



WILDCAT TRACKS

YOUR HIGH SCHOOL PLANNING GUIDE

8th GRADE

Most students don't start thinking about college until they enter high school. If you start planning now, you'll be a step ahead of the crowd. Here are some steps to get you started.

PLANNING LIST

- 1 Tell your parents you plan on attending college.
- 2 Think about what careers you are interested in. Do you like working with your hands? Do you like math? Do you prefer working with people?
- 3 Study and strive for A's. Studying hard now will prepare you for the years to come.
- 4 Visit college web-sites for information on their admission and course requirements.
- 5 Meet with your counselor or other professionals to check out possibilities on job shadowing or career exploration.
- 6 Develop skills that are valuable in high school and essential in college: word processing, online research, use of technology and speed reading.

CHECKLIST

[] Inform (remind) your parents and your counselor that you plan to attend college.

[] If you are not taking algebra or a foreign language this year, make sure your 9th grade schedule includes these subjects.

[] Strive to make 'A' and 'B' grades in all of your subjects, and do at least one hour of homework every night.

[] Ask your counselor about academic enrichment programs (including summer and weekend programs).

ACTIVITIES

Consider taking career exploration inventories or personality tests to find which professional area you may be best suited.

<http://showmethefuture.org>

www.mapping-your-future.org/planyourcareer

Check out possible careers

www.bls.gov/oco/

Get involved with Community groups offering leadership potential, such as 4-H, Habitat for Humanity, & Big Brother/Big Sisters. Etc.

www.habitat.org/

www.bbbs.org

www.servenet.org

www.pointoflight.org

www.nationalservicerresources.org

www.volunteermatch.com

www.girlsinc.org

Pursue academics outside of the classroom.

www.spellingbee.com/

www.ndlegion.org/boysstate/boysstatehomepage.htm

www.nhs.us/s_nhs/index.asp

www.sife.org/getinvolved/student_leaders/pages/default.aspx
www.teenink.com/Summer/

Start saving for college

www.collegeanswer.com/paying/content/pay_college_costs.jsp
www.themint.org
www.collegeboard.com

Research potential careers

www.asvabprogram.com
www.careerkey.org

Job shadow

www.ja.org/
www.jobshadow.org/about/

Visit colleges to gather information and possible programs of study.

ADDITIONAL LINKS TO CHECK OUT:

To learn about college testing, planning for college, finding a college, and paying for college: www.collegeboard.com

To register to take the ACT, find out information about what to bring to take the test, costs, dates and deadlines: www.act.org

To apply for federal financial assistance and learn about repayment: www.fafsa.ed.gov

To understand financial aid: www.mystudentloanonline.nd.gov

To learn about the benefits of the armed services, different branches, financial assistance, how to apply and career opportunities: www.military.com

To explore occupational information, occupational profile and industry profiles: www.acinet.org/acinet/

To explore careers, plan your education, find a job and grow your business: www.iseek.org

For self-exploration, career exploration, choosing a career, education and training:

www.nextsteps.org/career
www.careeronestop.org/
www.careervoyages.com

To discover vocational and technical careers, check out the skills employers really want, find a trade school, research technical topics and take a look at the current job market: www.khake.com

To investigate career options: www.rileyguide.com

DID YOU KNOW ...

- Every NDSCS residence hall features wireless Internet access.
- NDSCS consistently places more than 95 percent of its graduates into the workforce.
- Each spring, NDSCS musical groups go on tour performing in towns throughout North Dakota.
- NDSCS Culinary Arts students operate the River Valley Inn restaurant, featuring cuisine from around the world.



- NDSCS recognizes more than 30 student clubs and organizations.
- The Bois de Sioux Golf Club, an 18-hole championship-length public course, is just a few blocks from campus.
- NDSCS sponsors five intercollegiate athletic teams – football, volleyball, softball, and men's and women's basketball.
- NDSCS stages two plays every academic year.
- It's only a short walk from campus to see the tigers, kangaroos, river otters and other residents of the Chahinkapa Zoo. Wahpeton is the smallest city in the United States with a fully accredited zoo.

9th GRADE

Now that you're in high school, the job of preparing for college begins. Colleges will look at everything you do for the next four years, so consider it your opportunity to shine. Here are some steps to get you started.

