Wesleyan

Christian Academy

September 2026 Senior Newsletter

Wow! How did we get to September already! I hope you find the information in this newsletter helpful. I have tried to consolidate it as much as possible but I want to make sure you have more than enough information for this year. Please let me know if you have questions about anything!

SCOIR

SCOIR is our portal for submitting transcripts, recommendation letters, and other school documents needed for college applications. If you have not made a one-on-one appointment with your assigned College Counselor to go over it, feel free to contact us for an appointment. You will find your updated GPA here, information about colleges, a career interest inventory you can or have taken, and many more helpful tools for applying to college.

Counselor division by last name:

Mrs. Tenbrink: A-Li
htenbrink@wcatrojans.org



Mrs. Ledbetter: Lo-Y
mledbetter@wcatrojans.org



Transcript Requests

After you have submitted an application for admission, you must also place an online transcript request through SCOIR. You must request a transcript for each school to which you apply by moving it to the "Applied" column. Typically, we send transcripts to colleges/universities along with letters of recommendation and a school profile.

Official score reports will need to be sent to colleges through your College Board or ACT student account. If you have not requested that these scores be sent to the colleges when you took the test, there will be an additional fee.

Don't forget to contact your teachers early if you need a recommendation letter. Remember you need to request the letter by giving them the survey you received on the first day and a thank you note (gift cards are nice but not required). Also, be mindful that it is common courtesy and policy to give teachers a minimum of two weeks' notice before the submission deadline. Please be respectful of their time. Your teachers are busy folks!

Application Deadlines

Application deadlines vary from school to school, so it is important to identify well in advance the deadlines for the colleges and universities you wish to apply to. It is your responsibility to plan appropriately so that you can meet these deadlines. **Do not procrastinate!** Waiting until the last minute to apply causes stress and other undesirable consequences.

PSAT Day

The PSAT will be given to 9th - 11th graders on Thursday, Oct. 8. Seniors are not required to be at school that day. This would be a good day to visit colleges or finalize those college applications!

The Common Application or Coalition

Both of these sites are a way to submit one application to several colleges/universities. Information about the Common Application can be found at www.commonapp.org. The Coalition application is now part of SCOIR and is completed by adding documents to your SCOIR account.

SAT and ACT Test Dates

SAT Exam Date	ACT Exam Date
September 12	September 19
October 3	October 17
November 7	December 12
December 5	

AP Classes

Students who are taking an AP class this year, will be charged for the exam(s) in **November** on their account. Students have already registered (or are in the process) for the exam in their classes.

Extended Time Testing

Students with documented learning disabilities who have been approved by the College Board or ACT may register to take the SAT and/or ACT with extended time. Please see Mrs. Murray (jmurray@wcatrojans.org) or Mrs. Davis (ndavis@wcatrojans.org) for registration details.

SCAM Alert

The National Society of High School Scholars is NOT National Honor Society where we honor students who have achieved a specific GPA in high school. Please be aware that if you choose to subscribe to this it does not make you eligible or a member of the NHS at our WCA.

FERPA Reminder

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA also gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he/she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

When you are submitting your college applications, especially on the Common App, make sure you check to waive your rights to FERPA. If you do not waive your rights, it lends less credibility to your recommendation letters.

Residency Determination Services (RDS)

The state of North Carolina partially subsidizes the cost of NC public college and university tuition for all students whose permanent legal residence is in NC. Residency determination establishes if students should have in-state or out-of-state tuition. The residency statute mandates only those who can demonstrate a minimum of 12 months of interrupted legal residence in NC are eligible for in-state tuition. **Make sure that you complete the RDS process in order to receive in-state tuition for NC schools. Otherwise, you will be charged with out-of-state tuition.** Many of you have completed this already, but you can read more and register here https://ncresidency.cfnc.org/residencyInfo/#

CFNC College Application Month

North Carolina's annual campaign to support college access is the month of October this year and is named NC Countdown to College. Activities during the month support high school seniors in completing three important college enrollment steps: residency, FAFSA, and applications. College Application Week will take place October 20-26. For more information, click here
https://www.cfnc.org/apply-to-college/nc-countdown-to-college/

FAFSA

If you want to be considered for need-based financial aid or academic scholarship, you will most likely be required to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Beginning with the 2027-2028 first-year college entrance date, students will report income information from an earlier tax year. For example, on the 2027-2028 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2025 income information. Keep good records! Pay close attention to institutional deadlines for submission, as each school has its own deadline.

