

# EducationQuest Foundation

# College Planning Bulletin

*A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students*

March 2018

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## Wrapping up your senior year

Seniors...stay on track to college by completing these second-semester tasks:

**Complete the financial aid process.** By now, you should have filed your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). If you haven't, apply at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov).

**Compare financial aid award notifications.** The colleges you listed on your FAFSA will send you notifications detailing the financial aid they're offering. Compare the notifications to determine which school provides the best package.

**Watch your grades.** If you slack off and get poor grades, your college admission could be revoked.

**Apply for scholarships.** See [ScholarshipQuest](http://EducationQuest.org) at [EducationQuest.org](http://EducationQuest.org) to find Nebraska-based scholarships and a list of national scholarship sites.

**Make your final college selection.** Notify the other colleges so they can take you off their mailing list.

**Be aware of deadlines** to accept financial aid and college admission offers, submit your housing deposit, and register for new-student orientation.

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## Juniors...it's time to narrow your college choices.

Narrow your college choices soon to prepare for these upcoming activities:

**ACT college entrance exam.** When you take the exam this spring, you'll be asked to provide a list of colleges that should receive your score.

**Completion of the [FAFSA](http://fafsa.gov)** early next fall. You and your parents can complete the FAFSA beginning October 1 of your senior year. The colleges you list on the form will receive the results.

**Apply2College Campaign.** Early next fall, it will be time to apply to your top college choices. Many high schools will participate in the [Apply2College campaign](http://Apply2College.org) during which seniors get help during the school day with college applications.

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## Campus visits will help you narrow your choices

Your spring break is a perfect time to visit schools that interest you. Schedule your visits at least two weeks in advance and be prepared with [questions to ask](#). Find more tips in the "[Selecting a College](#)" section at [EducationQuest.org](http://EducationQuest.org).

**Check out these college-search resources at [EducationQuest.org](http://EducationQuest.org)**

- "[About Nebraska Colleges](#)" provides cost and contact information for Nebraska colleges.
  - [College Profiles](#) has information about colleges in Nebraska and across the country.
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## Go on a scavenger hunt and you might win \$500 for college

Apply **by March 31** for EducationQuest's \$500 *Scavenger Hunt Scholarship*. Here's how it works:

1. If you haven't already, complete a profile in [ScholarshipQuest](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#). *ScholarshipQuest* is a scholarship search tool with over 2,000 Nebraska-based awards.
2. If you're a Nebraska resident in grades 9-12, you'll see the *EducationQuest Scavenger Hunt Scholarship* as one of the scholarships you're eligible to apply for.
3. "Scavenge" around the EducationQuest website to find answers to questions in a survey.

EducationQuest will draw a winner from those who answer all questions correctly. The winner will receive \$500 to invest in a [NEST 529 College Savings Plan](#) account.

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## March "To Do" List

### Seniors

- \_\_\_ If you haven't already, [complete your FAFSA!](#)
- \_\_\_ Expect financial aid award notifications.
- \_\_\_ Continue applying for [scholarships](#).

### Juniors

- \_\_\_ [Register](#) by March 9 for the April 14 ACT.
  - \_\_\_ [Register](#) by April 6 for the May 5 SAT.
  - \_\_\_ Schedule campus visits.
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For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Omaha	Lincoln	Kearney	Scottsbluff
402-391-4033	402-475-5222	308-234-6310	800-303-3745 ext. 6654
888-357-6300	800-303-3745	800-666-3721	

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