# SENIOR YEAR PLANNING

JLVCollegeCounseling.com

Frenchtown High School Class of 2025

# Junior Year WHAT TO DO RIGHT NOW

- Register for your classes for next year
   Portal is open 2/26/24 to 3/5/23 until 3:30 p.m.
- Seniors must have 5 credit bearing classes
- Do a credit check- Make sure you are meeting graduation requirements
- Schedule a meeting with Ms. Laughnan to discuss your future plans
- Stay focused on grades- Keep Your Cumulative G.P.A. In Mind– 6<sup>TH</sup> semester transcripts will be sent to the colleges to which you apply in the summer or fall

ENROLLMENT IN ALL <u>HONORS CLASSES</u> IS LIMITED TO STUDENTS who have earned an "A" or "B" in classes offered by that specific academic department during the previous school term

- •You may repeat an honors class but it will only be counted once towards graduating with honors. High Honors applicants need 3 AP/Dual credit courses
- •To Graduate as Valedictorian or Salutatorian you must have high honors.

Level	Credits	GPA
Honors	8 Honors Credits	3.5
High Honors	12 Honors Credits- 3 must be AP or Dual Credit	3.67

# Earning College Credit in High School

- Advanced Placement (AP)- English Lit, Pre-Calc, Calculus, Physics, Government, Art
- Dual Credit-Writ 101, Lit 110 Intro to Literature, Accounting, Intro to Business, Business Ethics, Public Speaking, Contemporary Math, Statistics, College Algebra, Chemistry, Government
  - Early College Program through University
     of MT Start Now- classes available this summer for \$65.00 a credit. 1-2 Free Program

This year we had a grant to cover all dual credit/early college classes. We are hoping to get that grant next year as well.

## NCAA Eligibility Requirements

#### **DIVISION I**

16 Core-Course Rule

- 16 Core Courses:
- 4 years of English.
- 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy).

#### You must register with the NCAA eligibility center

Credit Recovery classes do not fulfill requirements.

#### **DIVISION II**

16 Core-Course Rule

- 16 Core Courses:
- 3 years of English.
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
- 3 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
- 2 years of social science.
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).
- Check the NCAA HS PORTAL for a list of approved classes.

### **FUTURE PLANNING**

- Take the ACT on April 24<sup>th</sup> at school
- Retake ACT this summer
- Register for other ACT or SAT dates online at:
   actstudent.org
   collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat
- ACT Prep
  - Take practice tests on My ACT
  - ACT Prep through EdReady- All juniors have access to this
- Some scholarships don't accept scores after December of senior year – many schools are test optional

# Montana's <u>Rigorous Core Courses</u> for Students and the MUS Honors Scholarship:- Full Tuition Waiver 4 years

- English: 4 credits
- Mathematics: 4 credits

Including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and one course above Algebra II

\*\*All must have grades of "C" or better

- Science: 3 credits of Lab Science
- Social Studies: 3 credits

U.S. History (gr. 11) 1.0 credits, U.S. Government (gr. 12) 1.0 credits, Global Studies: 1.0 credits,

Global Studies options include: World History (1.0), World Geog. Western (.5), World Geog. Eastern (.5)

- Electives 3 credits
- Alternate Option: 3 years of math including one course beyond Alg. II, and four years of laboratory science may be substituted for the four years of math and three years of science.

The Rigorous Core courses prepare students for admission and success in the Montana University system and most other colleges and universities.

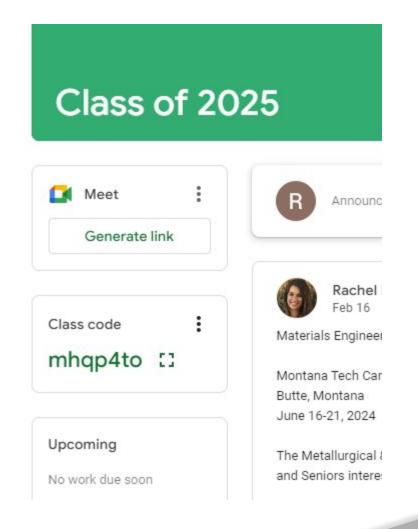
\*The Montana Board of Regents of Higher Education has designated these courses as the Rigorous Core.

# START THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

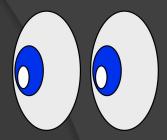
- Develop (if you haven't already) a file for each of the post-secondary options you are interested in
  - Visit with college & military reps at school
  - Job Shadow
- Start learning about scholarships and grants
- Brainstorm and research summer jobs, internships & scholarships
  - Write College application Essays & Scholarship Essays
  - Keep a record of your activities- Brag Sheet
  - Keep a Calendar of deadlines



#### Join the Google Classroom for the Class of 2025



# CHECK Class of 2025 Google Classroom



- Scholarships, graduation information, college visits, college tours, military recruiters, apprenticeships, etc..
- FAFSA INFO

Scholarship Information

Frenchtown High School Scholarship Page

Scholarship Presentation

#### Scholarship Application Tips

Completing a scholarship application can be a difficult task. Below are some tips to help you complete your application and essays.

