



SEIZE YOUR FUTURE!

Lewisville Independent School District

COLLEGE ACCESS NEWSLETTER

Volume 2.8

May 2009

Congratulations Class of 2009!

FINAL CHECKLIST FOR SENIORS

Remember to check and double check everything – universities “slow down” on availability of staff and faculty between May 1 and June 15. Don’t wait!

Register to take the **THEA** - www.thea.nesinc.com (if you are planning on attending a Texas school) Check to see if you have an exemption. Also, if you are entering community college, see if you may take a free THEA on their campus.

Be sure to get your **financial aid information filed**. If you are starting school in Fall 2008, you are behind! You may file online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Be sure to double check with the institutions to make sure that they received all necessary financial aid information.

Respond promptly – in writing – for action on admissions, scholarship, and financial aid information.

Keep your grades up! Now is **NOT** the time to slack off – and institutions can still withdraw offers of admission after reviewing spring/summer transcripts.

Say **Thank You!** Write a special note to your parents and those teachers who have made a difference in your life. This is a special moment in their lives too – they have invested a lot of time and care into your future success.

LISD College Information web page:
www.lisd.net/counseling/college.html

CHECKLIST FOR JUNIORS

- _____ Consider registering for dual credit courses. It will save you money and time in the long run! See your HS counselor for more information.
 - _____ Begin working on your **resumé** – it is important for future applications and admissions.
 - _____ Start working on your **essays**. (See the included section in this newsletter.) Write about your passionate interests! You need to plan on starting the year by having others (your English teacher, your parents, etc.) read and edit your essays.
 - _____ **“Shop early!”** By the fall of your senior year, you should **stop** shopping and start applying. Many of the more selective colleges and universities have mid- to late-December deadlines for the next fall. Others may have deadlines late in the spring, or may even continue taking applications through the summer.
 - _____ Consider scheduling **college visits** for the summer months if possible.
 - _____ Start looking for a **summer job, internship, or volunteer opportunity**. Real-world experiences make you more marketable to schools and colleges – and future employers. Start building your community service and volunteer portfolio. Many agencies and community groups are starting to look for summer volunteers, so now is the time to begin! The key is **PASSION and PERSISTANCE!**
 - _____ **Review** high school coursework and activity plans. Make sure you are on track for the future! **Remember, colleges and schools are looking for the following:** Challenging coursework (Pre AP and AP courses); Strong GPA; Involvement in extracurricular activities
 - _____ **Plan to take the SAT, SAT Subject Tests, or ACT exams if necessary.** Check with the schools you are applying to for specific testing requirements. Pick up registration forms in the counseling office or go online.
-

THREE KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION



BE AUTHENTIC – More and more colleges and schools want honest, reflective students. They are looking for evidence of interests and passions across the application – in essays, interviews, recommendations and extracurricular activities. Don't present yourself as something or someone that you are not – a “slick package” or faking it will not impress anyone. Be real!



WRITE A GREAT ESSAY – Your essay is the time to let admissions and financial aid officers find out who you are! If an essay is optional, **ALWAYS** write one – it is your chance to shine. Write about your true passions and interests. There are lots of helpful websites, so do your

homework. Here are a few: www.collegeboard.com/student/apply/essay-skills/; www.conncoll.edu/admission/essays.htm; www.west.net/~stewart/beste.htm;



GET GREAT LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION – These letters can often “make or break” acceptance at colleges and schools. This process needs to start early – a rushed recommendation will not do you any favors! As juniors, you should be thinking of at least three teachers that can give you a fair, but favorable recommendation. DON'T ASK FOR A RECOMMENDATION FROM SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW YOU OR MAY NOT LIKE YOU! For more information, visit these websites: www.ecampustours.com/collegeplanning/applyingforcollege/lettersofrecommendation.htm ; www.infoplease.com/edu/fastweb/lettersofrecommendation.html;

UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarship	Description	Award Amount	Application Method	Deadline
Abbott & Fenner Scholarship	\$1,000. Available to students from ages 16-30 enrolled full time at an institution of higher learning.	\$1,000	Online - www.abbottandfenner.com/scholarships.htm	6/20/09
Academic Competitiveness Grant	Provides assistance for students who demonstrate financial need and have completed a rigorous program of study.	\$750	Online - http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/AcademicGrants.jsp	Varies
AES Engineers Scholarship	Scholarship awarded for achievement, character, and writing. Essay required	\$500	http://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.htm	10-6-9
AG Bell Named Scholarship	Provides financial assistance to oral deaf students with moderate to profound hearing loss	\$2000 annually	Online – www.agbell.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?p=Awardsagbell.org/	See website for details
Agnes Jones Jackson Scholarship	Provides financial assistance to members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) who are planning on attending college	\$1,500	Online - www.naacp.org/youth/scholarships/information/naacp/index.htm	Varies - check website
Amtrak Offer JUNIORS, PAY ATTENTION:	For students traveling with a parent or guardian to visit any college campus throughout the U.S. The student buys a full-price adult fare ticket, and their parent or guardian travels for half price through Dec. 16, 2009		www.campusvisit.com	Dec. 16, 2009
Andre Sobel Award	Recognize and reward young cancer survivors based on outstanding essays	\$5000	Online – www.andriveroflife.org/award.html	See website
Apple Scholars Program	To provide cash scholarships and technology equipment to students who have demonstrated prolific use of technology in their schoolwork.	\$2000	Online – http://education.apple.com/scholars .	5/30/09
Asian American Scholarship	Provide financial assistance for Asian American students who demonstrate financial need; Must write essay	Up to \$5,000	Online - www.uspaacc.com	Check website
B. Davis Scholarship	For students who are currently, or will be, attending a college or university	\$1000	http://www.scholarshipquesthelper.com	5-30-09
Baker Family Foundation Scholarship	Provides financial assistance to students facing obstacles to attend college	Varies	Online – www.bakerfamilyfoundation.org	Varies – see website
Best Buy Scholarships	Provides financial assistance for students who demonstrate outstanding community service	\$1,500	Online - www.bestbuy.scholarship.org	Check website - available

BigSun Organization	Provides financial assistance to a student athlete who will be involved in some sport at a post secondary institution.	\$500	Online – www.bigsunathletics.com	6/27/09
Boomer Esiason Foundation Scholarship Program	\$500. to \$2,000. Essay based scholarship for students with cystic fibrosis. Go to www.cfscholarships.com/ to apply. Quarterly scholarships awarded 4 times yearly.	Varies	Online - www.cfscholarships.com/pdf/BEFSCHOLARSHIPPROGRAM.pdf	Deadline - 15th of Dec., March, June, & Sept. 2009
Casey Family Scholars	Up to \$10,000 to students who have spent at least 12 months in foster care and were not subsequently adopted.	Varies	Online - www.orphan.org	Check website - materials available 1/1/09
Cesar Chavez Memorial Leadership Award	Provides financial assistance for Hispanic/Latino students who have demonstrated outstanding leadership.	\$2500	Online – www.telacu.com	Check website
Charley Wootan Grant Program	Student must demonstrate financial need.	\$1,000,000 to TX Students	Online- www.aie.org	May 7
Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Scholarship	Provides financial assistance for college students of Hispanic descent	Up to \$2500	Online - www.chci.org/chciyouth/scholarship/application.htm	4/16/09
D.C. Stipp Memorial Scholarship	For students who wish to pursue a career in the visual arts industry. Student must be planning to major or minor in the visual arts field, B average, provide samples of work, and letter of recommendation	Undetermined	Application in Counseling Center	May 11, 2009
Dallas Jewish Community Foundation Scholarship	\$300 - \$4000 to seniors who demonstrate both academic merit and financial need; several different opportunities available.	Varies	Online - www.djcf.org	Varies - check website
Eagle Scout Scholarship	Provides support to an Eagle Scout with at least 26-ACT. Selection is based on financial need, scholastic accomplishment, involvement in scouting, school, and community activities.	Varies	Online - www.nesa.org/scholarships	Varies - check website
Elks Scholarships	\$15,000. to \$1,000 per year for students based on GPA, leadership, and financial need.	Varies	Online - www.elks.org/enf/scholars/our scholarship.cfm	Varies; Check website
Elsie May White Memorial Scholarship	Provides financial assistance to African American students	\$1000	Online – www.edonorcentral.com/scholarship/scholarshipinfo.aspx?scholarship=547	May – check website for details
Hispanic Scholarship Fund	Provide financial assistance for Hispanic American students - several opportunities available; check website	Varies	Online - www.hsf.net/Scholarships.aspx?id=426	Varies - check website
Jerold B. Katz Foundation Scholarship	\$500. - \$4000. Available to students who are residents of Texas. Contact information: Jerold B. Katz Foundation, Executive Director, 7500 San Felipe, Ste. 990, Houston, TX 77063, 713-778-3500.	Varies	Contact organization for details	TBD
John Perry Fund Scholarship	Provides financial assistance who may not be eligible for aid due to a drug conviction; creates opportunity for “new start”	Up to \$2000	Online – www.raiseyourvoice.com/Perry-index.html - must complete a preapplication	Check website for details
LaTendre Education Fund	The scholarship funds are available to students who are homeless or who have been homeless during their school attendance, and who have demonstrated average or higher than average achievement. According to federal law, a person is considered homeless who “lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate	\$1500	Online - http://www.naehcy.org/letendre_ab.html	9/1/09