CHECKLIST

- [] Remind your counselor again that you want to attend NDSCS or another institution and you would like to take academic courses to make you successful in your area of interest.
- [] Contact NDSCS or institution you have selected and ask what courses they recommend you take in high school.
- [] Participate in academic enrichment programs.
- [] Form a study group with friends who also plan to go to college, and study together as often as possible.
- [] Create a personal resume' file using this folder to save items such as: copies of report cards, diplomas and certificates presented to you, a list of awards and honors you've received, a list of all school and extra-curricular activities you join, a list of offices you hold in these organizations, a list of jobs you hold (volunteer or paid).

PLANNING LIST

- 1 If you haven't done so yet, get to know your school counselor. Remind him or her that you want to attend NDSCS and that you may need to schedule college-preparatory courses.
- 2 Double check your schedule to make sure you are on track for classes.
- 3 Study and strive for A's. Studying hard now will prepare you for the years to come.
- 4 Form a study group with friends who also plan to go to college, and study together as often as possible. If you fall behind in a course, don't hesitate to get tutoring.
- 5 Create a resumé file, saving such items as report cards, diplomas and certificates; a list of awards and honors you receive; a list of all school and community activities you take part in; a list of offices you hold in these organizations; and a list of volunteer or paid jobs you hold. Update this file every semester.
- 6 Become involved in at least one extracurricular activity.
- 7 Over the summer, take part in academic enrichment programs and special summer workshops and camps for music, science, engineering, writing, theater, language and other subjects that interest you. Alternatively, consider retaking a class in which you received a grade you weren't satisfied by, or take a new class in summer school.

ACTIVITIES

If you are a "hands on" learner, enroll in traditional technical programs offered through your high school. For example, if your school offers a Building Construction class in which you have the opportunity to build a house, feel free to participate, or maybe your school offers a Health Careers class which you could learn valuable skills and explore the health care professions. It will give you the opportunity to use your hands and develop skills with tools.

Also, continue your involvement in various clubs and organizations including academics, athletics, fine arts and community programs. All of these activities look great on a college application as well as any scholarships you may apply for in the future.

It is good to review the activities from 8th grade and consider redoing some career exploration activities or research occupations. These skills, knowledge and areas of interest change throughout time. So it is a good to continue reevaluating your career opportunities.

<http://showmethethefuture.org>

<http://www.mapping-your-future.org/planyourcareer>

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>

ADDITIONAL LINKS TO CHECK OUT:

To learn about NDSCS academics and student life: www.ndscs.edu

To register to take the ACT, find out information about what to bring to take the test, costs, dates and deadlines: www.act.org

To learn about college testing, planning for college, finding a college, and paying for college: www.collegeboard.com

To understand financial aid: www.mystudentloanonline.nd.gov

To learn about the benefits of the armed services, different branches, financial assistance, how to apply and career opportunities: www.military.com

To learn about test taking skills for math and English. This program includes hours of interactive lessons, practice tests and drills: www.march2success.com

Find out information from choosing the right school to finding out what you'll need when you get there: www.makingitcount.com/students/start/

To search an online college directory and find out more information about scholarships: www.anycollege.com

To read about topics such as discussing your major, financial aid, ACT testing, tips for paying for college, what to expect upon arrival, letters of recommendation and occupational outlook: www.collegeview.com

To find out more information about planning guidelines, application advice, practice tests, help with application essays, study abroad options, scholarship information and expert tips and advice: www.petersons.com

To learn about student focused checking accounts and credits cards, student loan center, step-by-step planning for college, and access to financial aid officers: www.wellsfargo.com/student

To learn what it takes to succeed in college, college searching, planning and financial information: www.mapping-your-future.org

CHECKLIST CONTINUED

- [] Update your personal file each semester.
- [] Begin visiting local community colleges, state universities or private colleges with your family and friends. Prior to your visit, call the admission office for information about a campus tour and/or printed materials.
- [] Start a calendar with important dates and deadlines.
- [] Participate in academic enrichment programs.
- [] Go to college fairs in your area.



DID YOU KNOW ...

- NDSCS is the second oldest junior college in the United States.
- NDSCS is the third largest school in North Dakota.

10th GRADE

It's a busy year. You may be learning to drive or working at your first "real" job. It's also the year you start narrowing your collegiate interests, and step up your academic efforts. Here are some simple steps to get you started.

