

# The Senior Scoop

MARCH, 2018

A Publication of the Counseling Department at Monson High School Just for Seniors



## How Serious is Senioritis?

Senioritis. Senior Slump. Senior Slide. Senior Slack. Whatever you call it, the result is the same. Seniors who have a lot on their minds, who are worried about their futures or

how they are going to pay for college or those just tired of working hard, breeze through the last part of the year with little or no effort. And sometimes the consequences are serious:

- ▶▶ Student fails to graduate from high school
- ▶▶ Colleges can revoke admission offers and scholarships
- ▶▶ Nearly one-third of students entering college need remediation because they can't keep up with the challenging curriculum

Senioritis has been around for ages, however we might be more aware of it because of the larger number of students who are adversely affected as a result of their poor performance. More and more colleges are withdrawing offers of admission after seeing a student's senior year grades. When a student is initially offered admission, acceptance letters include warnings to students such as, "Your admission is contingent on your continued successful performance." So, when the senior grades are reported and they are not up to their standards, the offer of admission is revoked. In most cases a student will have to discuss the situation with an admissions officer and provide a reasonable explanation of the turn of events. Students who are allowed to enroll may find themselves on academic probation or under the watchful scrutiny from the College, even before setting foot in the door.

Another factor which has brought more light to senioritis is the increased participation in early admission programs. Some students take advantage of the fact that their college search is over by January 1st and they coast through the rest of the year assuming that nothing will happen to their acceptance if their grades are not up to par.

The government thinks things have gotten so bad that in 2001 The National Commission on the High School Senior Year was established. It reported that students need to be better prepared for college and an

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## Common Scholarship Will Soon Be Available

The Common Scholarship application for local scholarships will be distributed to seniors at a class meeting on March 23. Approximately twenty one local scholarships awarded at the annual senior awards program on May 30 can be found in the common application this year. Students will only have to complete one application and make copies for each of the scholarships to which they are applying. Applicants are cautioned to follow the directions and include a copy of the third quarter report card as well as the required essay. Some scholarships have additional requirements such as an additional essay or copy of a transcript. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Scholarships that are to be submitted to a Monson High School staff member can be hand delivered. All of the scholarships that are to be mailed must be postmarked by Tuesday, April 24 which is just after the annual spring vacation.

Questions about the application or the application process should be directed to Mr. Bardwell at 267-4589x1109 or [bardwellr@monsonschools.com](mailto:bardwellr@monsonschools.com)





## March Scholarship Listing



For an application or more information on the following scholarships, please stop by the Counseling Office.