	night-time residence.” This includes people living in shelters, cars, motels, campgrounds, or places not meant for human habitation, as well as children and youth who are living with friends or relatives temporarily because they lack permanent housing.			
Lawrence Madeiros Scholarship	Provides financial assistance to students who have a chronic disorder	\$1000	Online - www.adirondackspintacular.com/pdf/2009%20Application.pdf	6/1/09
Los Padres Foundation College Awards	To provide financial assistance for students from Hispanic backgrounds; Several awards available	Varies	Online - www.lospadresfoundation.org/home.html	Varies - check website
LULAC Awards	To provide financial assistance to Hispanic American students	Varies	Online - www.lnesc.org/	Varies-check website
Marine Corps League Scholarship	To provide college aid to students whose parents served in the Marines	Varies	Online - www.mcleague.com/mdp/index.php?module=ContentExpress&func=display&ceid=29	Check website for release dates
Men’s Club of St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church Scholarship	Provides financial assistance to students with demonstrated involvement in the St. Philip community and the LISD area community at large. Essay required.	\$500	More information available at the parish office – 972-436-9581	7/1/09
Military Dependents, Scholarships for	Google scholarships for dependents of World War II veterans	Varies		
Navin Narayan Scholarship	Provide support for students attending a four-year university and who have volunteered a minimum of two years with the Red Cross.	\$2500	Online – www.redcross.org	Varies – see website
Navy ROTC Scholarships	Applicants must be at least 17yrs old, U.S. or Naturalized citizen, qualifying SAT or ACT scores or be in the top 10% of their high school class. Minimum score requirements are: SAT – 530 Critical Reading/520 Math; ACT – 22 English/21 Math.	Varies – see website	Online - www.nrotc.navy.mil .	Varies – see website
Nelnet Scholarship Drawing	Monthly drawing for 10 \$25,000 and 750 \$1,000 scholarships. Enter daily to improve your chances. Go to www.nelnet.com to enter.	Varies	Online - www.nelnet.com	Monthly
North Central Texas College Foundation Scholarships	Provides financial assistance for graduating seniors	Varies	Online – www.nctc.edu/Student_Services/FinAid/scholarships.html	Varies – check website
Off to College Scholarship Sweepstakes	Assist students for first year expenses at any accredited college; US residency required	\$1000	Online – www.suntrustededucation.com	5/15/09
Patricia M. McNamara Memorial Scholarship	To provide financial assistance to students who have overcome great obstacles	\$1,000	Online - www.patricias-scholarship.org/status.html	5/31/09
Purdue DFW Scholarship	To aid student planning to attend Purdue in the fall of 2009.	Undetermined	www.purdue-dfw.org	June 1
Robert C. Byrd Scholarship	Award available to individuals who are Texas residents, current high school seniors, meet any academic criteria that may apply. The selection of applicants is based on GPA, class rank, and scores on college entrance exams.	\$1,500	Online - www.tea.state.tx.us/opge/formfund/Byrd/	Check website
Salon Professional Academy	2 \$2500 Scholarships. Applicant must submit 2 personal character references, 3 personal essays. Scholarships awarded to students attending Salon Professional Academy (Cosmetology).	\$2500	Application in Counseling Center	June 1
Stephen F Austin State University Academic	Provide financial assistance for students attending SFA who rank in the top 10 percent of graduating class, or rank in the top quarter of graduating class	\$3000	Online - www.sfasu.edu/admissions/scholarships/aesp.asp	6/1/09

