

The Senior Scoop

DECEMBER, 2017

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



Staying Safe on Campus

Are you getting ready to head off to college in the fall? Did you hear rumors about the University of Massachusetts Amherst being one of the most dangerous colleges in the country? Remember that college campuses are often like small towns or cities and thus are subject to crimes like theft, rape, hazing and assaults. Here are some tips to help make your college experience safe and injury free.

- ◆ Don't allow your photo and personal information to be published for distribution to the campus community. Fraternities and upperclassmen have abused this type of publication to "target" naive freshmen.
- ◆ Study the campus and neighborhood about routes between your residence and classes/activities. Locate emergency phones.
- ◆ Share your class/activities schedule with parents and a network of close friends, effectively creating a type of "buddy" system. Give network telephone numbers to your parents, advisors, and friends.
- ◆ Always travel in groups. Use a shuttle service after dark. Never walk alone at night. Avoid "shortcuts".
- ◆ Survey the campus, academic buildings, residence halls, and other facilities while classes are in session and after dark to see if emergency phones, escorts, and shuttle services are adequate.
- ◆ Do not loan out your key. Rekey locks when a key is lost or stolen.
- ◆ Always lock your doors and windows at night. Never compromise your safety if someone asks you to leave the door unlocked.
- ◆ Dormitory residents should insist that residential assistants and security patrols routinely check for "propped doors" - day and night.
- ◆ Do not leave your identification, wallets, checkbooks, jewelry, cameras, and other valuables in open view.
- ◆ Program your phone's speed dial memory with emergency numbers that include family and friends.
- ◆ Know your neighbors and don't be reluctant to report illegal activities and suspicious loitering.
- ◆ Be cognizant of posting too much information on social media, in particular, where you are, what you're doing and how long you will be there. This information gives would-be assailants instant details about your plans and location.
- ◆ Check out the US Department of Education's Campus Safety and Security Data Analysis Tool at <http://ope.ed.gov/Security/> for current campus crime statistics and information

College Application Celebration Week Recap

Monson seniors participated in the annual Massachusetts College Application Celebration Week program from November 13 – 17. Thirty-four (out of a total of 66) seniors completed 61 applications during the week to 33 public colleges and 28 private schools. Several received assistance from the school counselors to complete their college applications. There were 22 on the spot decisions from American International College, Elms College, Bay Path University, Western New England University, Springfield Technical Community College and Holyoke Community College. Over \$188,000 in scholarship funds were awarded as part of the instant decisions.

Fifty-five seniors (or 83%) of the class applied to at least one college before November 16 for a total of 160 applications submitted so far. Each were recognized in an all-school assembly by having their name announced and received their "I applied to college" t-shirt provided by Herff Jones.

Four college mascots along with the Monson Mustang participated in the Mascot Madness by completing a dance routine and playing a plastic cup challenge. Rowdy the Ram from Springfield Technical Community College representing the seniors (aka Kyle Monaghan) was victorious in the spirit competition.

December Scholarship Listing



Burger King Scholars

December 15, 2017

High School seniors, Burger King employees, their dependents children, spouses or domestic partners in the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico can apply. High school seniors must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale to be eligible, and must be active in their community through volunteering, sports, clubs and/or religious organizations. For an application please visit www.bk-scholars.com.

2017 GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program

January 4, 2018

This national program awards college scholarships to high school seniors who embody the characteristics of President Ronald Reagan at school, in the community, in the workplace, and at home. Apply online through www.reaganfoundation.org/scholarships.

The Filene Music Scholarship Competition at Skidmore

January 15, 2018

Must attend Skidmore College. More information is available at www.SKIDMORE.MERIT.

The Massachusetts JCI Senate Scholarship

January 20, 2018

The Massachusetts JCI Senate will award two (2) \$1,000.00 scholarships to graduating students in Massachusetts. The State winners will be forwarded to the National JCI Senate and will be eligible for additional \$1,000.00 scholarships. To obtain an application please visit <http://majcisenate.weebly.com>.

Wace National CO-OP Scholarship Program

February 15, 2018

To qualify for this scholarship, students must: Have a high school GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale or better; Apply and be accepted for the 2017-2018 academic year at one of the WACE Partner Institutes. Please see application for participating Colleges & Universities. To obtain an application, please visit www.waceinc.org.

Order Sons of Italy in America Grand Lodge of Massachusetts

February 1, 2018

Scholarship awards are limited to members of the Senior Class of any secondary school and shall be awarded on the following basis: Scholastic Ability; Character; Activities. Please visit www.osiama.org to obtain more information and an application.

Big Y Scholarship

February 1, 2018

All Big Y scholarships recognize **academic merit and achievement**. They are awarded to the most academically outstanding students in the **Big Y market area**. Applications can be printed from the Big Y website: www.bigy.com. Under the Services then the community tab. The scholarships are located at the bottom of the page.

Henry David Thoreau Scholarship

February 1, 2018

The Henry David Thoreau Foundation selects Massachusetts' high school seniors interested in environmental studies to receive up to \$20,000 for tuition to the college of their choice. Please visit: www.thoreauscholar.org for more information and to submit your application.

Scholarships continued

National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Scholarship **February 14, 2018**

In accordance with National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association's (NIAAA) purpose to promote, facilitate, and increase the knowledge and understanding of the vital role of interscholastic athletics in the educational system, this scholarship program will foster and acknowledge the partnership between the NIAAA and secondary education. The scholarships will recognize the distinguished scholastic, leadership, and citizenship attributes of high school student athletes, and the importance of high school athletics in each student's life. Please visit: <http://www.niaaa.org/niaaa-awards/niaaa-student-athlete-scholarship> for more information and the application.

Walter S. Barr Scholarships **March 1, 2018**

These awards for undergraduate education are made annually to graduating high school seniors. They must be residents attending public or private secondary schools in Hampden County, MA. The awards are given based on school records, college entrance examinations, general accomplishments, recommendations and financial need. The annual award is \$2,500 for a maximum of four years. **The William R. Rooney Award** is awarded to a graduating high school senior who is currently on and has been on an IEP or a 504 Plan for a minimum of two years. Please visit www.HoraceSmithFund.org to complete and submit 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 1st, 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>.

The Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund **May 1, 2018**

The Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund offers renewable, 4-year scholarships to student with financial need who display academic excellence, a desire to make a meaningful contribution to society, and strong citizenship and character.

Download the 2018 Application at www.phillips-scholarship.org

ASVAB - Last Call

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) will be given on Thursday, December 14 from 7:35-10:35 in Room 108. The ASVAB is the assessment that the military requires of all interested candidates to determine who is eligible for admission and which careers within the military would be appropriate. Interested seniors should sign up in the Counseling Office by Monday, December 5.

Massachusetts AFL-CIO Scholarship Info

The Massachusetts AFL-CIO is conducting its annual scholarship competition. Over \$500,000 will be awarded. Seniors must take a labor history exam on February 2 in order to qualify. An application and study guide can be found at www.massafclcio.org. Students must register for the exam with Mr. Bardwell no later than **December 12**.

Department Directory

Mr. Bardwell (Last Names A-F)
bardwellr@monsonschools.com
Mrs. Sorel (Last Names I-Z)
sorelk@monsonschools.com
Mrs. Gouvin, School-to-Career Coordinator
gouvinj@monsonschools.com
Mrs. Maloney, Social Worker
maloneym@monsonschools.com
Mrs. Goodrich, Administrative Assistant
goodrichd@monsonschools.com