CHECKLIST

[] Review your 9th and 10th grade class schedules with your counselor to make sure you are taking all the college preparatory classes needed for NDSCS or a selective four-year college or university.

[] Strive for A's in all of your classes and do at least one to two hours of homework every night.

[] Continue to form study groups with friends.

[] Update your personal file with new information at the end of each semester.

[] Learn about college costs and how to save at www.collegeboard.com

[] Continue to visit local colleges and universities with family and friends.

[] Participate in academic enrichment programs and special summer workshops and camps for music, science, engineering, writing, theater, language and others.

PLANNING LIST

- 1 Review your tenth grade schedule with your counselor to make sure you are taking all the college-prep courses you need for NDSCS or any particular college.
- 2 Strive for A's in all of your classes and do at least two hours of homework every night.
- 3 Continue to form study groups with friends. Again, seek tutoring if you start falling behind in a course.
- 4 Get involved in at least one new extracurricular activity. Try to take a leadership role. Student Government. Yearbook. Student Newspaper.
- 5 If you are completing any courses that will prepare you for the ACT or SAT subject tests, sign up at least two months early for the testing. See your counselor for a schedule or check out www.act.org.
- 6 Prepare for your fall classes by talking with your counselor about the most appropriate courses. You can also check out your prospective college website for suggested courses before enrollment. Your guidance counselor can help you with this as well.
- 7 Discuss with your counselor technical programs offered through your High School. For example, if your school offers Building Construction class in which you have the opportunity to build a house, feel free to participate even if construction isn't your main interest. It will give you the opportunity to use your hands and develop skills with tools. For a listing of area career and technical centers, check out www.nd.gov/cte and www.imaginend.com.
- 8 In the spring of the year, you may also want to discuss with your parents and counselor taking post secondary courses or dual credit courses in English, Math, Science, and Social & Behavioral Sciences. This will help you fulfill your high school requirements and give you college credit as well. If your school does not offer post secondary or dual credit courses, consider enrolling in a course at a local community college or university or an online course. Check with the NDSCS Admissions office about what transfer credit you may earn. Go to www.ndscs.edu/distanced

9 Participate in academic enrichment programs and special summer workshops and camps.

10 If you have the time, work during the summer as a volunteer in an area where your community needs help.

ACTIVITIES

Develop a "Wish List" of potential jobs you can see yourself doing a few years from now. Research potential colleges that offer the training and classes needed to fulfill these "wishes."

Continue with community involvement for scholarship purposes.

Consider taking the ASVAB or other interest inventories. Many times these inventories will point out different potential jobs you didn't know you were interested in!

Some schools encourage Juniors to take the PSAT test. Early preparation is important.

www.collegeboard.com/testing

Take an ACT preparation course. Sometime during your Junior year you will take the ACT or SAT. Early preparation is key.

www.actstudent.org

It is beneficial to review the activities from 9th grade and consider redoing similar career exploration activities or research occupations. These skills, knowledge and areas of interest change throughout time so it is a good idea to continue reevaluating your career opportunities.

www.showmethefuture.org

www.mapping-your-future.org/planyourcareer

www.bls.gov/oco/

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program is intended for use with students in the 10th, 11th, 12th grades, as well as students in post-secondary schools. The program provides tools, including the test battery and interest inventory, developed by the Department of Defense to help high school and post-secondary students across the nation learn more about career exploration and planning.

www.asvabprogram.com/

ADDITIONAL LINKS TO CHECK OUT:

To learn about NDSCS academics and student life: www.ndscs.edu

To register to take the ACT, find out information about what to bring to take the test, costs, dates and deadlines: www.act.org

To apply for federal financial assistance and learn about repayment: www.fafsa.ed.gov

LINKS TO CHECK OUT:

To learn about college testing, planning for college, finding a college, and paying for college: www.collegeboard.com

To understand financial aid:

www.mystudentloanonline.nd.gov

To learn about the benefits of the armed services, different branches, financial assistance, how to apply and career opportunities: www.military.com

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To find out information from choosing the right school to finding out what you'll need when you get there:

www.makingitcount.com/students/start/

To search an online college directory and find out more information about scholarships: www.anycollege.com

To read about topics such as discussing your major, financial aid, ACT testing, tips for paying for college, what to expect upon arrival, letters of recommendation and occupational outlook: www.collegeview.com

To find out more information about planning guidelines, application advice, practice tests, study abroad options, scholarship information and expert tips and advice: www.petersons.com

To learn about student focused checking accounts and credits cards, student loan center, step-by-step planning for college, and access to financial aid officers:

www.wellsfargo.com/student

To learn what it takes to succeed in college, college searching, planning and financial information:

www.mapping-your-future.org

11th GRADE

This is the year you face taking standardized tests, attending college fairs, touring college campuses and making important choices.

