

Shepherd High School

Senior News & Scholarships

2009-2010

Due to construction, the counseling offices are temporarily located in the media center conference room. Please come and see us with any questions or concerns. You can also contact us via email:

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ACT: December 12 test date registration deadline is **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009.**

Should I retake the ACT?

- Students interested in trying to improve ACT scores for top ten purposes, scholarship opportunities, or to meet college admissions requirements, should strongly consider retaking the ACT test on **DECEMBER 12, 2009.**
- 55% of students who retake the ACT score 1-2 points higher than they did the first time
- Although tests are available in 2010, it is strongly recommended that seniors take the December test to maximize scholarship opportunities. This is also the last test date where students will be most likely to receive results prior to Shepherd High School determination of Top Ten.
- Shepherd High School ACT Code is 233-455

ACT Registration Dates for 2009-2010

| <u>Test Date</u> | <u>Registration Deadline</u> | <u>(Late Fee Required)</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| September 12, 2009 | August 7, 2009 | August 8-21, 2009 |
| October 24, 2009 | September 18, 2009 | Sept. 19-Oct 2, 2009 |
| December 12, 2009 | November 6, 2009 | November 7-20, 2009 |
| February 6, 2010 | January 5, 2010 | January 6-15, 2010 |
| April 10, 2010 | March 5, 2010 | March 6-19, 2010 |
| June 12, 2010 | May 7, 2010 | May 8-21, 2010 |

**The ACT National Registration Fees for 2009-2010 will be \$32.00 for ACT (No Writing) and \$47.00 for ACT Plus Writing*

**Students may now register for the 2009-2010 test dates online by visiting www.actstudent.org. Registration packets and practice tests are also available in the guidance office.*

Senior Audits

- Counselors will meet individually with each senior beginning in September, 2009
- Opportunity to discuss graduation requirements, post-secondary options, scholarship opportunities, financial aid, etc

College Planning:

- We recommend that you submit college applications **ASAP!!** Even if you haven't made the final decision about which college you plan to attend, now is the time to submit your applications to ensure a place at the institution, and to maximize your opportunity for receiving college scholarships.
- Applications are available in the guidance office or online
- Many colleges prefer to have you apply on-line (some even waive the application fee if you do this)
- Please let counselors know where you apply so that transcripts can be mailed
- If you are having trouble getting started with this process, visit your counselor for some help!

Fall Open House Dates

- November 6 Aquinas College (1 of 2 general visits) www.aquinas.edu
- November 7 Northern Michigan University www.nmu.edu
- November 7 Wayne State University www.wayne.edu
- November 13 Aquinas College (Science, Math, Nursing) www.aquinas.edu
- November 13 Western Michigan University (3 of 4) www.wmich.edu
- November 20 Aquinas College (2 of 2 general visits) www.aquinas.edu
- December 4 Aquinas College (Leadership) www.aquinas.edu
- December 4 Western Michigan University (4 of 4) www.wmich.edu

**For a complete directory of all Michigan public and private 2-and 4-year colleges and universities, refer to www.careercruising.com. Password: shepherd; Username: bluejay*

College & Military Visits

- Please sign up in the guidance office to meet with representatives that visit the school
- College visits are encouraged and considered a school absence. See your counselor for a permission form.

Scholarship Searches and Preparation

- Search early and search often
- Compile a list of extracurricular activities, honors and community service
- Ask for letters of recommendation from teachers, employers, church leaders, family friends
- Scholarship information is available online or in the guidance office. Complete applications and turn them into the guidance office **at least one week** prior to the deadline. Your counselor will mail the scholarship application for you.
- The guidance office generally receives notification of many scholarships; however, that list is not all-inclusive. Counselors will make a list of scholarships that they are made aware of. It is your responsibility to seek out this list as well as pursue other scholarship opportunities on your own. Some suggestions are listed below:

Just a Note

Do not pay a fee to use an online scholarship search. There are numerous **free** searches on the Internet. Most scholarship searches that require a fee imply that they have access to unlisted scholarships; however, you can find the same information using the free searches or in the guidance office, local library, college library, college financial aid office, etc. Just stay cautious and **watch out for scams**. If it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is. Here are some good places to find free scholarship opportunities:

