



# Beacon College Office Senior Bulletin

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**FEATURING**

THIS WEEK'S COLLEGE OFFICE  
REMINDERS

UPCOMING COLLEGE EVENTS

TEST PREP AND PRACTICE  
EXAMS

LAST CHANCE OPPORTUNITIES

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PROGRAMS & INTERNSHIPS



## New This Week

### **FAFSA Update**

The launch of this year's FAFSA has been slow going and issues are still being worked on. The problems families have seen go beyond the known issues listed on the FAFSA website.

The Department of Education recently announced that the Student Aid Index (SAI), the FAFSA-generated need analysis indicator, will be adjusted to account for cost of living inflation. In response, Federal Student Aid released a statement on January 30th that this update will delay the college's receipt of FAFSA student reports until mid-March. That means students who need to make corrections or add colleges to their FAFSA will not be able to do so until after that point.

### **So what should you do?**

- Don't panic. This situation is affecting countless students across the US, and presents major challenges to college admissions and financial aid officers as well. Everyone is aware that these FAFSA issues are outside of your control and will take time to resolve.
- Colleges that use the CSS Profile or their own aid form get more info from those forms than the FAFSA. They can use that to provide very accurate aid estimates for any students admitted EDII in the coming weeks. CSS deadlines have not changed, and that form works just fine for those colleges that use it.

- If you are approaching a college's financial aid deadline and were unable to file a FAFSA, email that financial aid office and let them know about your issue and why you were unable to file.
- If you have yet to file the FAFSA due to a technical problem or you just haven't started yet, keep trying. But remember, much of the site is simply unfinished, and you may not be able to file. Don't waste hours of your time on this or trying to reach customer service. You may just need to table the FAFSA and return to try again in a week, or a few weeks, given the extent of the form's problems.
- If you haven't yet completed FAFSA, check out the [Understanding FAFSA Guide](#) for some helpful context.

We'll share any important updates as the situation develops.

## Reminders

### Midyear Grades

Midyear grades were distributed in advisory today. These grades will be automatically sent by the College Office next week if there are no issues or changes. Please submit [this form](#) by Monday, February 12th at 5pm if your transcript is not correct in any way or if you want us to attach a fall College Now transcript. You will need to email your counselor the transcript asap.

### TAP (Tuition Assistance Program)

Once you have filled out the FAFSA with at least one college in NY, you will get a direct link to fill out your TAP scholarship application. This is a scholarship for all schools in NYS (public/private) [if you are eligible](#). If you miss this email you can also just click [here](#) to fill out the TAP application.

Please be aware that it will automatically randomly populate one of the NYS colleges you listed on your FAFSA. You can leave that school there until you know where you are actually attending. You have until May to put in the attending college so that the money, if you qualify, goes to the correct school. You cannot fill out the TAP application until your FAFSA application has been processed.

### More free applications!

- Drew University Fee Waiver - use code drew28
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute - no code needed
- Seton Hall University fee waiver - use code XFW
- SUNY Purchase - no code needed (ends 2/15)

## Last Chance Opportunities

### **Girls Who Code @ Columbia University**

- Columbia students teach computer science to high school women
- Program hopes to create an open and fun learning environment for high school women to become familiar with the fundamentals of computer science, robotics, algorithms and mobile development.
- Application Deadline: **February 4th at 11:59pm**
- Learn more apply [here](#)

### **The Black Family's Guide to College Admissions - Sallie Mae**

- Discuss several topics helpful to navigating college admissions, including important factors Black students should consider when choosing a college.
- Virtual information session
- **February 7th from 7:00pm-8:00pm**
- Register [here](#)

## Upcoming College-Related Events

### **UK College Admissions Weekly Zoom**

- Students and parents welcome to join this weekly informational Zoom on the UK college admissions process
- Join Tuesdays from 4-6 pm at this link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89591528259>
- Additionally, you can register for [this website](#), which gives you access to a plethora of information on UK admissions and access to personal meetings

### **Walk Through FSA ID for Parents**

- Students and contributors (parents or spouses) are required to have a FSA ID to complete and sign the FAFSA online
- Attend one of the information sessions for a step-by-step guide
- Register [here](#)

### **EOP Form Completion Workshops**

- Information Session for assistance with the completion of their required EOP Financial Information Form.
  - EOP Form Completion events are designed for EOP applicants who have already submitted an application to a SUNY school via applySUNY or the Common Application
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- Register [here](#)

### **SUNY Application Workshops**

- Information sessions for seniors who have not submitted their SUNY applications yet
- The workshops will provide an overview of the application process as well as step by step information
- Register [here](#)

### **Macaulay Honors College- Spring 2024 Information Sessions**

- Hear from current students about their Macaulay experiences
- Dates and Zoom Links:
  - [Tuesday, February 13th 4:00-5:30 pm](#)
  - [Tuesday, March 19th 4:00-5:30 pm](#)
  - [Wednesday, April 17th 4:00-5:30 pm](#)
  - [Thursday, May 16th 4:00-5:30 pm](#)