CHECKLIST

[] Check with your counselor to make sure you are on track to take the college preparatory subjects needed to attend NDSCS.

[] Maintaining 'A' and 'B' grades is especially important in the junior year, and you should be doing a minimum of two hours of homework each night.

[] Register for the SAT or ACT during your senior year (if you haven't taken it).

[] Take the ACT or SAT. The results will give you and your counselor an idea of your strengths and the areas you need to improve as you prepare for college admission.

[] If you are taking post-secondary or dual-credit subjects in the 11th grade, be sure to work on getting the best grade possible. This grade will also appear on a college transcript.

[] Attend college fairs and sit in on presentations by college representatives who visit your school.

PLANNING LIST

- 1 Check with your counselor to make sure you are on a track to take the college-preparatory subjects you need to attend NDSCS.
- 2 Register for the PSAT in October. The PSAT is the preliminary exam for the SAT and is required for several national scholarship programs. Most students in and around North Dakota take the ACT for college entrance, however, more and more high schools are encouraging students to take the PSAT during their Junior year. Talk to your counselor to see what your school is offering and the best option for you. The PSAT is still a valuable tool to help determine your potential ACT score.
- 3 Attend college fairs and presentations by colleges and university representatives who visit your school.
- 4 Continue your extracurricular activities, and take initiative in setting up programs or planning activities. Work to improve your favorite skill, and seek out people or programs that will help you. Explore ways to help other people by pursuing your main interests.
- 5 If you are taking any post secondary or dual credit courses this year, find out which courses available to you are the most likely to transfer into your program of choice.
- 6 Come to NDSCS for a campus visit! Try to attend one of our Campus Visit days. You'll be able to meet with staff from admission and academic departments. Bring a transcript of high school courses taken since ninth grade.
- 7 Start thinking about when and how often you will take your college entrance exams (SAT or ACT). Your school counselor can provide you with the necessary information. Taking the ACT in the spring will allow you to receive the results and meet with your counselor to see if you need to take the exam again in the fall. Plan to register for the tests at least one month in advance of the test date.
- 8 Update your résumé file with new information and materials. Visit web-sites such as these to assist you in résumé writing:
www.ndscs.edu/careerservices/
<http://career-advice.monster.com>
<http://hotjobs.yahoo.com/careertools>
www.vault.com

- 9** In the spring, begin planning your senior-year classes, including post-secondary or dual-credit courses. A fourth year of math and a science are strongly recommended for your senior year. If your school does not offer post-secondary or dual-credit courses, consider enrolling in a course at a local community college or university. Check with the NDSCS Enrollment Services about what transfer credit you may earn.
- 10** In the spring, you'll begin receiving a lot of college mail. Return the reply cards to the schools that interest you, including NDSCS. You will then start receiving view books, catalogues and applications.
- 11** Investigate summer programs, workshops, internships and camps in your community or on college campuses, and apply to any that interest you.
- 12** Over the summer, prepare for retaking the SAT or ACT by reading books with testing tips and sample questions. You can find these in bookstores or libraries and at your school, or you can access them on the internet. There are also workshops available on how to prepare for the college entrance exams.
- 13** You should begin searching for scholarships. Scholarship deadlines are throughout your senior year. In addition, some scholarships require additional information like an essay or speech or specified criteria. It is best to start your search early for the best possible outcomes. And remember, if you don't apply, you don't get considered. You can go to the NDSCS Financial Aid page and link to a variety of scholarship search engines.
- 14** This month by month planning guide will assist you on staying on track:

