

The Senior Scoop

FEBRUARY, 2018

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

What Am I Going to Do?



Are you not sure what you will be doing after graduation? Do all of your friends seem to know what they are going to do and you don't? Do you feel lost and need some direction?

First of all, don't panic. There is still plenty of time to make a decision. There are still many options - further education, work, military, travel, community service or a combination of things are all viable options. If you are in this situation, the first thing you should do is to make an appointment to see your counselor. At that time we can discuss options that are available to you as well as help you with an action plan to achieve your goals. In the meantime, here are some options to consider.



Continue your education - There are many colleges and technical schools that are accepting students for the fall 2018 semester. In some cases financial aid is also available to help you pay for school. If you are unsure of what you might want to study, consider enrolling in a course or two at a community college to keep you in the education loop and give you more time to figure out what you want to study. Stop by the Counseling Office to learn how to search for schools still accepting applications.

Employment - Most students have some sort of job, even if continuing their education. However, if you want to work full-time in a decent paying job you may need help finding that perfect job. Mrs. Gouvin is a good person with whom to begin these conversations. However, you will also want to contact FutureWorks, a One-Stop Career Center in Springfield. Career counselors can help you find a meaningful job that also pays the bills. Contact Mrs. Gouvin to get started.

Military - The military is an option for those who want to help protect our country, while earning a salary and money towards future education. There are many options available within the armed services. Seniors who can handle the structured environment, who want some additional training while earning a paycheck or for those who are unsure of their next step should consider the military as an option. Stop by the Counseling Office for recruiter contact information.



Service - There are several programs that allow young people an opportunity to participate in community service or to work in the environment. Organizations like Americorps (www.americorps.org) or Student Conservation Association (www.theSCA.org) provide structured opportunities to either work in special programs or participate in service oriented projects.



Travel - Who wouldn't want to travel? Programs like Global Quest (www.gquest.org) or Outward Bound (www.outwardbound.org) provide students opportunities to travel and gain valuable life and educational experiences. Some travel experiences may cost you big bucks, while others are free in exchange for your volunteer work.

Still stuck? Try looking at websites such as www.wheretheyouheaded.com, www.takingtimeoff.com or www.interimprograms.com can help you discover other options. Procrastinating won't make the decision come any quicker or easier. By accessing good information, you can not only get help to make a decision, but you might also get excited about your future. Take advantage of the help you have now to assist you in this process. Once you leave high school it is much harder to come back. But most of all, good luck in your search.

February Scholarship Listing



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.

National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Essay Scholarship February 14, 2018

In accordance with NIAAA's 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.

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.

Yawkey Foundation Scholarship

February 15, 2018

Scholarship opportunity for graduating high school students entering private colleges in Massachusetts in 2017-18. This program is designed for talented, motivated, low-income students from Massachusetts. For more information and instructions, go to: <http://www.tpi.org/scholarship/yawkey-scholars-program>.

Red Pine Scholarship

February 15, 2018

The Red Pine Scholarship is seeking its next class of students from low- to middle- income families in Massachusetts who have demonstrated academic excellence and are planning to attend competitive colleges as freshmen in the fall of 2018. Visit www.tpi.org/scholarship/red-pine-scholars-program for more info.

The College Club of Springfield

February 23, 2018

Scholarship recipients are chosen for their need, scholarship, leadership, and integrity. Eligibility is limited to women ranking in the upper fifth of their class in public schools in the Greater Springfield Area.

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.

National CCAA Scholarship

March 1, 2018

The National CCAA annually offers the National CCAA Scholarship to college-bound high school seniors from various geographic regions attending one of the National CCAA member institutions in the fall. For fall 2018. The National CCAA will award eight one-time \$1,000 awards. For a list of member colleges and more information please visit www.catholiccollegesonline.org.



February Scholarships continued.....

- 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.
- 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>.
- 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 and land management areas. More information and an application are available at www.gcfm.org/springfieldgardenclub/home.aspx
- 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 Counseling Office for more information or to obtain an application.
- Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts** **March 31, 2018**
Various criteria. *Encouraged to apply early.* Please apply on-line at www.communityfoundation.org.
- Italian Cultural Center Scholarships** **April 1, 2017**
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.
- 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 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>.
- 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 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**