

Seton Guidance Corner

November 30, 2023

A Message to the Seniors:

Regarding applying to colleges, please note the following important information:

1. Please notify Mr. Geary at least two weeks in advance for a Counselor Letter of Recommendation.
2. Even if you are applying to colleges through the Common App, you must visit, email, or call Mr. Geary with your request and provide a deadline for your letter. (pgeary@setonschool.net/703-368-9555)
3. Please do not wait until the last minute for your request. Be courteous and look ahead at your application deadlines and request your Letter of Recommendation accordingly.
4. Always, always put Mrs. McIntyre's name and email down (tmcintyre@setonschool.net) when you "Invite Counselor" in the Common App. Make sure you type in her email address correctly. Mrs. McIntyre submits the school report, transcripts, and Counselor Letters of Recommendation. Mr. Geary writes the Counselor Letters of Recommendation.
5. *January 1st is the application deadline for many colleges. If you need to request your high school transcript to meet this deadline, please do so by Friday, Dec. 15 before Christmas break. Email Mrs. McIntyre at tmcintyre@setonschool.net.*

2024 Virginia Summer Residential Governor's School

Virginia Summer Residential Governor's School provides current gifted sophomores and juniors with intensive educational experiences in Agriculture; Humanities; Mathematics, Science, and Technology; and through mentorships in Marine Science and Engineering. Students live on a college or university campus for up to four weeks during the summer. During this time, students are involved in classroom and laboratory work, field studies, and research with noted scholars and other professionals. A school or division selection committee chooses the nominees from each school or division and forwards the nominees to a state committee. Consideration is given to students' academic records, test scores, extra-curricular activities, honors and awards, creativity, original essays, and teacher recommendations. Tuition ranges between \$975 and \$1750. While this is a fairly involved process, it has the potential of being a valuable experience! Please email Mrs. Guyant at cguyant@setonschool.net if you are interested in applying by Friday, Dec. 15. For more information, click [here](#).

The New Digital SAT: What to Expect

The new digital SAT will be offered spring 2024 starting with the March 9 test. College Board is making a full transition to digital and will no longer offer a paper and pencil version. Key changes include:

1. It will be shorter (2 hours instead of 3).
2. Students will have more time to answer each question.
3. Calculators will be allowed for the entire Math section.
4. Reading passages will be shorter and more targeted.
5. Students will get scores back in days instead of weeks.

For more information, visit <https://blog.prepscholar.com/sat-goes-digital>.

When Applying to Colleges, Did You Know...

It is a good idea to consider differentiation when thinking about academic interests. The vast majority of students are interested in the same half a dozen or so academic majors; meanwhile, universities offer hundreds of majors. Having an interest in an underrepresented academic major can help a student stand out. (<https://acceptu.com/>)

CLT, SAT, and ACT Registration Deadlines Coming Up

***CLT Test Date – January 27 (Remotely Proctored)**
Registration Deadline – January 16
Click [here](#) to register.
[Signup](#) for CLT's free practice test.

Digital SAT Test Date – March 9
Registration Deadline – February 23
Click [here](#) to register.
[Signup](#) for free SAT practice test.

ACT Test Date – February 10
Registration Deadline – January 5
Click [here](#) to register.
[Signup](#) for free ACT test prep.

**Thanks to Franciscan University, students taking the remotely proctored, at-home CLT exam on January 27 can test for free by filling out an application. Visit <https://www.cltexam.com/tests/clt/> for more information.*

Scholarship Opportunities

Mojo Write to Win Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Deadline: December 30, 2023

<https://www.mojocart.com/scholarship>

Taco Bell Foundation – Live Mas Scholarship

Amount: Up to \$25,000

Deadline: January 3, 2024

<https://www.tacobellfoundation.org/live-mas-scholarship/>

GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program

Amount: \$10,000

Deadline: January 4, 2024

www.reaganfoundation.org/education/scholarship-programs/ge-reagan-foundation-scholarship-program/

John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Essay Contest

Describe and analyze an act of political courage by a U.S. elected official who served during or after 1917.

Amount: \$10,000

Deadline: January 12, 2024

<https://www.jfklibrary.org/learn/education/profile-in-courage-essay-contest/getting-started/>

St. Robert Bellarmine Scholarship

The Saint Robert Bellarmine Fund annually awards scholarships to 10 high school seniors who display both merit and need and wish to attend one of the Catholic colleges recognized by The Cardinal Newman Society for fidelity and strong Catholic formation (<https://www.saintrobertbellarminefund.org/schools>).

Amount: \$8,000 (Renewable up to 4 years.)

Deadline: January 31, 2024

<https://www.saintrobertbellarminefund.org/apply>

**Please note, opportunities in the Guidance Corner are not endorsements of the programs. They are shared as options for students and parents to carefully consider.*