<p style="text-align: center;">September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review your high school course plans. - Identify sources of college and career information. - Ask your high school counselor about the PSAT test in October. - Begin your college preparation and narrow your selection processes. 	<p style="text-align: center;">October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop lists of your interests. - Take the PSAT test – don't forget your calculator! - Develop a list of classes you want to take in college. - ACT Assessment Test 	<p style="text-align: center;">November</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - List the college features that suit your interests, needs and abilities. - Visit scholarship search engines to set up profiles, search for scholarships and familiarize yourself with the scholarship searches.
<p style="text-align: center;">December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan to take the SAT II Subject Test. Ask you high school counselor for details. - PSAT score reports will be received. - ACT Assessment Test 	<p style="text-align: center;">January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E-mail or write to admission office of the college(s) you are interested in. - Request an application form and a campus interview. - Start learning about the costs of attending college. - Learn about the financial aid process. 	<p style="text-align: center;">February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learn about other student aid: scholarships, grants, etc. - Plan to take the SAT I: Reasoning Test. Ask you high school counselor for details. - ACT Assessment Test
<p style="text-align: center;">March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ask your high school counselor about AP courses and CLEP tests, or learn about them online at www.collegboard.com/testing. 	<p style="text-align: center;">April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write colleges for catalogs and application forms, and apply for an interview. - Review your goals and special interests. - ACT Assessment Test 	<p style="text-align: center;">May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advanced Placement Examinations - Contact people for letters of recommendation. - Start a file of local organizations who offer awards to graduating seniors.
<p style="text-align: center;">June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Last month to take SAT I and II tests. - Consider making college visits. - ACT Assessment Test 	<p>HAVE FUN!</p>	<p>START YOUR SENIOR YEAR</p>

CHECKLIST CONTINUED

[] Most schools and libraries have computers to help you search for college and university information either on their database, via the Internet or on CD-ROMs. All college counseling offices have libraries of college catalogs and guidebooks.

[] Create a file on colleges that appeal to you. Ask for literature about admission, financial aid and your proposed college major. Your counselor can provide the address, phone number and Web address of the admission offices.

[] Continue to visit local colleges and universities with family and friends.

[] Participate in academic enrichment programs and special summer workshops and camps for music, science, engineering, writing, filmmaking, theater and language.

[] Begin visiting the colleges which interest you. Call ahead so that you can participate in a campus tour and a presentation about academic programs, admission and financial aid. Sometimes it is possible to meet with staff from admission, academic departments, student organizations and athletics. Have a list of questions about the school and a transcript or list of the courses you have taken since the 9th grade.

[] Start thinking about when and how often you will take your college Entrance exams (SAT or ACT). Your high school guidance counselor can provide you with all the necessary information. Taking the SAT or ACT in the spring or summer will allow you to receive the results and meet with your counselor to see if you need to retake the test in the fall. You should register for these exams a minimum of one month in advance of the test date.

DURING THE SUMMER

Read through the college mail you receive. Return the reply cards to the schools which interest you. They will send viewbooks, catalogues and applications.

Visit your 'short list' colleges.

Prepare for the SAT I or the ACT by reading books and manuals with testing tips and sample questions. These can be found in bookstores, libraries and at your school, or can be accessed on the Internet or on CDROM. Workshops on how to prepare for these entrance exams are also offered. Check with your counselor to find out which workshops are the most credible. Financial support may be available for some workshops.

ADDITIONAL LINKS TO CHECK OUT:

To learn about NDSCS academics and student life: **www.ndscs.edu**

To register to take the ACT, find out information about what to bring to take the test, costs, dates and deadlines: **www.act.org**

To apply for federal financial assistance and learn about repayment: **www.fafsa.ed.gov**

To learn about college testing, planning for college, finding a college, and paying for college: **www.collegeboard.com**

To understand financial aid: **www.mystudentloanonline.nd.gov**

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To learn about test taking skills for math and English. The program includes hours of interactive lessons, practice tests and drills: **<https://www.march2success.com>**

Find out information from choosing the right school to finding out what you'll need when you get there: **www.makingitcount.com/students/start/**

To search an online college directory and find out more information about scholarships: **www.anycollege.com**

To read about topics such as discussing your major, financial aid, ACT testing, tips for paying for college, what to expect upon arrival, letters of recommendation and occupational outlook: **www.collegeview.com**

To find out more information about planning guidelines, application advice, practice tests, study abroad options, scholarship information and expert tips and advice: **www.petersons.com**

To learn about student focused checking accounts and credits cards, student loan center, step-by-step planning for college, and access to financial aid officers: www.wellsfargo.com/student

