

Welcome!

Senior Year, In Perspective

1. **Finish strong.** Grades and attendance still count – colleges and employers do look at senior year.
2. **Keep your options open.** Explore several paths or colleges before committing. The best fit isn't always the obvious one.
3. **You're not doing this alone.** Counselors, teachers, and family are your team. Ask early and ask often.

It's a launch year – part finish line, part starting line.



Explore your options…

- Direct work force entry
- Military
- Apprenticeship
- Technical college
- Two-year college
- Four-year college

Choose the future that makes the most sense to you!





Narrow Down Your Choices

Cost and Financial Aid

Net Price: Look past the sticker price and use online net price calculators to see what you will actually pay after grants and scholarships.

Debt Risk: Consider how much you will have to borrow and whether future job earnings in your chosen field justify the loans.

Hidden Fees: Factor in extra costs for housing, meal plans, books, and travel.

Academics and Career

Majors Offered: Make sure the school has strong programs and proper accreditation for your specific field of study.

Class Size: Decide if you prefer large lecture halls or small, discussion-based classes with direct access to professors.

Outcomes: Research graduation rates, internship availability, and job placement support after you finish.

Environment and Lifestyle

Location: Think about whether you want a rural, suburban, or big-city setting, as well as how far you want to live from home.

Campus Culture: Look at student diversity, housing options, and social activities to find a community where you feel safe and comfortable

2025-2026

NEBRASKA COLLEGE COSTS

SCHOOL AND LOCATION	UNDERGRAD ENROLLMENT	TUITION & FEES	BOOKS & SUPPLIES	HOUSING & FOOD		PERSONAL & TRANSPORTATION	
				ON CAMPUS	WITH PARENTS	ON CAMPUS	WITH PARENTS
4-YEAR PUBLIC							
Chadron State College - Chadron	2,028	8,542	1,300	10,112	6,848	4,096	3,104
Peru State College - Peru	1,309	8,640	1,200	10,944	1,600	3,232	3,232
University of Nebraska - Kearney	4,213	8,922	818	12,908	6,684	5,820	5,820
University of Nebraska - Lincoln	18,031	11,100	1,128	14,210	6,126	2,300	2,300
University of Nebraska - Omaha	11,859	10,121	1,264	13,056	3,832	4,166	4,166
University of Nebraska Medical Center - Omaha*	971	(Programs and costs vary, contact the college for more information)					
Wayne State College - Wayne*	3,902	8,420	1,576	10,446	2,612	3,946	3,945
4-YEAR PRIVATE							
Bellevue University - Bellevue*	13,595	10,053	1,290	10,299	N/A	5,541	N/A
Bryan College of Health Sciences - Lincoln	558	21,420	1,200	14,000	7,000	8,600	8,600
Clarkson College - Omaha	640	20,880	1,420	6,050	2,000	3,060	4,060
College of Saint Mary - Omaha	522	27,294	800	9,820	3,936	5,514	5,636
Concordia University - Seward*	1,283	42,250	1,100	11,350	8,385	3,045	2,205
Creighton University - Omaha*	4,400	50,960	2,500	14,453	5,000	750	750
Doane University - Crete*	1,310	43,641	1,102	12,786	3,588	3,588	3,974
Hastings College - Hastings	893	39,280	1,030	12,590	8,100	4,310	4,310
Midland University - Fremont	1,343	43,850	1,060	10,750	2,761	4,613	4,613
Nebraska Methodist College - Omaha	908	20,590	1,300	10,884	4,140	6,020	6,020
Nebraska Wesleyan University - Lincoln	1,463	45,502	1,000	12,798	3,000	3,500	3,500
Summit Christian College - Gering	35	8,320	300	4,050	**	**	**
Union Adventist University - Lincoln	499	30,296	1,800	9,612	9,000	5,000	4,000
York University - York	425	23,800	450	10,500	10,500	3,600	3,600
COMMUNITY COLLEGE							
Central Community College - Columbus	4,168	3,450	660	9,362	5,618	1,422	1,422
Central Community College - Grand Island*	6,284	3,450	660	N/A	5,618	N/A	1,422
Central Community College - Hastings	3,818	3,450	660	9,362	5,618	1,422	1,422
Little Priest Tribal College - Winnebago*	225	5,400	2,408	8,000	8,000	1,828	1,828
Metropolitan Community College - Omaha*	22,686	3,420	1,500	N/A	3,337	N/A	2,250
Mid-Plains Community College - McCook*	1,479	3,720	1,600	8,244	3,000	3,652	3,652
Mid-Plains Community College - North Platte	2,144	3,720	1,600	8,244	3,000	3,652	3,652
Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture - Curtis	201	6,185	932	9,458	2,744	3,748	3,748
Nebraska Indian Community College - Macy*	333	5,100	N/A	N/A	6,354	N/A	8,229
Northeast Community College - Norfolk*	5,720	3,930	1,356	10,211	3,142	1,687	2,753
Southeast Community College - Beatrice	1,200	3,000	1,000	11,220	8,456	5,134	3,924
Southeast Community College - Lincoln*	7,800	3,000	1,000	11,220	8,456	5,134	3,924
Southeast Community College - Milford	4,600	3,000	1,000	11,220	8,456	5,134	3,924
Western Nebraska Community College - Scottsbluff*	840	3,840	1,500	9,525	3,723	2,739	3,846
PRIVATE CAREER							
Capitol Beauty School - Omaha	140	19,850	2,000	N/A	1,594	443	443
CHI Health School of Radiologic Technology - Omaha	21	(Programs and costs vary, contact the college for more information)					
College of Hair Design - Lincoln	158	19,500	3,072	N/A	7,008	N/A	4,320
Entourage Institute of Beauty and Esthetics-Lincoln	48	9,000	2,500	N/A	3,660	N/A	8,240
Joseph's College : Cosmetology - Lincoln*	70	18,800	2,420	N/A	1,104	N/A	2,418
Mary Lanning Healthcare School of Radiologic Technology - Hastings	22	9,786	800	10,500	10,500	5,500	5,500
Myotherapy Institute	9	16,750	750	N/A	1,500	N/A	6,048
Regional West Medical Center School of Radiologic Technology - Scottsbluff	11	4,760	1,570	N/A	**	N/A	**
Universal College of Healing Arts - Omaha	30	12,082	600	N/A	**	N/A	**
Xenon, A Stephanie Moss Academy - Omaha*	163	19,350	3,624	N/A	6,656	N/A	11,037