- www.careercruising.com
- www.fastweb.com
- www.finaid.org/scholarships
- www.collegeanswer.com
- www.makingitcount.com/scholarship
- <http://www.schoolsoup.com/>
- www.michigan.gov
- <http://studentaid2.ed.gov>

Specific Scholarship Opportunities

The American Legion: Offers financial aid to college bound students who participate in Michigan's 2010 American Legion Programs. Deadlines vary. Information and applications are available at www.michiganlegion.org. Scholarships include:

- *Oratorical Scholarships – up to \$20,000*
- *Brewer & Wilson Scholarships - \$500*
- *Eagle Scout of the Year – up to \$10,000*
- *Student Trooper Program – Priceless career option, \$1,000*
- *American Legion Baseball & Scholarship*
- *Boy's State Samsung Scholarship – up to \$20,000*

BK Scholarship Program: Available to high school seniors who:

- Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher
- Work part-time for a minimum of 10 hours per week or 40 weeks per year
- Are actively involved in community service activities
- Demonstrate financial need (1040 form required)
- Plan to enroll in an accredited two/or four-year college, university, or vocational/technical school by fall of the application year.

Applications are available online Sept. 14, 2009 – Feb. 1, 2010. Applications and all accompanying materials must be postmarked no later than **Feb. 1, 2010**. Instructions on how students can apply are indicated on the [attached flyer](#)

Northern Michigan University Presidential Scholars Competition: High school seniors with an ACT composite score of 24 or higher AND a recomputed cumulative grades 9-11 high school GPA of 3.5 or higher are eligible to compete for 5 prestigious scholarships. For more information and to apply, go to www.nmu.edu/presidentialscholars. Competition date is **Nov 8-9, 2009**.

KFC Colonel's Scholars Program: Available to seniors with a 2.75 or higher GPA who plan to enroll in a public, in-state college or university in the fall of 2009 to pursue a bachelor's degree. Applications may be completed online at www.kfcscholars.org. **Application is available December 1, 2009 – February 10, 2010.**

Saginaw Valley State University: Offers a number of prestigious scholarship opportunities. In order to receive full consideration for many of these scholarships, you must be admitted to the University, meet all scholarship criteria, and have all scholarship materials returned to the Office of Admissions by **January 1, 2010**. Visit www.svsu.edu/financialaid for more information.

NALS of Michigan Scholarship Award: Offers one annual scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to an individual enrolled, in or planning to enroll in, a school of advanced education pursuing a degree in the legal field. Students should have a B average, be in need of financial assistance, and be able to enroll in the fall term (2010). Applications are available in the guidance office. **Deadline is January 15, 2010.**

Michigan Education Association Scholarship: Students are selected based on academic achievement, school and community service, and extracurricular activities. All other criteria being equal, first consideration will be given to *children of MEA members* and students from lower income households. Applications are available in the guidance office or online at www.mea.org. **Deadline is February 12, 2010.**

AAA Michigan's School Safety Patrol Scholarship Program: Students who can show documented proof of AAA Michigan School Safety Patrol participation, who are in good academic standing and who have a strong record of involvement in the community and/or extra curricular activities are eligible to apply as Shepherd High School's AAA Michigan School Safety Patrol nominee. Qualified students should visit the guidance office for an application. **Applications must be submitted to the guidance office by April 1, 2010.**

The Michigan Oil & Gas Producers Education Foundation (MOGPEF): Offers scholarship opportunities to qualified applicants who have been accepted for enrollment at a Michigan university or community college, have a minimum 3.0 GPA, and demonstrate financial need. Qualified applicants must also be pursuing a degree in a field of study which will allow them to obtain full time employment in the crude oil and natural gas industry. Applications are available online at www.mogpef.org . **Deadline is April 1, 2010.**

Oakland University: Students interested in attending Oakland University must be admitted to the university by **March 1** to be considered for OU's scholarships. Apply as early as possible to ensure the fullest consideration for financial aid, which is generally awarded on a first-come, first-served basis as funding allows. In addition to merit-based scholarships, **Oakland University offers a 100% Tuition Grant** which is awarded to entering freshmen Michigan residents who demonstrate financial need as determined by the US government. Must meet admissions criteria and complete the FAFSA. For more information about OU scholarships and grants, visit www.oakland.edu/financialaid and www.oakland.edu/grants .