To learn what it takes to succeed in college, college searching, planning and financial information: www.mapping-your-future.org

For resume assistance and job search tools: www.jobsnd.com

For disability support services at NDSCS:
www.ndscs.edu/asc.dssupportserv.jsp

CHECKLIST CONTINUED

- [] Update your personal resume' file with new information and materials.
- [] Make a list of your abilities, preferences and personal qualities. List things you may want to study and do in college.
- [] Read through your senior class schedule. Challenge yourself with honors and college level courses.
- [] Plan summer activities early.
- [] Enrich yourself by volunteering, getting an interesting job or internship or sign up for special summer learning programs.
- [] Investigate summer programs, workshops and camps in your community or on college campuses. Some programs offer scholarships.
- [] Check with your counselor to decide if you should take the SAT II in any subjects which will be completed in your junior year.
- [] From May to July be prepared to receive mail from many colleges.
- [] Be sure to attend your high school or local college fair.



12th GRADE

The final year of high school is also the beginning of your collegiate experience, from application to acceptance to planning ahead. Work hard and stay focused.

CHECKLIST

- [] Review your recent and current class schedule with your college counselor to make sure that you have taken or are taking the college preparatory classes required for admission to selective four-year colleges and universities.
- [] Maintain 'A' and 'B' grades and continue to form study groups and do at least two to three hours of homework each night. Even in 12th grade, your grades are still very important. Keep in mind, a cumulative GPA of 3.6 or higher automatically qualifies you for a \$1,000 scholarship at NDSCS. NDSCS offers more than 700 scholarships.
- [] Continue to visit your 'short list' schools and meet with their admission counselors whenever possible.
- [] Attend college fairs and sit in on the presentations of the admission representatives who visit your school.
- [] Check frequently with your college counselor or career center director for information about scholarships awarded by your school, local companies and community groups.

PLANNING LIST

- 1 Review your recent and current class schedule with your college counselor to make sure that you have taken or are taking the college preparatory classes you need for admission to NDSCS.
- 2 Strive for A's in all of your classes, and continue to form study groups and to do at least two to three hours of homework every night. The grades you earn in your senior year are extremely important.
- 3 In early September, register for the SAT or the ACT. Your counselor can provide registration forms or you can register online. Plan to register for these exams a month or two before the test date.
- 4 Continue your extracurricular activities. Find new ways to demonstrate leadership, persistence, thoughtfulness, creativity or other special traits through your activities.
- 5 If you have not received an application package by early fall, contact the NDSCS Office of Admission.
- 6 Pay special attention to deadlines, and mark them down on your personal calendar.
- 7 Practice filling out your application on a photocopy of the application form, or practice filling out the online application before you submit it.
- 8 In October, ask your teachers and counselors for recommendations. Give them enough time and background information about your activities to enable them to do a good job for you.
- 9 Apply early. Be sure you meet the deadlines for merit scholarships. December is a critical time for deadlines.
- 10 Make a photocopy of all the forms and materials you send to NDSCS.
- 11 In December, check with your counselor and teachers about recommendation letters. Also make sure that your transcripts are being sent to NDSCS.
- 12 We will probably ask you to send us your grades from the first semester of your senior year. Remember to reply promptly and keep in mind that we will be looking to make certain you've

continued to do well your senior year.

- 13** If you are accepted, plan to attend Preview NDSCS in the spring.
- 14** Mail your commitment deposit check by May 1
- 15** Write or call any other colleges to which you were admitted but will not be attending, and inform them by May 1 that you will be attending NDSCS
- 16** Take AP exams, which are usually given in May, for all AP subjects in which you enrolled and for which you have not already taken the tests
- 17** Be sure that your final high school transcript has been sent to NDSCS by July. We will review it to make certain you continued to maintain a strong academic record in the spring semester of your senior year.
- 18** After you are admitted, apply for housing and participate in freshman orientation at NDSCS

WHAT TO DO NEXT

Make a photocopy for your files of all the forms you send to the colleges.

Wait for your acceptance letters from the colleges and universities. Generally, these arrive in March and early April. If you followed the suggested dates for applying for financial aid, you may hear about your eligibility for financial aid around the same time.

Use the month of April to compare your acceptance letters, financial aid and/or scholarship offers. If you need to revisit a campus to clarify any issue, do it!