- Pay close attention to scholarship application deadlines as applications submitted past the deadline will not be considered. The first scholarship deadlines begin in the fall for the following school year.
- Neat Appearance. Neatness, punctuation, grammar and spelling are important. Have someone read it over for you to make sure it looks and sounds good.
- Prepare letters of recommendation. Ask a few people to write letters of recommendation on your behalf so you will have them ready for future scholarship and college applications. Give people enough time to write the letter, but make sure you give them a date that you need the letter by. Prepare a scholarship resume outlining your involvement in activities in and out of school, community service and other information that you would like them to include.
- When writing your essays let your personality shine through. While scholastic achievements are important, in most cases, they are not the only items considered. Think about including your clubs, sports, volunteer and community involvement, honors and achievements, financial need, personal stories or valuable lessons learned.
- Thinking about **common essay questions** can help you prepare for a scholarship essay. Typical questions might include: What are your short and long-term goals? Describe any unusual family or personal circumstances that have affected your achievement in school? What are your work or extracurricular activities? List experiences related to your field of study?
- Proofread your essays and applications in addition to having a least one other person proofread your application. Spelling errors or poor writing skills will have a negative effect on your chances of receiving the scholarship.
- Keep a copy of everything you submit!
- If you are notified that you have received a scholarship always send a thank you note to the donor.
- Scholarships are a numbers game so the more you apply for the more you will be likely to receive.

# Planning for Life After High School

- Never too early to start
- Get a professional email <u>firstname.lastname@gmail.com</u>
- Check your Social Media Account
- Senior year is busy, start now!

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# Letters of Recommendation

- Identify teachers who may be willing to write recommendation letters for you.
  - Senior Brag sheets will be an assignment posted on classroom. Fill out the brag sheet and give it to your identified teachers, coaches, employers.
  - Be prepared to provide a copy of your "Brag Sheet" to anyone you ask a letter of recommendation from.

### Important Events

#### SEPTEMBER

College Fair
 End of September @ University of Montana

#### OCTOBER

- UM Tour
- Jostens- Order Cap and Gowns
- FAFSA Night

# Post Secondary Options Week

October- 1<sup>st</sup> week

Free college applications- MT schools waive or defer the application fee. Use APPLY MONTANA if applying to more than one Montana College

Throughout the fall- Military recruiters, College Recruiters, Apprenticeship Reps

### FAFSA - OCTOBER

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
  - fafsa.ed.gov
  - Opens October 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Priority Deadline for Montana Schools: Dec 1
  - **FSAID**
  - Prior Prior Year Taxes fall of 2025=2023 taxes
  - COA and EFC expected family contribution
  - SAR student aid report
    - Grants
    - Work Study
    - Loans

## January 2024 and on

- Montana Scholarships- Youth Serve/Reach Higher
- Local Frenchtown and Missoula Scholarships
- Report scholarships to Ms. Laughnan
- Scholarship forms for local scholarships
- February- High Honors/Honors/Val/Sal notified
- February(usually) Caps and Gowns arrivecan borrow a cap and gown see counselors

March- Senior pictures due to Mr. McClendon for Yearbook

March 15<sup>th</sup> MUS Honors and STEM Scholarship Due

Senior Meetings with Ms. Laughnanfinal transcript envelopes and Scholarship sheets

### Last Week of May

- Award Ceremony (Tuesday night)
- Education Matters Processional, Graduation Practice and Checkout (Wednesday)
- Graduation (Sunday)
- Senior Trip (Tuesday after Memorial Day)

### Scholarship Info

- College sites
  - http://www.montana.edu/admissions/s cholarships.shtml
  - https://admissions.umt.edu/scholarshi ps/default.php
  - Internet search engines
  - www.scholarshipexperts.com
  - www.finaid.org
  - www.fastweb.com
  - Raise.me- micro scholarships
  - Reach Higher Montana
  - Frenchtown Scholarship Page: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1 G9d-hZ4Jf6e0Epfxxm8le393sn69tWJq khnluv7ojl8/edit?usp=sharing

# Scholarships Available Now

- Big Sky State- Character Counts Scholarship
  - For student athletes pursuing continuing education
  - Deadline May 3rd
- Horatio-Alger Scholarship for Juniors
  - For students in critical financial need
  - 600+ Scholarships available for up to 25,000 Each
  - Deadline March 15th

### CAREER RESOURCES

- www.mtcis.intocareers.org
  - Username: frenchtownhs
  - Password: plan7ing

Great resource for College Sort, Occupation Information, Programs of Study Information, Military Job Information, Apprenticeship contacts.

- \*Helps find colleges and universities with specific programs of study in Montana and other states.
- https://www.onetonline.org/

### **COLLEGE RESOURCES**

Rankings and general info: www.usnews.com info: www.usnews.com, www.princetonreview.com

Virtual tours of campus: www.campustours.com

# TESTING AND \$\$ RESOURCES

- ACT/SAT test prep: <u>www.actstudent.org</u>ACT/SAT test prep: <u>www.collegeboard.com</u>ACT/SAT test prep: <u>www.number2.com</u>ACT/SAT test prep: <u>www.number2.com</u>ACT/SAT test prep: <u>www.actstudent.org</u>, www.collegeboard.com, <u>www.number2.com</u>ACT/SAT test prep: <u>www.number2.com</u>ACT/SAT test prep:
- Financial Aid online resources:

   <a href="http://www.finaid.org/">http://www.finaid.org/</a>
   <a href="http://www.finaidfacts.org/">http://www.finaidfacts.org/</a>
   <a href="http://www.fsaid.ed.gov/">http://www.fsaid.ed.gov/</a> FSA ID for one parent and the student