# Extracurricular & Internship Opportunities

## Costa Rica Youth Exchange - Summer 2024

- 2 weeks to 2 months exchange program in Costa Rica.
- Sessions include arts, cooking, music, dance, Spanish conversation, sports encounters, village events, farm visits, local excursions, outdoor games, youth service projects.
- Session One: June 9 - July 6 (four weeks)
- Session Two: July 7 - August 3 (four weeks)
- Summer 2024: [Dates/Costs](#)
- Register [here!](#)

## GlowNew

- An organization supporting women in homelessness by providing comprehensive makeovers and care packages
- In search of passionate students to start GlowNew chapters in schools - leadership experience, volunteer opportunities, awards, and online internships are all available
- Learn more [here](#)

## Banson NYC High School Fashion Summer Camps

- A chance for high school students to learn the fundamentals of the fashion industry from an insider perspective
- Students will stay in a midtown hotel with visits, seminars, and activities planned for each day
- Summer 2024 camps will be taking place in late June and mid-July. Learn more [here.](#)

## Let's Get Ready

- This free mentorship program is targeted at juniors and seniors looking for support throughout their college transition
- For seniors, weekly texts from a mentor will help with applications, financial aid, and enrollment decisions
- Visit [the website](#) to apply and learn more

## Costa Rica Youth Exchange

- High school village immersion
- Elevates Spanish skills through the power of youth social dynamics and active community engagement
- Gain confidence and language independence naturally through the fun, small town experience of Costa Rica
- Learn more [here](#)



## **Ball State University Interior Design Summer Workshop**

- Workshop designed to help students explore the field of interior design and determine if it is right for them, get a head start on fundamental concepts, start building their portfolio, and more!
- Open to all seniors with an interest in interior design
- Three workshops offered, one online and two in person
- Each workshop is limited to twelve students
- Online session will be held from June 10th to July 5th
- In person sessions include a ten-day residential stay at Ball State University and will be held from June 2nd to June 11th and from June 16th to June 25th
- Find more information and register for the workshop [here](#)

## **Bossgirls Bootcamp at City College of New York**

- A free summer entrepreneurship program open to high school female and nonbinary students, open to juniors and seniors
- Applications accepted on a rolling basis, first deadline is January 31st to be considered for July 2024 program, final deadline is March 31st, 2024
- Program highlights:
  - Work on a team of other young entrepreneurs to identify a problem and come up with a solution, and find a business opportunity
  - Research the market, compare competitors, learn how to price your product and prototype it, and create a brand
  - Pitch ideas to an audience (“Shark Tank without the sharks”)
  - Meet entrepreneurs, get advice from expert mentors
- 5 week in-person program
- Find more information and apply [here](#)

## **DOROT Teen Internship Program**

- Academic year internship program: January 29th-March 15th
- Summer internship program: June 24th-July 18th OR July 23rd-August 15th
- Gives interns a unique community service opportunity by connecting students with older adults in a variety of settings (chess games, home visits, discussions with older women, etc.)
- Internship is one afternoon per week
- High-quality training included
- Opportunity to earn service hours
- Learn more and apply for the academic year internship [here](#) and summer internship [here](#)

## **Ladder Internships**

- Selective start-up internship program for high school students, founded and run by Harvard graduate students
  - Students will work 1-1 with supervisors from top start-ups to work on real-world projects in a real start-up environment
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- Application for spring cohort is February 18th
- Learn more [here](#)
- Apply [here](#)

### **Music Theater Summer Academy**

- Hosted by Marymount Manhattan College on the Upper East Side
- Opportunity to analyze a script and song, make informed acting choices, use music to propel the story, and understand the techniques required to create a digital pre-screen.
- The program is based on current industry standards for both college auditions and the professional world in New York City.
- Dates
  - Summer Intensive I June 23rd - July 6th
  - Summer Intensive II July 7th - July 20th
- Learn more and apply [here](#)

### **Urban Leadership Fellows Program**

- Paid Summer Internship
- Topics:
  - Business
  - Finance
  - Government
  - Public Policy
- Interns work full-time for six weeks between July and August at prestigious firms around New York City.
- All students are required to attend mandatory workshops, training, and events that take place between mid-May and mid-August.
- Virtual Information Session are available throughout the month of February, sign up [here](#)
- Deadline: February 28th
- Learn more and apply [here](#)





# Academic Prep Resources

## **Sci-Inspire at Columbia University**

- Complimentary tutoring service from Columbia students for high schoolers pursuing STEM subjects
- Tutors are highly accomplished and selected carefully
- Sessions take place on Tuesday evenings
- Learn more [here](#)

## **Revolution Prep Tutoring \$200 + \$50 Gift Card Offer**

- Revolution Prep private online tutoring focuses on closing academic learning gaps, scaffolding complex subject matter, improving grades and GPA, strengthening executive functioning skills, and preparation for exams (AP, SAT, ACT and more)
- Offering Beacon families a \$200 gift card to use toward a tutoring package Find more information [here](#)