Contact colleges to make sure they have received your application materials.

CHECKLIST CONTINUED

- [] By the end of October, make a final list of the schools to which you will apply for admission.
- [] Contact these schools for their applications (including financial aid and scholarship information) and materials on your intended field of study. Your counselor has the addresses and phone numbers.
- [] Make a file for each school and a checklist of all the required admission items: transcripts, application fees, shot records, scholarship applications, test scores, etc. As each item is mailed, check it off.
- [] Save tax information from prior year and submit FAFSA form as soon as possible in January.
- [] Men 18 or older must register for selective service in order to receive financial aid.
- [] Make a master calendar. Note: test dates, fees, deadlines, college application due dates, financial aid applications and deadlines, recommendations, transcripts, high school deadlines for application requests like your transcript.
- [] Get information on fee waivers from your school counselor if the application fee would be a financial burden to your family.
- [] Practice filling out your application on a photocopy of the forms. Many colleges and universities have electronic applications which can be filled out on a computer and sent over the Internet.
- [] Apply early! Be sure you meet the deadlines for applying to your short list schools, as well as the deadlines for merit scholarships and financial aid. December is a critical time for 'early consideration' applications, merit scholarships and deadlines for state universities.

TALK TO AN NDSCS
COUNSELOR

ASK
QUESTIONS!

MEET CASEY
701-671-2995
casey.koop@ndscs.edu



MEET DALE
701-671-2188
dale.grosz@ndscs.edu



MEET JIM
612-710-9252
james.johnson2@ndscs.edu



MEET KAREN
701-671-2189
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MEET TONYA
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ADDITIONAL LINKS TO CHECK OUT:

To learn about NDSCS academics and student life: www.ndscs.edu

To register to take the ACT, find out information about what to bring to take the test, costs, dates and deadlines: www.act.org

To apply for federal financial assistance and learn about repayment: www.fafsa.ed.gov

To learn about college testing, planning for college, finding a college, and paying for college: www.collegeboard.com

To understand financial aid: www.mystudentloanonline.nd.gov

To learn about the benefits of the armed services, different branches, financial assistance, how to apply and career opportunities: www.military.com

To learn about test taking skills for math and English. The program includes hours of interactive lessons, practice tests and drills: <https://www.march2success.com>

Find out information from choosing the right school to finding out what you'll need when you get there: www.makingitcount.com/students/start/

To search an online college directory: www.anycollege.com

To read about topics such as discussing your major, financial aid, ACT testing, tips for paying for college, what to expect upon arrival, letters of recommendation and occupational outlook: www.collegeview.com

To find out more information about planning guidelines, application advice, practice tests, help with application essays, study abroad options, scholarship information and expert tips and advice: www.petersons.com