Campus Tours

You are allowed 2 excused college visit days or job shadowing days. These need to be completed by March 31st, 2027.

- Try to physically get onto the campus!
- Check out the school's website for tour information
- Talk with admission counselors & specific program directors
- Prepare questions… there are no dumb questions
- Eat in the cafeteria, check out the dorms, and walk the neighborhood to get a feel for the overall community. Read student blogs, Facebook groups, Instagram
- Connect with students who are currently attending



Ask Questions!

WHAT ARE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES?

DO YOU HAVE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS THAT FIT MY CAREER INTERESTS?

WHAT IS THE COST OF TUITION AND FEES, HOUSING AND FOOD, AND BOOKS?

HOW DO I APPLY FOR COLLEGE-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS?

WHAT HOUSING OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

ARE JOBS AVAILABLE ON CAMPUS?

WHAT PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS GRADUATE WITHIN 4 YEARS?

Explore careers

Explore careers. Find a career that fits your interests and skills. To get started, use these free online assessments:

- Job shadow
- Career Fair
- Look on college websites
- My Next Move: Mynextmove.org
- Nebraska Career Connections: Nebraska.kuder.com
- Big Future: https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/explore-careers



Take the Tests

Some colleges are now test-optional, but you may need these for scholarship consideration.

Last chance to take ACT for scholarships is October 17

Prep for exams. An ACT prep class is offered at Bishop Neumann in the fall. Visit ACT and College Board for sample questions, test dates, registration and fee information.

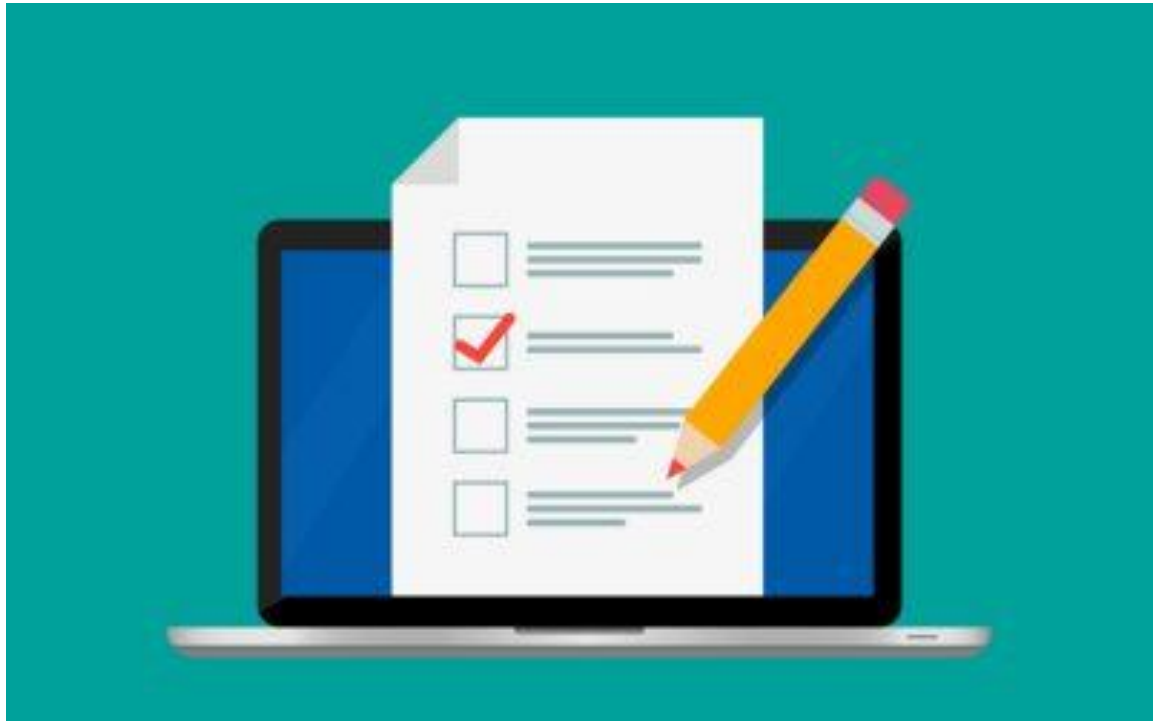
Attending a community college? You may be required to take the Accuplacer or Companion placement tests. Your college will provide details.



