

## *Senior Guidance Information*

This packet is designed to provide you with information that will help you as you come closer to the end of your high school career. Graduation is right around the corner, and there are lots of things you should do before then.

- Do your best in all of your classes.
  - Not only do you need the credits, but your good grades can earn you college scholarships.
- Make sure you have all the credits you will need to graduate.
- Perform community service
  - It's not just for National Honor Society Students. Community service hours look great on a college application.
- Register for and take the ACT and the SAT if you didn't take them as a junior or if you want to improve your score.
- Apply to the colleges you want to attend.
  - Check the admissions criteria.
  - Be sure to any transcript requests are turned in at least 4 weeks before the college application deadline.
  - Be sure to have someone proofread any application essays before you send them.
  - Visit colleges.
  - Consider how you will pay for college (scholarships, grants, loans)
  - Be sure to make photocopies of all forms before you send them.
  - Check other deadlines as well, such as on-campus housing applications.
- Do your research. The Internet can be a great resource for college preparation.
  - Find information about different careers that interest you.
  - Look and apply for scholarships.
- Keep a High School Resume
  - Keep track of your activities such as sports and other clubs, your community service hours, and your awards. Remember to keep it updated. This will help you when you fill out college applications.

Visit the guidance section of the school website for more information on college preparation.  
<http://lakesidechristianschool.org/guidance.html>.

If you have any questions about academic requirements, scholarships, or testing, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at [jbarlow@lakesidechristianschool.org](mailto:jbarlow@lakesidechristianschool.org).

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Guidance Department

## **HIGH SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS (grades 9-12)**

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 9 <sup>th</sup> grade:  | Successful completion of 5-7 credits             |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> grade: | Successful completion of 12-14 credits           |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> grade: | Successful completion of 19-21 credits           |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> grade: | Successful completion of a minimum of 26 credits |

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Lakeside Christian School requires a minimum of 24 credits for graduation from high school for transfer students, which includes one credit in Bible for each year a student attends this school in grades 9 through 12.

Students who begin at Lakeside Christian School in 9<sup>th</sup> grade must have a minimum of 28 credits for graduation.

Although students and parents will be counseled, the student is to assume responsibility for knowing and meeting the requirements for graduation.

The credits needed for graduation are listed below.

| <b>Class</b>                                    | <b>Credits Required</b>       |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Bible   | 1 credit for each year at LCS |
| English   | 4                             |
| Science   | 4                             |
| Social Studies                                  | 4                             |
| Mathematics                                     | 4                             |
| Foreign Language (2 years of the same language) | 2                             |
| Fine Arts                                       | 1                             |
| Physical Education (Health)                     | 1                             |
| Computer  | 1                             |
| General Elective                                | 0-4                           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                    | <b>24-28</b>                  |

## **ACHIEVEMENT TESTS**

### **ACT**

The ACT® test assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work.

The multiple-choice tests cover four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science.

The Writing Test, which is optional, measures skill in planning and writing a short essay. (<http://act.org/aap/>)

| Test Date           | Registration Deadline | (Late Fee Required)            |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| September 12, 2009* | August 7, 2009        | August 8 – 21, 2009            |
| October 24, 2009    | September 18, 2009    | September 19 – October 2, 2009 |
| December 12, 2009   | November 6, 2009      | November 7 – 20, 2009          |
| February 6, 2010**  | January 5, 2010       | January 6 – 15, 2010           |
| April 10, 2010      | March 5, 2010         | March 6 – 19, 2010             |
| June 12, 2010       | May 7, 2010           | May 8 – 21, 2010               |

## SAT

The SAT Reasoning Test is the nation's most widely used admissions test among colleges and universities. It tests students' knowledge of subjects that are necessary for college success: reading, writing, and mathematics. The SAT assesses the critical thinking skills students need for academic success in college—skills that students learned in high school.

The SAT tells students how well they use the skills and knowledge they have attained in and outside of the classroom—including how they think, solve problems, and communicate. The SAT is an important resource for colleges. It's also one of the best predictors of how well students will do in college.

Each section of the SAT is scored on a scale of 200-800, with two writing subscores for multiple-choice questions and the essay. (<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about/SATL.html>)

| 2009-10<br>Test Dates | Test                | Regular Registration Deadline<br>(postmark/submit by) |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---|
| October 10, 2009      | SAT & Subject Tests | September 9, 2009                                     |
| November 7, 2009      | SAT & Subject Tests | October 1, 2009                                       |
| December 5, 2009      | SAT & Subject Tests | October 30, 2009                                      |
| January 23, 2010      | SAT & Subject Tests | December 15, 2009                                     |
| March 13, 2010        | SAT only            | February 4, 2010                                      |
| May 1, 2010           | SAT & Subject Tests | March 25, 2010  |
| June 5, 2010          | SAT & Subject Tests | April 29, 2010  |

Lakeside's School Code is 100266. You may need to input this code when you register for achievement tests.

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Students in 12<sup>th</sup> grade must meet the following criteria to be inducted into or maintain membership in the Lakeside chapter of the National Honor Society.

- 3.0 GPA
- 20 Hours of Community Service
- Recommendations from teachers

## **FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP**

<http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/ssfad/bf/>

### **Florida Academic Scholars**

- 100% tuition at one of the state universities in Florida and an additional \$375 for expenses.
- Requirements
  - 3.5 weighted GPA
  - Composite score of 1270 on SAT (based on Reading and Math sections only) OR 28 on ACT (excluding the writing section)
  - 75 hours of community service
  - Courses must include 15 credits of college preparatory academic courses.
    - 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
    - 3 Mathematics (Algebra I and above)
    - 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
    - 3 Social Science
    - 2 Foreign Language (in the same language)

### **Florida Medallion Scholars**

- 100% of tuition and allowable fees\* for college credit courses leading to an associate degree.
- 75% tuition at one of the state universities in Florida.
- Requirements
  - 3.0 weighted GPA and
  - Composite score of 970 on SAT (based on Reading and Math sections only) OR 20 on ACT (excluding the writing section)
  - Courses must include 15 credits of college preparatory academic courses.
    - 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
    - 3 Mathematics (Algebra I and above)
    - 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
    - 3 Social Science
    - 2 Foreign Language (in the same language)

*Note: The State of Florida has its own weighting system and weights only certain courses.*

### **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)**

FAFSA is the fundamental qualifying form used for all federal and government-guaranteed commercial lenders' programs—as well as for many state, regional and private student aid programs. By filling out the online or paper FAFSA, applicants start the process of qualifying for aid. Go to <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov> to fill out your application.