

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SENIORS



Picture yourself in May 2010 - Will You Be Ready?

- Pass your classes and all 3 AIMS tests.
- You should have earned at least 14 credits by now. See your counselor right away if you're short on credits.
- Individual credit checks coming up with your counselor
- Credit recovery
 - Fifth year of high school
 - Packed schedule
 - Glendale Union Online. No more night/summer school
 - Failed a class? \$150 per semester.
 - Retaking an online course to improve your grade? \$150
 - Correspondence courses via BYU also available; about \$125 plus any books or materials
 - Any other method: Must pass MVHS final to get core credit

Credit Check by Diploma Plan

<u>Endorsement</u>	<u>General / GUHSD</u>
4 yrs English	4 yrs English
4 yrs Math	2+ yrs Math
3 yrs Social Studies	3 yrs Social Studies
3 yrs Science	2+ yrs Science
2 yrs Foreign Language	--
1 yr P.E.	1 yr P.E.
1 yr Fine Art	1 yr Fine Art/CTE
5 Electives	7 Electives
= 23+ credits	= 20+ credits
<i>Minimum 3.0 CPA required</i>	

What Do Employers Want?

High-school diploma	Communication skills
Interpersonal skills	Dependability
Appearance	Problem-solving skills
Experience / preparation	

More education usually means more earning power.

Bachelor's degree (4 yrs)	=	\$51,205 / yr
Associate's degree (2 yrs)	=	\$31,700 / yr
High school diploma	=	\$27,915 / yr
High school dropout	=	\$18,734 / yr

-- U.S. Census Bureau

Think about it: What happens over a lifetime of working?

Higher Education Options – “AZ College & Career Guide”

- <http://accg.azhighered.org>
- Lists hundreds of programs/ degrees offered all over the state
- Sorts by school, area, program, etc.

Arizona Universities

Guaranteed / Assured Admission

- A's or B's in all 16 core classes (English, Math, Social Studies, Science, Fine Art, Foreign Language) = 3.0+ CPA *or*
- GPA 3.0+ or Top 25% of class *or*
- SAT 1040+ or ACT 22+

Schools vary – check their websites. DEADLINES COUNT.

You still have to APPLY for admission.

Entrance Exams

- SAT website: www.collegeboard.com (also check AP Credit Policies)
- ACT website: www.actstudent.org (given here at MVHS)

Deadlines matter! Register at least a month ahead.

Websites offer: Dates, costs, locations, lots of FREE prep

Valuable info for students & parents

Once you get accepted to the college of your choice, you may have to take placement tests as well.

Maricopa County Community Colleges - www.maricopa.edu

- One of the best systems in the country; hundreds of career areas
- Open admission at 18 years old and high school diploma / GED
- Smaller classes; cheaper; closer to home.
- Smooth transition to university
- Required placement exam: ACCUPLACER
 - Free tests in English, Reading & Math
 - Offered at all community colleges

Financial Aid

Finding the money for college is your job - start now!

Scholarships, Grants, Loans, Work/Study

Some schools automatically consider you once you've been accepted.

Be sure to check college websites. Deadlines count!

www.FAFSA.ed.gov – Get PINs in early December, file FAFSA in January.

Most schools require you to file, even if you think you won't qualify.

www.fastweb.com - Free scholarship matching service

Tuition Waivers

Community College

- Top 15% saves you about \$4,300 over two years. or
- “Exceed” on all three portions of their placement test
 You must take an honors course each semester.

University - ABOR High Honors Tuition Waiver (“AIMS Scholarship”)

Three conditions:

- Earn 1 or 2 in all 16 core classes (English, Math, Social Studies, Science, Fine Art, Foreign Language) and
- GPA 3.5+ or Top 5% of class and
- Exceed on all three AIMS tests (or AP option)

If funded by the AZ Legislature - please see ADE website.

MVHS Career Center

See Mrs. Coleman in Room 503. Get scholarship info and **much** more!
 Show Me the Money: <http://moonvalley.guhsdaz.org>

January: MVHS Financial Aid Night

February: MVHS FAFSA Night

NCAA Eligibility Center (previously called the Clearinghouse)

- Required for all high school athletes attending a Division I or II university.
 www.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter
- See your coach and/or Ms. Ashby in Counseling right away.

High School Transcripts

- An official transcript is the formal report of your grades, coursework, test results, etc.
- Ms. Fay in the Records Office -- not your counselor -- sends official transcripts to colleges.
- To order an official transcript, pick up the request form from the rack in the Counseling lobby. Fill it out completely and turn it in to Records. Transcripts are not sent automatically.
- You can also pick up an official transcript yourself for scholarships, insurance, etc. Just fill out the form and turn it in to Records.
- Counselors can only give you an unofficial transcript.

Letters of Recommendation

- Required by some employers, college admissions offices, scholarship applications
- Give 2 weeks' written notice to the people you're asking to recommend you.
- Include a list of your activities, employment, community service, etc. Create/update your resume at Bridges.com.
- Attach information if possible: who it's to, what it's for, deadline, whether it should be mailed or given to you directly, what should be emphasized (athletics, academics, community service, goals, etc.)

Tips for Success

- Do your best on the big research paper in senior English. Deadlines are crucial.
- Go in for makeup work when you've been absent.
- Do your own work.
- Don't let high-school drama get in the way of your graduation.
- Be sure our Records office (Ms. Fay) has your birth certificate on file by December 15. You must have it to graduate; your legal name will be on your diploma.
- Remember that turning 18 brings challenges of its own.

Beware of Roadblocks

Senioritis
Absences / tardies
Giving up
Personal problems
Plagiarism / cheating

Academic deadlines
Working too many hours
Moving out on your own
Relationships
Getting into trouble

Senior Fun

Senior photo
Prom
Plays & concerts
Traditions & memories

Homecoming
Sports & clubs
Friends & family

Graduation 2010 – Tentative

- Tuesday, May 25th
 - Phoenix First Assembly
- Details in the Spring: mailings, mandatory meetings & graduation practice
 Don't be left out!



Your success is up to YOU. How can we help?

Teachers
Counselor
Nurse
Social Worker
Administrator