## **Ulster University Discovery Academy**

- Online courses free and available to all
- Designed to help students choose a major
- Courses are self-paced and accessible 24/7
- Learn more [here](#)







# Scholarships

## **Raymond J. Rue Memorial Scholarship**

- This scholarship is intended to provide aid to students' whose families and lives have been impacted by gun violence
- Applications are due April 30, 2024
- Please follow [this link](#) to apply

## **TIME 2000 Program at Queens College**

- A specially designed undergraduate teacher education program offering scholarship towards tuition for all accepted students
- Aims to recruit highly qualified math students, with teacher shortages expected to rise
- Follow [this link](#) to apply and learn more

## **Bronx Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Scholarship**

- An \$8000 scholarship dispersed in \$1000 increments per semester
- There are also several one-time grants in various amounts that are available
- Open to high school seniors who are residents of the Bronx, maintain a "B" average, are involved in extracurricular activities, and plan to be a full-time student at a 4-year college in Fall 2024
- Requires a two-page essay (min. 1000 words), two letters of recommendation (one from a teacher/guidance counselor and one from a community service supervisor), an official transcript, and a copy of SAT/ACT scores
- Note: no electronic submissions will be accepted, all applications must be sent via postal service
- Applications must be postmarked by February 23, 2024
- Learn more [here](#)

## **Bates College Kessler Scholars Program**

- Open to first-generation students at Bates College
- Cohort program in which students receive an exclusive first year summer pre-orientation experience, professional exploration workshops, individualized advising meetings, financial planning workshops, recreational and community building activities, and support for graduate school exploration trips (such as law and medical school)
- Learn more about the 2024 cohort [here](#)



## **CACNY Scholarship Plus**

- Open to high school seniors in NYC who have demonstrated a GPA of 84.5% or higher, family income of less than \$52,000, and a willingness to engage in community events, workshops, and semester check-ins
- Applicants must be citizens or have permanent residency in the US
- Learn more and apply [here](#)

## **Brandeis Scholarship**

- Open to all students applying to Brandeis
- No additional application needed, all students considered
- Merit scholarships vary from \$10,000 to \$20,500 annually
- Learn more about Brandeis scholarships and fellowships [here](#)

## **Zeta Zeta Lambda Chapter Scholarship**

- \$1,000 Scholarship for Male High School Seniors who live in Queens
- Provided by the Zeta Zeta Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.
- Required Materials:
  - Topic Essay
  - Personal Statement
  - One Letter Recommendation
  - Official Transcript
  - Resume
- Applications due March 1st
- Learn more and apply [here](#)

## **The Albert Shanker College Scholarship Fund of the United Federation of Teachers**

- The United Federation of Teachers proudly awards \$1 million in undergraduate and graduate scholarships to academically excellent and financially eligible students from New York City public schools.
- The Fund awards more than 200 college scholarships to outstanding public high school graduates every year. Each award totals \$5,000 – that is, \$1,250 a year for four years of college.
- Albert Shanker College Scholarships are given to students who will be attending an accredited public or private college or university.
- Learn more about the UDT Scholarship Fund [here](#)
- View the Albert Shanker College Scholarship Fund Handbook [here](#)

## **Asian Pacific Community Fund (APCP)**

- A nonprofit organization that administers scholarships to eligible high school seniors.
  - All scholarship deadlines are Monday, April 15th
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- Offers many scholarships opportunities including:
  - Cathay Bank Foundation Scholarship Eligibility:
    - Plans to attend a US accredited 4-year college/university or a community college and will be enrolled as a freshman in the fall of 2024
    - GPA requirement of 3.0
    - Have a household income at or below the County Low Income Level (must be able to show 2022 or 2023 income tax return if selected for award)
    - Open to ALL MAJORS with no ethnicity requirement
  - Preferred Bank Scholarship Eligibility
    - Plan to attend a US accredited 4-year college/university or a community college and will be enrolled as a freshman in the fall of 2024
    - GPA requirement of 3.0
    - Have a household income at or below the Low Income Level (must be able to show 2022 or 2023 income tax return if selected for an award)
    - Open to ALL MAJORS with no ethnicity requirement
  - Learn more [here](#)

### **David & Dovetta Wilson Scholarship Fund**

- One time scholarship in the amount ranging between \$1000-1500
- 2.5 GPA Requirement
- Applicant must be a Graduating senior of a public high school (U.S.) and either a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Applicants must plan to attend an accredited college or university
- Application deadline is February 15th
- Learn more and apply [here](#)

### **HOLA at Microsoft Scholarship**

- HOLA Scholarship will award five scholarships totaling US \$55,000:
  - Two \$20,000 scholarships distributed over 4 years(\$5,000 per year, renewable)
  - Three \$5,000 one-time scholarships
- Application deadline is March 13th
- Learn more and apply [here](#)

### **Other Scholarship Resources**

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.myscholly.com](http://www.myscholly.com)