Apply for College

Apply to your top 2-4 colleges in the fall of your senior year. Most colleges will require the following:

- An **application and fee.**
- **Official high school transcript**, including your grade point average and completed high school coursework. Some colleges also request your class rank.
- **ACT/SAT scores.**
- Some may require an **essay.**
- Weighted GPA



Common App vs. College application

Direct College Application:

- Requires you to create a separate account and re-type your information for every single school.
- Sometimes offers unique school-specific fee waivers or streamlined short forms. Several Nebraska colleges have codes for free applications.

The Common App:

- Allows you to enter your general details (name, grades, activities) just once for multiple schools.
- Limits you to a maximum of 20 college choices.



Paying for College



There are four types of financial aid that can help you pay for college.

Grants are awarded to students who show financial need and are not repaid. They include the following.

- Pell Grant
- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
- Nebraska State Opportunity Grant
- College-based grants
- Tuition assistance programs for Nebraska students

Work-Study, also based on financial need, is money earned by working at a college-based job.

Federal student loans are money that is borrowed and must be repaid once you're finished with college. Loans are also available for parents.

Scholarships are awarded by private donors or your college and are not repaid. Some are based on financial need, while others are based on criteria such as academics, leadership, athletics, or talents.



To determine if you qualify for grants, work-study, and student loans, you must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Some scholarships are also based on FAFSA results.

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is your application for federal, state, and college-based financial aid. Complete the form at **studentaid.gov** in the fall of each year. The colleges you list on the FAFSA will use your information to award financial aid.

Types of Scholarships

A scholarship is a free form of financial aid that helps students pay for post-secondary education without requiring repayment.

Common Types

- **Merit-based**: Awarded for high grades, test scores, or special talents in arts and athletics.
- **Need-based**: Determined by household income and a family's financial position.
- **Identity or Special Interest**: Based on background, intended major, ethnicity, or unique affiliations.



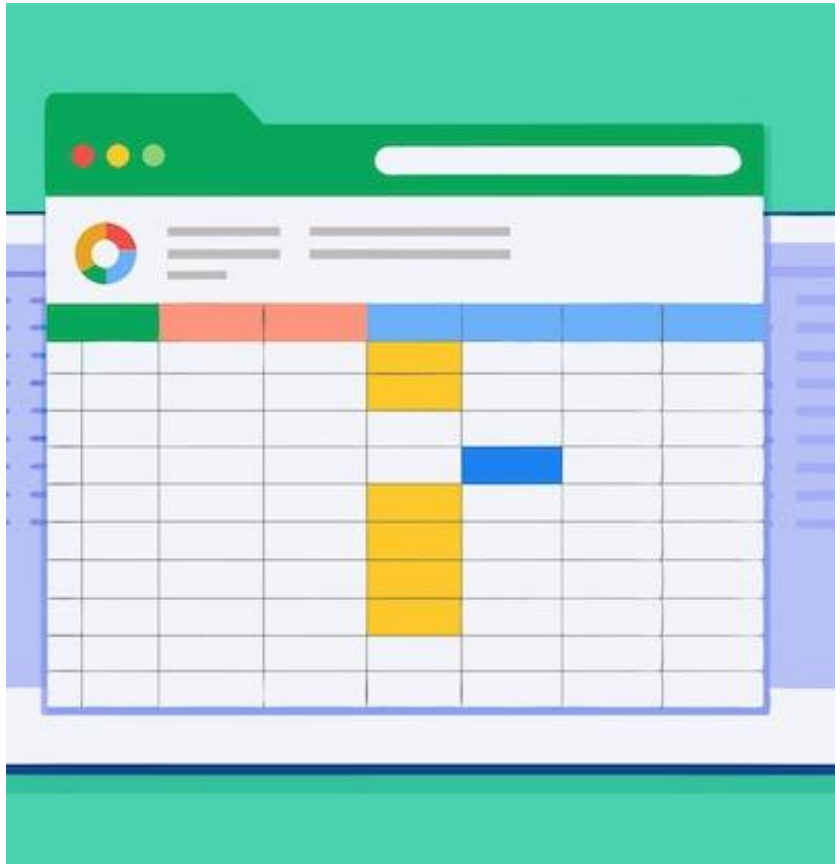
Where do I start?