It's important to note that any student who wants to borrow through the federal loan program must complete the FAFSA. Federal loans carry lower interest rates and have more flexible repayment options than private loans, so if you're going to borrow, start here! You may also want to note that many schools also will not consider you for receiving any financial aid until a FAFSA is completed and submitted.

If you have questions about the FAFSA process, such as how to apply for your FSA ID, we encourage you to check out this incredibly helpful site (www.fafsa.com)

Finally, remember the word free in the acronym. The FAFSA is a free application, but there are sites that will charge a fee to "help" you to submit it. Make sure you avoid these sites.

Visit this website for more details: https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/fafsa-support

FAFSA Do's and Don'ts

Start Filling out the FAFSA on October 1 to improve your chances of receiving aid and scholarships. Check out the FAFSA assistant at CollegeCovered.com

Do

- Gather your materials
  - Tax returns for you and your parent
  - Asset records for you and/or your parents, including bank statements and investments
  - Social Security numbers for you and your parents
  - Driver's license or government ID
  - Federal school codes for the school you will be applying
  - FSA ID
- Fill out the application early
  - The application will be available on October 1, 2025
  - Financial Aid at some schools is a first-come, first-served, so apply as early as possible
- Fill out the FAFSA online
  - It takes about 30 minutes
  - Take advantage of the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to automatically transfer your tax info

Don't

- Skip the FAFSA
  - Most people qualify for some financial aid
  - It's the first step toward paying for college
- Feel intimidated by the FAFSA
  - Use the FAFSA assistant at CollegeCovered.com to make sure you have the right materials and are prepared to fill out the application

Admission Representatives Visiting WCA

Take advantage of the opportunity to meet with college and university admission representatives when they visit WCA! A list will be updated regularly and posted on the guidance bulletin board.

Currently scheduled:

High Point University - September 3
Hampden-Sydney College - September 8

Elon University is hosting an open house on their campus on October 24 from 8:00 am - 3:20 pm. Enjoy a day of tours and a free lunch provided by the university. Please register through their website: https://www.elon.edu/u/admissions/undergraduate/admissions-events/fall-open-house/

NC State University is hosting an open house on October 24 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. Students will attend the first-year information session and take a tour of campus. Check out this link if you are interested: https://openhouse.ncsu.edu/

Western Carolina University is hosting four open house events on Saturday, October 31, Saturday, November 14, Saturday, March 6 and Saturday, April 3. If you are interested in Western check out this link.

Davidson College will host its annual Access Davidson program on November 8. Access Davidson is a selective college visit program designed for high school seniors from traditionally underrepresented groups (including those who identify as low-income, first-generation, rural, and those from underrepresented racial or ethnic backgrounds). Please visit here for more information and to register https://www.davidson.edu/admission-and-financial-aid/plan-a-visit/open-house-programs/access-davidson

Interested in your school but don't see it listed? Go to their website. They may have an event! These are great ways to get acquainted with the school and see if it is a good fit for you!

AI and Innovation Capstone with Stanford Researchers
Inspirit AI is a 25-hour enrichment program taught by Stanford and MIT graduate students that introduces students to foundational artificial intelligence concepts by building impactful projects in sustainability, healthcare, and civic engagement. Fall applications are due by September 15th.

Helpful Hints

Wondering how to submit the best application? **UNC-Chapel Hill** reviews applicants holistically, meaning they take all aspects of applicants into consideration. There are plenty of ways they evaluate students beyond the transcript and test scores. Carolina carefully designed the application to give students every opportunity to explain who they are, what they have done, and how they will contribute to a university community. View Carolina's tips and best practices on essays, recommendation letters, extracurricular involvement, and more... http://admissions.unc.edu/advice-from-our-admissions-counselors/

Athletic Eligibility

Students who plan to play a sport in college need to become familiar with eligibility requirements. Those who intend to participate at the NCAA Division I or II levels must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center, which can be done online at https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/ . Similarly, students who wish to participate in intercollegiate athletics at an NAIA institution should register with the NAIA Eligibility Center at www.playnaia.org .

