get your tuition for free! The WV Invests Grant is a program to help pay for 1 to 2-year programs at accredited technical or community colleges in WV. Priority is given to high demand job training such as Information Technology and Healthcare. Several bachelor programs at WVU-P offer the first two years free under this program. Check out this website for specific schools participating, offering three hundred plus programs. Students must complete the FAFSA (available sometime in December) to be eligible to receive the free aid. Apply by 4/15/24 at www.collegeforwv.com/wvinvests

WVU-P ASCEND PROGRAM

Are you planning to attend WVU-P in the fall of 2024? This program can offer textbook assistance, a monthly Kroger gift card, tuition gap waiver to help with remaining tuition (if you qualify for the Pell Grant), special registration options, and enhanced tutoring services, if needed.

Apply for the ASCEND Program if you plan to major in a STEM area, Nursing & Health Sciences, Business, Accounting or Humanities, or Fine Arts & Sciences.

Apply at www.wvup.edu/ascend

If you have questions you can call 304-424-8353 or email ascend@wvup.edu.

2024-2025 FAFSA FORM

The FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This form needs completed by all seniors planning any type of postsecondary training. The 2024-2025 FAFSA form is new this year and will not be available to complete until sometime in late December 2023. It is also required to receive the Promise Scholarship and other state or federal aid. The FAFSA form must be completed by 3/1/24 to receive maximum aid, including the Promise Scholarship. **One difference from previous years is that the parent and student must have obtained a FSA ID five days in advance to completing the FAFSA.** When completing the FAFSA, each senior will need to create a student FSA ID as well as have their parent create a separate FSA ID. If parents file a joint tax return, then only one parent needs to obtain the FSA ID. If biological parents are divorced or separated, it is the parent that has provided the most financial support over the past 12 months.

HOW TO CREATE THE FSA ID

1. Go to www.studentaid.gov
2. Click: Apply for aid using the FAFSA form.
3. Click: Learn about 2024-2025
4. Click: What can you do now?
5. Click: Create your studentaid.gov account
6. Click: Get Started
7. Make sure to use a personal e-mail and not your school email, since it will expire.
8. It is advised to enter your cell phone number, for an added way to access your information.
9. Be accurate about entering all information. (Take special care to enter your social security number correctly).
10. Graduation date is 5/24/24.
11. Keep usernames and passwords for the FSA IDS in a secure place. This will be your electronic signature for government financial documents. You will need these signatures each year you attend college or technical school.
12. Remember you and your parent must have your FSA ID 5 days before completing the 2024-2025 FAFSA in late December.

FREE TUTOR & HOMEWORK HELP!

The program is accessible via the website: TutorWV.com. Available daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at no cost for West Virginians, TutorWV provides study for AP exams, ACT, SAT, and ASVAB testing. For jobseekers, the program offers live interview preparation, help with job searches and applications, and drop-off resume and cover letter review.

SAT WAIVERS & PRACTICE

Remember students can get two SAT fee waivers if you have financial need. See Mrs. Gerstell to receive a waiver. Sign-up for the SAT at: www.collegeboard.com

Don't forget you have access to free personalized practice when you go to your College Board and Khan Academy® accounts. Test Dates remaining with regular registration deadlines are:

<u>TEST DATE</u>	<u>REG. REGISTRATION.</u>
12/2	11/2
3/9 (Digital)	2/23
5/4 (Digital)	3/19
6/1 (Digital)	5/16

ACT WAIVERS & PRACTICE

Remember students can get four ACT fee waivers if you have financial need. See Mrs. Gerstell to receive a waiver. Sign-up for the ACT at: www.actstudent.org

Test dates remaining with regular registration deadlines are:

<u>TEST DATES</u>	<u>REG. REGISTRATION</u>
12/9 & 12/10	11/3
2/10	1/5
4/10	3/8
6/8	5/3
7/13	6/7

SELECTIVE SERVICE REG.

Attention all males: It is the law that you must register with Selective Service within 30 days of your 18th birthday! You can register as early as 17 years and three months. Register @ www.sss.gov.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT LOCAL #132 JATC APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITY!!

Three-year apprenticeship opportunity- learn while you earn! Five weeks of training required each year, but lowest pay up to \$25 an hour. Apply at: www.iuoe132.org between January 1- January 19, 2024.

