



# How to use the CCRC

**FIND YOUR PATH**

# Who uses the CCRC?



- **Students**
  - Hours: Open for student use unless otherwise noted
  - Students must sign-in and sign out
  - No food or drink in the computer areas
- **Parents**
  - Welcome to come in until 4:00 p.m.
  - Can browse scholarships, reference books, and college brochures

# Types of Degrees



- Certificate: proves that you were trained in how to do a specific task.
- Technical: proof that you obtained specific training a technical field
- Associate's: 2 year degree that can usually be applied to a 4 year degree (bachelor's) if one decides that they would like more schooling later
- Bachelor's: 4-year degree from a college or university. Must obtain this before moving on to more advanced degrees
- Master's: Advanced degree in very specific field of study (usually 2 years)
- Ph.D., M.D., J.D. are even more specific and require more than six years of college.

# College Admission Tests



- You should have already taken the PSAT in the fall
- It is recommended that you take the PSAT again in the fall of your junior year as well
  - The PSAT taken in the junior year is the test used to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program
  - This test is not for admission to college but is good practice for the SAT
- **SAT or ACT**
  - It is recommended that students take the SAT or ACT in the junior year
  - A majority of colleges require one of these tests for admission

# College Admission Tests



- Taking the ACT or SAT in the junior year allows you time to re-take one or both tests if you did not do as well as you would have liked
- It will not hurt you to take the ACT or SAT multiple times
- Register online!
  - [collegeboard.com](https://collegeboard.com) for the SAT
  - [act.org](https://act.org) for the ACT
- Don't forget to use the free online resources to prepare

# Fee Waivers



- The 2010-2011 SAT costs \$47
- The 2010-2011 ACT plus Writing costs \$48
- If you are on free or reduced lunch you qualify for a fee waiver
  - Make sure to ask your counselor about the waiver before you register!

## Hard Copy College/University Info is located:



- DVD's and DVD player
- Drawer's with college info
- Scholarship and College visit newsletter
- College visit sign up book
  - What is a college visit?

# Online College Search Resources



- Two recommended sites...
  - Indiana College Search
    - ✦ [triptocollege.org](http://triptocollege.org)
  - National College Search
    - ✦ [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com)
- What other web sites have you used for college information?

# Scholarships



- Mrs. Superczynski can answer questions and creates a weekly update including:
  - New scholarships, college visits, open house, and leadership opportunities
  - Also available on the Penn Guidance web site!
- Scholarship timeline
  - Check every week for new scholarships
- Online Scholarship Search
  - Common sites include:
    - ✦ [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com)
    - ✦ [finaid.org](http://finaid.org)
    - ✦ [gocollege.com](http://gocollege.com)

# FAFSA



- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- Need-based aid
  - ✦ Qualify for federal, state, and institutional aid as well as student loans based on financial need
- Fill out in senior year
  - ✦ Starting in January students and families can file online
  - ✦ Indiana deadline for FAFSA is in early March
    - It is recommended that the FAFSA be filed by March 1<sup>st</sup>
- FAFSA Help
  - ✦ University financial aid offices
  - ✦ PHS financial aid night
  - ✦ College Goal Sunday in February

# Military



- **Military**
  - National Guard, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines
  - Watch for visits and updated information

# Useful Websites and Online Resources



- **similarminds.com**
  - Free personality tests. We recommend the JUNG-Type test, 53 questions. This test will give you four letters that you can look up information about your type.
    - ✦ Example: ENFP
    - ✦ Then go to [personalitypage.com](http://personalitypage.com) and click on “careers” for ENFP to get a brief description and a few example career choices
    - ✦ Note that if this description does not seem like the right fit you may need to retest.
- [triptocollege.org](http://triptocollege.org) is an Indiana website for Indiana college searches as well as information for planning and paying for college
- [cacareerzone.org](http://cacareerzone.org) is a career test that also shows you career matches (salaries are based on state of CA).
- [Collegeboard.org](http://Collegeboard.org) offers many tools including info about testing and how to search for colleges that you might like.
- [Bls.gov/OCO](http://Bls.gov/OCO) is the Occupational Outlook Handbook and is an excellent resource for careers, salaries, training needed, and job outlook
- DON'T FORGET THE [PENN HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE](#) WEB SITE!!

# College Search Time Line



- [triptocollege.org](http://triptocollege.org)
- Penn Guidance web site has an info sheet for Juniors with a timeline of important events and things to do