- New England Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers** **March 15, 2018**  
Three \$2000 scholarships to high school graduates who will be enrolling in a NEACRAO member institution for the fall semester that year. For complete scholarship information [www.neacrao.org](http://www.neacrao.org).
- The Rebekah Assembly of Massachusetts** **March 15, 2018**  
Offers a scholarship of \$500.00 to qualified seniors who plan to further their education by attending two or four year college programs. Please see The Counseling Office to obtain an application.
- Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs** **March 16, 2018**  
A \$1000 scholarship opportunity to a young woman between the ages of 16 and 19 as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, and who lives in the Quaboag Valley. This scholarship seeks to recognize a student who demonstrates a commitment to her community, exhibits leadership ability, and shows global awareness. You may download an application at <http://www.zontaqv.org>.
- Springfield Garden Club Scholarship** **March 20, 2018**  
The candidate plans to major in and will be enrolled in a full time plant sciences or environmental studies program. Environmental studies program which includes horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, conservation, forestry, botany, agronomy, plant pathology, environmental control, land management and allied subject areas. More information and an application are available at [www.gcfm.org/springfieldgardenclub/home.aspx](http://www.gcfm.org/springfieldgardenclub/home.aspx).
- Holyoke Community College Foundation Scholarship** **March 21, 2018**  
Must attend Holyoke Community College. [www.hccscholarships.org](http://www.hccscholarships.org).
- Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce** **March 23, 2018**  
Must write an essay answering the question: What Role Should Business Play in Your Community? Please see The Counseling Office for more information or to obtain an application.
- Advertising Club of Western Massachusetts** **March 30, 2018**  
Western Massachusetts seniors who plan to attend an accredited college or technical school to study advertising, communications, marketing or graphic arts and will be attending in September 2018 are encouraged to apply. Information and an application is available online at [www.adclubwm.org](http://www.adclubwm.org).
- Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts** **March 31, 2018**  
Various criteria. *Encouraged to apply early.* Please apply on-line at [www.communityfoundation.org](http://www.communityfoundation.org).
- David Jonathan Jose' Memorial Scholarship** **March 31, 2018**  
Must be graduating from a Massachusetts High School in spring 2018, Must be pursuing higher education in the visual or performing arts field or any field related to the arts. For more info go to [www.djjfund.org](http://www.djjfund.org).
- Wing Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, Inc.** **March 31, 2018**  
Is pleased to offer a one year scholarship in the amount of \$750.00 to a student planning to enter the medical field. Examples of careers that are considered –nursing, medicine, physical therapy, occupational therapy, radiology, and medical technology. Please see Counseling Office for a copy of the application.
- Matthews Massachusetts Memorial Fund** **March 31, 2018**  
The scholarship is for deserving **male** graduate(s) of any public high school in Hampden County, Massachusetts (excluding the Town of Longmeadow). Please see The Counseling Office for an application.
- Valley Press Club** **April 1, 2018**  
The Valley Press Club will be awarding scholarships of \$1.000 each to students planning careers in journalism. They are available to high school seniors in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut who are planning to attend accredited institutions of higher education. Applicants must be **seriously committed to careers in journalism**. Applications are available on the club website: [www.valleypressclub.com](http://www.valleypressclub.com)



## March Scholarship's continued

### **Italian Cultural Center Scholarships**

**April 1, 2018**

These scholarships are available to Seniors of Italian heritage who are attending high school in Western Massachusetts. The application for the scholarships can be found on their website at [www.iccwm.org](http://www.iccwm.org).

### **The Stephen Philips Memorial Scholarship Fund**

**April 3, 2018/May 1, 2018**

The Stephen Philips Memorial Scholarship Fund is pleased to announce the creation of the Western Massachusetts Scholarship Program. This program offers renewable college scholarships ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000 per year to students from Western Massachusetts who have financial need, display academic achievement, and have demonstrated through their activities in high school and/or choice of college major a commitment to social justice and/or environmental concerns. Please visit [www.phillips-scholarship.org](http://www.phillips-scholarship.org) for more information and to obtain an application.

### **New England Association for College Admission Counseling**

**April 8, 2018**

High School juniors and seniors from NEACAC-member high schools in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont are invited to submit a 500-word essay. For the essay topic and more information please visit: <http://www.neacac.org/essay-contest-information-application>.

### **Massachusetts Broadcasters Association**

**April 13, 2018**

To apply for this scholarship, a student must be a Massachusetts resident, be enrolled or plan to enroll at an accredited two or four-year school with a major or intention of studying over-the-air broadcasting. The student need not attend school in Massachusetts to be eligible. Applications are available for download at [www.MassBroadcasters.org/scholarship](http://www.MassBroadcasters.org/scholarship).

### **Marine Corp League Scholarship**

**April 30, 2018**

Must have a relative who has served in the United States Marine Corps or as a Navy Corpsman with a Marine Unit for more than 90 days. Please see Guidance to obtain an application.

### **The William B. Menard Memorial Scholarship Program**

**May 10, 2018**

This scholarship is open to current high school seniors through college juniors entering or continuing at a four-year college or university, with home addresses in the states of MA or CT, who are interested in studying gold management and/or pursuing a career in the golf industry. Please see The Counseling Office to obtain an application.

