

Junior College Presentation

Presented by:

Sarah Treen
Career & College
Advisor

On the left side of the slide, there are decorative green elements: a large dark green leaf with a white vein, a smaller light green leaf below it, and a large light green circle at the bottom. At the top left, there is another light green circle.

What is LEAF?

- Lake/Geauga Educational Assistance Foundation
- Non-profit that offers College & Career Access Services across Lake, Geauga, Cuyahoga, and Portage Counties
- Lakeland Office and in Schools
- leaf-ohio.org

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Agenda

- Timeline for planning visits, applications, financial aid, and scholarships
- Scheduling campus visits and building a visit list
- Definition and descriptions of financial aid
- ACT Testing Prep and Tips
- College Athletics
- Online resources





Timeline: 11th Grade

- Strong academic year
- Be in contact with school counselor; select senior schedule with potential postsecondary major in mind
- Seek leadership roles in your areas of passion
- Prepare for and take ACT/SAT
- Document all honors and activities; you will need this frequently in your senior year



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Timeline: 11th Grade *(continued)*

- Visit schools
 - Four year, two year, trade schools all have visit options available
- Contact college coaches if pursuing athletics
- Discuss college costs as a family
 - Check Net Price Calculators
 - What can you afford to pay?
- Think of people who can write letters of recommendation and even ask them at the end of 11th grade year



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Campus Visits

- Organize list of colleges or schools where you would like to visit/apply:
 - Four-year Colleges and Universities
 - Two-year Community Colleges/Branch Campuses
 - Trade Schools
- Types of Visits
 - Individual Tours - Ask what's available
 - Group Days/Visits
- Schedule Campus Visits - All done online
 - [Lakeland](#), [KSU Geauga](#)
 - [Akron](#), [CWRU](#), [OSU](#)
 - Best time is when school is in session

Three stylized green leaves of varying sizes and shades are arranged in the top-left corner. The largest leaf is a medium green, while the two smaller ones are a darker green.

Campus Visit Tips

- Ask About Visit Options
 - Can you sit in on a class? Talk to financial aid? Speak to advisor or professor? Make the most of your visits.
- Ask Questions
 - Ask tour guide, but don't be afraid to ask students what they think about the school, campus, and programs.
- Be Aware You are Being Shown the Best
- Consider Visiting More than Once if You Like a School



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Gather Information Online

- Your High School Tools: Naviance, Scoir, SchoolLinks
- Ohio Career Information Systems (OCIS)
 - Username: LEAF
 - Password: 4OCISLeaf2016
 - School Sort
- US News & World Report
 - Best Engineering Programs in Ohio
- College Websites
 - OSU



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Timeline: Summer before 12th Grade

- Do what you love. Or just do something!
 - Work
 - Volunteer
 - Investigate summer opportunities
- College Essay Draft (Common App for prompts)
- Retake ACT/SAT
- Visit Schools if have not done so
- Finalize list of schools to apply



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Timeline: Fall of 12th Grade

- Create Common App Account
- Confirm Recommendation Letters
- Apply to colleges in EARLY fall of senior year (by November 1 or EARLIER)
- Admission Types: Check to see if these are offered at the college/university
 - Early Action
 - Early Decision
 - Regular Decision
 - Rolling Admission



A stylized green leaf graphic consisting of two overlapping leaf shapes, one larger and darker green, and one smaller and lighter green.

Timeline: 12th Grade Continued

- File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) after October 1**
 - **December 2023 (one time change) will go back to October 1 in 2024.
- Look and apply for scholarships all year
 - Peak scholarship season is January until Mid-March
- Wait until receiving all Financial Aid Offers before deciding which school to attend
- Pay deposit by May 1st to accept FAO





What is Financial Aid?

- How a student pays for postsecondary education
 - Grants and Scholarships (“gift aid”)
 - Loans and Work-Study (“self-help”)
- FA comes from federal, state, institutional & outside sources.
- Reality: FA NOT keeping up with the rising costs of a postsecondary education.



Financial Aid

- Student applies in the fall of senior year
 - Applications, FAFSA, CSS Profile, Scholarships
- Curious about cost of schools, check Net price calculators
 - Google “(School) Net Price Calculator”
 - [Kent State Net Price Calculator](#)
- Financial Aid Presentation in Fall (in-person and virtual options)

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The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Filing the FAFSA is the first step in applying for financial aid in **October of Senior Year***
 - A few colleges also require the CSS Profile (found at collegeboard.org), which is a more inclusive financial aid application, and also available in October of senior year.
- The FAFSA is required for most federal, state, and institutional aid.
- The processed FAFSA yields a Student Aid Index (SAI) which the college uses in a federal formula to award aid.
- File the FAFSA for free at fafsa.gov.

Scholarship Search

- Institutional Scholarships
(usually fall deadlines)
 - Academic/Merit-based
 - Admissions Office
 - Need-based/Endowed
 - Financial Aid Office
- Outside Scholarships
(November - May of senior year)
 - Local organizations
 - Scholarship websites
 - Workplace

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ACT/SAT Test Prep Agenda

- Should you take it?
 - ~50% of students in Class of 2022 have submitted applications to test optional schools with a SAT/ACT score
- Take advantage of Test Prep
- Retake ACT/SAT in Summer before Senior Year
- Utilize online resources and tips



ACT/SAT Preparation



- Work hard in school
- Read regularly
- Prepare with a test prep program at least two months in advance
- Familiarize yourself with the format/timing of the test
- Look for a program that offers diagnostic testing and one-to-one tutoring tailored to your individual needs

ACT/SAT Preparation

A circular graphic with a dark teal background and a white border. The text "WHEN TEST DAY ARRIVES" is written in white, bold, uppercase letters, centered within the circle.

**WHEN
TEST DAY
ARRIVES**

- Get plenty of sleep
- Take a shower and complete your normal morning routine
- Eat a good breakfast and stay hydrated
- Wear comfortable clothes and dress in layers
- Know the driving route to your testing site
- Bring you calculator and make sure it's charged
- Bring several sharpened pencils
- Bring a small snack and a water bottle
- Stay calm

Free Online Resources

- actstudent.org
- collegeboard.org
- number2.com
- khanacademy.org
- vocabulary.com
- kaptest.com



College Athletics

- What level can you play or want to play?
 - Conversation with coach/club coach
 - Weigh pros and cons
 - NCAA DI, D2, D3, NAIA, NJCAA
- Create athletic resume and contact college coaches via email or recruiting forms as a Junior
- Fill out [NCAA Eligibility Center](#) if pursuing NCAA D1 or D2
- Focus on what you want to accomplish long term, not short term



Online Resources



Career Research

- Ohiomeansjobs.org
- Onetonline.org

College Research

- portal.ocis.intocareers.org
Username: LEAF
Password: 4OCISLeaf2016
- ohiohighered.org
- princetonreview.com
- opuac.org (public Ohio schools)
- aicuo.edu (private Ohio schools)

Financial Aid Information

- finaid.org
- studentaid.gov
- fafsa.gov
- ohiohighered.org
- Net price calculators on every college website
- collegegold.com

Scholarship Search

- leaf-ohio.org (local)
- fastweb.com (national)
- ohiohighered.org (Ohio)
- Your high school counselor's page



Questions?

Ms. Sarah Treen - LEAF
Career & College Advisor
streen@leaf-ohio.org

www.leaf-ohio.org