- **Your school counselor** is a source for finding school-based and local scholarships. Visit the counseling office regularly during your senior year to stay updated.
- **Appcentri** provides access to local community scholarships. https://app.appcentri.com/log-in
- **Colleges** provide numerous scholarships based on criteria such as your area of study, financial need, ACT/SAT score, and GPA.
- **ScholarshipQuest** is a resource for Nebraska-based scholarships.
- **Private organizations** that award scholarships might include your (or your parent's) employer, civic organizations, and foundations.
- **Free internet sites** are a resource for national scholarships.



Set aside time to complete scholarship applications!

- These take time
- Get and stay organized. Keep track of all the scholarships you apply for. Create a spreadsheet.
- **APPLY**!! Don’t get discouraged by rejection. Keep applying, the more you apply the higher your chances of receiving a scholarship.
- Keep track of scholarships you earned
- Send thank you notes to the local scholarship donors





Who to Ask

Teachers who know your academic work well.

Work supervisors or managers who can talk about your job skills.

Club advisors, coaches, or volunteer leaders who have seen your leadership.

How to Ask

Ask in person or via email with a polite and professional tone.

Give plenty of time by reaching out 4 to 6 weeks before the due date.

Provide Letter of Recommendation Request Form

Follow-Up and Thanks

Send a gentle reminder about one week before the deadline.

Say thank you with a note or email after they submit the letter.

Share your results later to let them know if you won.

Create a resume

Header: Put your full name, phone number, email address, and school name at the top.

Education: Share your graduation year, GPA (if strong), and academic awards. You may also include your ACT score.

Extracurricular Activities: List school clubs, sports, and arts with your specific role and grade levels.

Community Involvement: Add volunteer work, service projects, and total hours served.

Work Experience: Include part-time jobs, internships, or helping family businesses.

Honors and Awards: Highlight special recognitions received during your time at Bishop Neumann.

We will be working on these through the fall semester!



Honors Programs

- Colleges offer special programs for students who are highly motivated and enjoy intellectual challenges
- Exclusive opportunities
- Special housing available
- Scholarships
- Competitive edge
- Check college websites for requirements



Rural Health/Law Opportunities Programs

- For students who want to go into health or law career
- Stay in rural areas
- Special opportunities such as guaranteed acceptance into professional school
- Available at state colleges and Omaha (UHOP)
- Tuition waiver
- Check college websites for requirements



Dates

- Check college websites frequently for due dates.
- Check email
- FAFSA opens **October 1**.
- Many priority deadlines are as early as **November 1**.
- Susan Buffet Scholarship opens **November 1.**
- FAFSA Completion Event on **November 3**
- Honors application for UNL due **November 15.**
- RHOP/RLOP application due **December 1**



End of Year…



- Caps and Gowns
  - Rep will come to measure
- Important Dates:
  - May 7th – Finals
  - May 10th- Crazy Vehicle Day and Graduation Practice
  - May 11th, 13th, and 14th – No School
  - May 12th – Baccalaureate Mass
  - May 15th – Graduation

Laude System

- Summa Cum Laude – 4.0 with 5+ honors courses
- Magna Cum Laude – 3.9+ with 4+ honors courses
- Cum Laude – 3.75+

After Graduation

Mrs. Svec provides high school transcripts to your college shortly after graduation

You must request transcripts for dual-credit courses to transfer.

Nebraska Wesleyan: https://www.nebrwesleyan.edu/inside-nwu/registrars-office/order-transcripts

UNO:

- Login to MavLINK
- Click the Academics drop down link on the left side of the page
- Click Request Official Transcript

Southeast Community College:
https://www.southeast.edu/requestatranscript/



Important Reminders

- Keep track of all scholarship awards received
- Yearbook pictures
  - Vertical photo for yearbook
  - Senior Spotlight
  - Class Board
- Senior fee
  - Caps and Gowns-$40
  - Flowers-TBD
  - Senior trip-TBD
- Service Hours
  - March 1st

Questions

Mrs. Svec's contact info:

- Email: blair-svec@cdolinc.net
- Phone number: 402-443-4151