Excellence Award	and earn a minimum score of 1100 on the SAT Reasoning Test (reading and math combined - not including writing score) or 24 on the ACT (not including writing sample score)			
Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Fund	To provide financial assistance for children and spouses of deceased and disabled veterans, MIA's and POW's.	Varies	Online - http://www.gibill.va.gov/	Varies
TEACH for Texas Conditional Grant Program	For students who plan to enter the field of education. This is a Student Loan with Cancellation Provisions for Teaching in Texas after you graduate.		You must visit with the financial aid officer at your chosen institution.	
Texas Early High School Graduation Scholarship	To provide financial assistance to students who complete either the Texas Recommended or Distinguished Achievement curriculum in less than specified time	Varies	Online - www.collegefortexans.com/cfbn/tofa2.cfm?ID=2	See website for details
Texas Educational Opportunities	To provide financial assistance for Texas high school students	Varies; Many awards available	Online - www.collegefortexans.com	Check website for details
Texas Student Housing	\$10,000. payable at \$2,500. For four years available to freshmen in Austin, College Station, Denton or San Marcos Texas. This scholarship is open to students accepted at colleges in the preceding cities and have NOT signed off campus housing leases with a TSH facility managed by Asset Campus Housing.	\$2,500 annually	Online - www.texasstudenthousing.net .	Check website
The 50K Giveaway Scholarship	Assists first year college or vocational school students with expenses.	\$5000	Online - www.afclencind.com/50k	5/31/09
TWU Student Leadership Scholarship	Student must provide information re: high school activities, leadership, essay and recommendation	\$15000 Yearly x 4	http://www.twu.edu/osl/csd/Forms.html under "Applications and Nominations"	5-15-09
TWU Former Students Assoc.	Female resident of Denton County and attend a Denton County High School, demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and leadership	Two \$1000	Application in Counseling Center	5/8/09
Tuition Tales	Produce a 30-second video telling why you could win: \$10,000 for college: \$250 gift card to Bed Bath & Beyond; or \$250 Bank of America Visa Gift Card. Open to anyone of any age. Enter for yourself or on behalf of family or friends.	\$250 - \$10,000	www.upromise.com	5/5/09
Tylenol 2009 Scholarship	Scholarships awarded to students pursuing healthcare-related education at an accredited institution.	10 \$10K 30 \$5K	www.tylenol.com/scholarships	5-15-09
University of Houston Scholarship	Provides financial assistance for students planning to attend the University of Houston	Varies	Online - www.mycougarconnection.com/scholarships/ AND www.uh.edu/scholarships	3/23/09 - check website
Women of Flower Mound	Provides scholarships to graduating high school students who reside in Flower Mound	\$2000	Online - www.womenofflowermound.org	See website for details
Women's Independent Scholarship Program	The objective of the Women's Independence Scholarship Program is to help survivors of intimate partner abuse obtain an education. To be eligible to apply for this scholarship, the applicant must be a woman who is a direct survivor of intimate partner abuse.	Varies	Online - www.wispinc.org/Programs/WISP/tabid/62/Default.aspx	See website for details