Interested in Joining the Military?

The University of North Georgia is one of only six senior military colleges in the nation. Applicants should be natural leaders with good grades, a record of extra-curricular achievement, and be physically fit. If interested, apply for the ROTC scholarship now! The early action deadline is November 15. If you are interested, please apply at http://ung.edu/military-college-admissions/application-process/index.php

Scholarship Opportunities

Be sure to keep up with the scholarships – names and amounts throughout the school year.
NOTE: Some of these scholarships were mentioned in the August Newsletter. Please refer to the previous newsletter for further details or visit the Guidance Office.

NC State University offers the **Park Scholarship – deadline before Nov. 1**. Students are self-nominating this year. More information can be found here https://park.ncsu.edu/

UNC-Chapel Hill offers the **Morehead-Cain Scholarship – deadline is Oct. 1.** More information can be found here http://www.moreheadcain.org/

UNC Charlotte also offers the **Levine Scholars Program** (previously mentioned in the August Newsletter). The deadline to submit materials for nomination is before **Oct. 15**. More information can be found here http://levinescholars.uncc.edu/

The University of Virginia offers the **Jefferson Scholars Program**. The deadline to submit materials for nomination to Mrs. Ledbetter is Nov. 1. If you (students) are interested in being nominated for this scholarship, please write a one-page essay describing why you believe you are a qualified applicant. More information can be found here http://www.jeffersonscholars.org/scholarship

Students who apply for admission to either UNC-Chapel Hill or Duke University (or both) can be considered for the **Robertson Scholars Program**. This highly selective program provides a scholarship that covers tuition, room, board, and fees, as well as funding for study abroad opportunities. The deadline for applying is November 15. More information can be found at https://robertsonscholars.org/

Novelist and short-story writer Thomas Wolfe of Asheville, North Carolina matriculated at UNC in the fall of 1916 and graduated in the spring of 1920. Wolfe loved Chapel Hill, which he celebrated as Pulpit Hill in *Look Homeward, Angel*, the novel he published to international acclaim in 1929: "The university was a charming, an unforgettable place. . . The central campus sloped back and up and over a broad area of rich turf, grooved with magnificent ancient trees . . . the wilderness crept up to it like a beast." **The Thomas Wolfe Scholarship** will open for applications on September 1, 2026. This scholarship provides full undergraduate funding for four years, including tuition, room and board, textbooks, and a new laptop, along with a $5,000 annual summer stipend to support the recipient's creative work. Students must apply to UNC-Chapel Hill by Oct. 15,2026 and this scholarship by Nov. 15, 2026. Here is the link to the application: The Thomas Wolfe Scholarship - UNC English & Comparative Literature

The **QuestBridge National College Match** can be your pathway to a top college. Through this college and scholarship application process, you can apply for free to the nation's best colleges and be considered for early admission and a full four-year scholarship from the college. The National College Match application gives you extra space to tell your unique story as a student who has excelled academically despite financial hardship. Please visit here for more details
https://www.questbridge.org/high-school-students/national-college-match

Davidson College offers the John Montgomery Belk Scholarship that recognizes and rewards students of demonstrated superior intellectual and personal achievement as well as significant leadership ability. Students must be nominated by a school counselor no later than November 1, 2026, and nominees must apply by November 15. Finalists will participate in selection interviews on campus during February 2027. Contact Mrs. Ledbetter if interested.
http://www.davidson.edu/admission-and-financial-aid/john-belk-scholarship

Danforth Scholars Program is open to prospective undergraduate students applying to **Washington University**. This is a merit-based program, but need will be considered as part of the award process. The application deadline is December 16, 2026. Please visit here for more details
https://admissions.wustl.edu/Financial_Aid_Scholarships/First_Year_Academic_Scholarships/Pages/Danforth-Scholars-Program.aspx

Clemson University offers the Lyceum Scholarship, an initiative at Clemson. Students accepted into this program receive scholarships worth up to $60,000, which are distributed over the four years at Clemson. The application deadline for priority consideration is December 22, 2026. More information can be found at http://www.clemson.edu/capitalism/lyceum.html