### **Abbot and Fenner Scholarship Program**

**June 14, 2018**

The A&F Scholarships are available to all high school juniors and seniors as well as all students currently registered in any accredited post-secondary institution. Various scholarships are available. Please visit <http://www.abbottandfenner.com/scholarships.htm>.

### **The 2017 Aspiring Nurse Scholarship**

**August 31, 2018**

This scholarship competition is open to all U.S. high school seniors who plan to pursue college education in nursing, including LPN/LVN, AND, and BSN programs. Application and more information is available by going to: <http://www.nursingschoolsalmanac.com/articles/2017-aspiring-nurse-scholarship>.

### **AES Scholarship**

**October 6, 2018**

The consulting firm of AES Engineers is committed to continuing its support of higher education by providing scholarships to deserving students. This award is available to all students, regardless of their field of study. To be eligible the student needs to answer one of the essay questions that they will find on our site at <http://www.aesengineers.com/scholarships.htm>. We are offering a scholarship that will be awarded on the basis of character, as determined by evaluating the essays that are submitted. Amount of award: **\$500.00**

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increasingly complex world of work. Students also should enroll in more rigorous academic programs which provide greater economic returns and ensure that Americans possess high levels of literacy, numeracy logic and the capacity to think critically. The Commission felt that by approaching the problem through a three prong approach - creating a more unified system of education Pre-K through 4 years of college, raising the achievement bar and providing more alternatives in the senior year, that the concerns over senior year decline will be reduced. Senior capstone projects, the development of meaningful internships and the opportunities to take college level courses are only some of the suggestions made to traditional approaches to educating seniors.

There is no doubt that the last year of high school is difficult for most seniors. The thought of going to college or into the working world, leaving their family and general uncertainty about their future should cause some anxiety. However, some students push the envelope by completely shutting down. A study by UCLA reports that 40% of students claim they are frequently bored in class during their senior year as compared to 35% in 1985. This trend is of concern.

For students who wish to avoid this phenomenon, here are some strategies to help:

- ▶▶ Plan ahead & stay organized - Seniors should know what activities they plan on being a part of and what the demands of their senior year will be. By planning ahead and knowing what is due and when, they can alleviate some of the stress associated with senior year which might result in slacking off.
- ▶▶ Maintain a challenging courseload - By taking courses that keeps one motivated and challenged, there is less of a tendency to slack. Also, for honors and Advanced Placement courses, where a high score on the AP exam may lead to college credit, students are less likely to let their grades slip.
- ▶▶ Stay active and involved - Volunteer work, school activities and sports will help students stay focused. Internships or career focused opportunities (i.e. - job shadow) will also help provide motivation as well as meaningful career-related experience.
- ▶▶ Try out college early - If you are ready for the challenge of college, try taking a college course. Online opportunities can provide even more options than those offered on campus.
- ▶▶ Talk it out - Seniors have many adults (counselors, teachers and parents) as well as their peers who have been through similar situations. By talking about their feelings with others, it will feel like a load is being lifted off their shoulders and thus provide some immediate relief.

For more information about senioritis or to review the Commission's report, go to <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED459516>



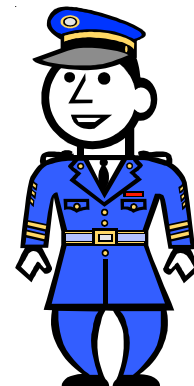
## A Reminder to Senior Males

Senior males who have turned 18 are reminded that they must register with the Selective Service System. Selective service laws require all males between the age 18-25 to register within 30 days of one's eighteenth birthday. Registration can be done online at [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov) or at any U.S. Post Office. Registration requires basic biographical information and a social security number.

Those who fail to register may be imprisoned for up to five years and fined up to \$250,000. Additionally, you cannot qualify for federal student grants or loans, job training benefits and many state and federal jobs.

For those who register online they will receive a Selective Service number and a card in the mail confirming the information. For those who register by mail, registration confirmation will be sent within 90 days.

For more information contact [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov) or call 847.688.6888.



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