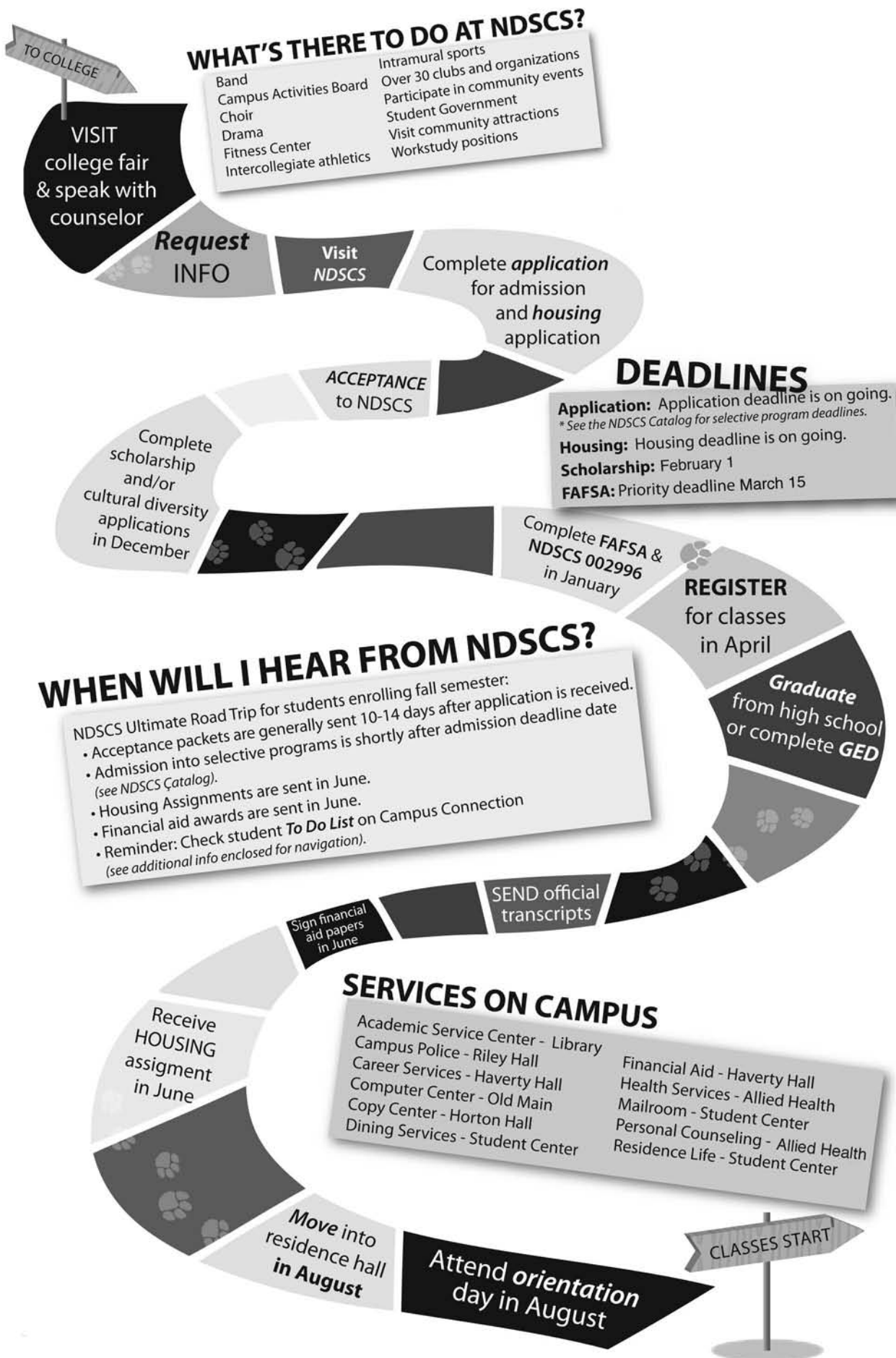
To learn about student focused checking accounts and credits cards, student loan center, step-by-step planning for college, and access to financial aid officers: www.wellsfargo.com/student

To learn what it takes to succeed in college, college searching, planning and financial information: www.mapping-your-future.org

For resume assistance and job search tools: www.jobsnd.com

For disability support services at NDSCS: www.ndscs.edu/dssupportserv.jsp

For college tutoring services at NDSCS: www.ndscs.edu/asc



WHAT'S THERE TO DO AT NDSCS?

- Band
- Campus Activities Board
- Choir
- Drama
- Fitness Center
- Intercollegiate athletics
- Intramural sports
- Over 30 clubs and organizations
- Participate in community events
- Student Government
- Visit community attractions
- Workstudy positions

DEADLINES

- Application:** Application deadline is on going.
* See the NDSCS Catalog for selective program deadlines.
- Housing:** Housing deadline is on going.
- Scholarship:** February 1
- FAFSA:** Priority deadline March 15

WHEN WILL I HEAR FROM NDSCS?

- NDSCS Ultimate Road Trip for students enrolling fall semester:
- Acceptance packets are generally sent 10-14 days after application is received. (see NDSCS Catalog).
 - Admission into selective programs is shortly after admission deadline date.
 - Housing Assignments are sent in June.
 - Financial aid awards are sent in June.
 - Reminder: Check student **To Do List** on Campus Connection (see additional info enclosed for navigation).

SERVICES ON CAMPUS

- Academic Service Center - Library
- Campus Police - Riley Hall
- Career Services - Haverty Hall
- Computer Center - Old Main
- Copy Center - Horton Hall
- Dining Services - Student Center
- Financial Aid - Haverty Hall
- Health Services - Allied Health
- Mailroom - Student Center
- Personal Counseling - Allied Health
- Residence Life - Student Center



Contact us toll-free:
1-800-342-4325
www.ndscs.edu



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