SCHOLARSHIPS 2023-24

Name	Criteria	How to Apply	Deadline
Accounting Scholarships	Go to the education tab and there will be different scholarships and deadlines.	www.thiswaytoCPA.com	Varies
American Legion	Different scholarships available	www.legion.org/scholarships	Varying deadlines
Horatio Alger	Different scholarships-including career & technical, targeted, state and national	https://horatioalger.org/scholarships	Varying deadlines
Marshall University Yeager Scholarship (Full Ride) & study abroad	A recommended minimum composite score of 30 on the ACT or a minimum of 1360 total on the SAT from a single test date & a 3.5 unweighted GPA or above	www.marshall.edu Click on Yeager application	12/15/23
2024 Disability History Essay Contest \$1,000-\$3,250	Required essay regarding the Disability Rights Movement	https://wvsiic.org/essay-entry	12/15/23
Burger King	Cumulative high school GPA of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale (or the equivalent); must demonstrate community involvement through volunteering, sports, clubs and/or religious organizations.	www.burgerkingscholars.org	12/15/23
Equitable Excellence Scholarship	Seniors who demonstrate ambition and self-drive to be a force for good in their school, local community, or work activities	http://equitable.com/scholarships/equitable-excellence-scholarship	12/18/23
AIAA \$10,000	Seniors planning to pursue a degree in engineering or scientific study at a college or university- Several different scholarships with varying GPAs	www.aiaa.org Search for scholarships	12/31/23
WVU Foundation Scholarship (Full Ride)	To qualify for the Foundation Scholarship, high school students must meet a rigorous set of criteria, including holding West Virginia residency, possessing a minimum GPA of 3.8 & achieving a minimum composite score of 31 on the ACT or the equivalent SAT	www.wvu.edu Students who apply to WVU and meet the rigorous criteria will receive an invitation to compete in the WVU Foundation Scholar Competition	Must have applied to WVU by 12/31/23 with requirement met to be considered.
Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarship Generous 4 yr. renewable (amount unspecified)	Must be a graduating minority senior and have financial need. Senior must have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership and community service and be planning to attend a 4-yr college in the US.	www.jackierobinson.org/apply	1/10/24

Name	Criteria	How to Apply	Deadline
JFK Profiles in Courage Essay Contest First-place prize: \$100-\$10,000	Essay Required: Describe and analyze an act of political courage by a U.S. elected official who served during or after 1917, the year of JFK's birth.	http://jfklibrary.org/essaycontest	1/12/24
US JCI Senate Foundation Sch. \$1,500	Vocational Technical scholarship available as well as a 4 yr. college scholarship	www.usjcisenate.org Go to scholarship tab at the top of page.	1/19/24
National Daughters of the American Revolution DAR	26 different scholarships that vary in major and criteria and award amount	https://dar.academicworks.com/	1/31/24
WV PTA Scholarship \$500	Open to seniors planning to attend any type of postsecondary training in the fall of 2024 such as technical training or 2 /4-year college.	http://wwwstvirginiapta.org/scholarship.shtml	2/1/24 <u>Applications must be received.</u>
Greater Kanawha Valley Sch.	Apply to two regional scholarships with one application. 2 scholarships that are renewable are: WP Black and Ruth Ann Johnson (\$8,000) total. James Kessel is only for Jackson County students (\$1,400).	www.tgkvf.org	2/1/24 by 5 pm
Chemours 4 yr. Stem Scholarship \$40,000	Senior planning to major in a STEM Field at a 4-year college with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA	https://qrco.de/beWd9X	2/15/24 by 11 pm
Claire M. LaPlante Engineering Scholarship \$50,000	Must be planning to enroll in the WVU College of Engineering	www.ClaireLaPlante.com	2/21/24
BigFuture Earn entries in monthly drawings for \$500 to \$40,000	Log into your College Board account and complete the 6 steps on your dashboard for BigFuture.	https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org	2/29/24
Parkersburg Area Community Foundation Schs.	Numerous regional scholarships available	www.pacfww.com/scholarships	3/1/24
Engineering Science & Technology Scholarship (WV STEM) \$12,000	1) Applicant must agree to work full time in WV in a qualifying STEM field for one year for each year the scholarship was received.	www.collegeforwv.com/wvstem	3/1/24
Cancer Unwrapped Essay Contest \$1,000	An essay contest for grades 9-12- This is a chance for students to share how their own cancer or that of a loved one has impacted their life.	Cancer Unwrapped 2024 Teen Writing Contest is now open.	3/1/24
WVU-P Scholarship	For seniors who plan on attending WVU-P in the fall of 2024-One scholarship application for numerous scholarships.	www.wvup.edu/scholarships	3/15/24

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Check out individual college websites to submit applications for their scholarships. Marshall University and WV State University both have scholarships specifically for Jackson County residents. However, you first must submit online applications that you will find on their respective websites.