AES Engineering offers a $500 scholarship to "future leaders across a wide spectrum of fields of study." (Note that you don't need to be interested in engineering to apply.) If you would like to pursue this opportunity, you must submit an essay of between 500 and 1000 words and answer the following question – "When you look back on your life in 30 years, what would it take for you to consider your life successful? What relationships or accomplishments will be important on this journey?" The submission deadline is October 8, 2026. Learn more here: http://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.htm

Each year, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation awards 150 college scholarships worth **$20,000** to high school students across the United States through the Coca-Cola Scholars Program. Students need a 3.0 GPA and to complete an online application that requires no essays, no recommendations, and no transcripts **by September 30, 2026,** at 5 p.m. Eastern.

The **Nido Qubein Associates Scholarships** are awarded on the basis of scholastic achievement and personal financial need. To be considered for the award you must be seeking enrollment with any NC college or university, be a resident of High Point (Archdale and Jamestown zip codes included), and graduate from a High Point high school. Please visit the Guidance Office if interested

Don't Text and Drive Scholarship is sponsored by the Digital Responsibility campaign and offers a scholarship award of $1,000. The application deadline is September 30, 2026. To apply, fill out the application on http://www.digitalresponsibility.org/dont-text-and-drive-scholarship

Other scholarships offered by Digital Responsibility, include: **Digital Privacy, Technology Addiction Awareness Scholarship and E-waste Scholarship**. Click the above link for the application and to learn of their deadlines.

The **Voice of Democracy** scholarship program, which is sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, is an audio-essay contest for students in grades 9-12. See last month's newsletter for more information.

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE

Many of you have probably heard of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), a form that most colleges and universities require of students who are seeking consideration for non-merit-based financial aid. The PROFILE is an **additional form** that some institutions require applicants to submit. Students should complete the PROFILE as soon as possible after October 1! To learn more about the PROFILE and see a list of colleges and universities that required it in years past, go to: http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile

Featured College of the Month

Bob Jones University was established in 1927 by evangelist Bob Jones Sr. Throughout his travels, Dr. Bob Jones Sr. saw students whose faith was shaken during college, and he recognized the need for a thoroughly Christian college that stood on the absolute authority of the Bible to train America's youth. His vision was to establish a training center for Christians from around the world that would be

distinguished by its academic excellence, refined standards of behavior, and opportunities to appreciate the performing and visual arts. At the same time, Dr. Jones' intent was to make a place where Christ would be the center of all thought and conduct. At Bob Jones University, you'll do so much more than attend classes and earn a degree. You'll broaden your horizons through liberal arts and fine arts while learning to view everything through the lens of a biblical worldview. You'll develop your talents and skills—not just for yourself, but for something bigger. And you'll be part of a vibrant community of believers growing in Christ—and then going out to serve Him. Experience BJU, and discover your place in God's amazing, eternity-sized plan. For more information, visit here https://www.bju.edu/

**See below for a list of colleges attending the annual Christian College Fair **

National Christian College Fair Participants
Tuesday, September 22, 2025, 5:30-7:30 pm

Anderson University (SC)
Montreat College (NC)
Asbury University (KY)
North Greenville University (SC)
Bluefield University (VA)
Olivet Nazarene University (IL)
Bob Jones University (SC)
Palm Beach Atlantic University (FL)
Cedarville University (OH)
Regent University (VA)
Charleston Southern University (SC)
Southeastern University (FL)
Colorado Christian University (CO)
Southern Wesleyan University (SC)
Covenant College (GA)
Toccoa Falls College (GA)
Gardner-Webb University (NC)
Trevecca Nazarene University (TN)
Geneva College (PA)
Waynesburg University (PA)
Grove City College (PA)
Johnson University (TN)
Lee University (TN)
LeTourneau University (TX)
Liberty University (VA)
Calvin University (MI)
Lipscomb University (TN)
Mid-Atlantic Christian University (NC)
Columbia International University (SC)
Gordon College (MA)
Judson College (AL)

Please look for an updated list as this may change in the next few weeks with additional schools!



Christian College Fairs

FindYourChristianCollege.com