



Junior FAQ Sheet

SUNRISE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2025

Am I on track to graduate?	Juniors should currently have 16 credits and should finish this year with 24 credits. 28 are required to graduate. By the end of junior year, at <u>minimum</u> 20 credits should be earned.
What do I do if I am behind on credits for graduation?	Students behind on credits should meet with their counselor ASAP to make a Graduation Plan. Counselors work with students and parents to map out a plan for recovery.
Are there any test requirements for graduation?	Arizona requires every student to pass an American Civics Test . This is a 100-question test, students must get at least a 70% to pass. Most students have already passed; retakes are given three times throughout the year. Study materials and information about the test can be found on the state website at: http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/learners/study-test/study-materials-civics-test
What is the ASVAB test?	The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a timed multi-aptitude test given in November this year (TBD and is subject to change). The scores determine if you are qualified to enlist in the U.S. military. Stop by the Career Center.
What are the 16 core University Admission requirements?	Students must have C's or better in their core classes to attend AZ in-state Universities. This includes: 4 English credits, 4 Math, 3 Science, 2 Social Studies, 2 World Language credits*, and 1 Fine Art or CTE credit. Students planning on going out-of-state OR to a private college (like GCU) should check the admission requirements with the school directly. Requirements change yearly so check with your college representative.
Which standardized tests should I take (PSAT/ACT/SAT)?	Only students planning to go straight to a 4-year University after graduation many times need an ACT/SAT score for admission or scholarships. Students planning to go to a Community College first do <u>not</u> need an ACT/SAT score to attend, just your HS diploma. <u>All JUNIORS will take the ACT for FREE at Sunrise Mountain High School in the spring.</u>
When should I research colleges?	Research early so you and your family can start planning. Start planning now for how you will finance college as well. District College Night – September 18 th at Centennial High School – TBD
I am interested in playing college sports, what do I need to do next?	Talk to your coaches and counselor. If you are planning to play at a Division I or II school, you must be “registered and cleared” before you can talk to college coaches or go on visits. See NCAA website for more details. https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/ This process begins your sophomore year for NCAA Division I and II schools. NAIA is another college athletics organization. Arizona Christian is the only school in AZ that falls under NAIA, but many out of state schools do.
How do I find scholarships? When do I apply?	There are many types of financial aid, including grants, loans, and scholarships. Students can look in the following places: college scholarship database, our career center located in our library, fastweb.com, and school links found on the student portal.
How do I request transcripts?	Unofficial transcripts can be found in studentvue under Course History. Official transcripts must come from the records office and in most cases, must be sent directly to the school/coach/scholarship program. You can also do this online for a fee at www.parchment.com .
When do I apply for Financial Aid for college?	Every student should complete a federal financial aid form (FAFSA). This should be completed during a students' senior year. FAFSA is based on parent's income and financial aid is based on the previous year tax data. Plan ahead regarding financing college!
How do my parents and I get information from Sunrise Mountain?	Information will come to students/families during 2 nd hour announcements, student email, the weekly Sway email from administration, Facebook, and the SMHS Guidance webpage.

Post-Secondary Planning for Juniors

Graduation and University Checklist:

Subjects	Graduation Requirements	AZ University Admission Requirements
English	4 credits	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits	4 credits
Science	3 credits	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits	2 credits
PE *	1 credit	--
Fine Art <u>or</u> CTE	1 credit	1 credit
World Language	--	2 credits (same language)
Core Classes	16 credits	16 credits (all "C" or better)
Elective Classes	12 credits	
Total	28 credits	

Interested in the Military?

* Require a high school diploma.

* Academies and ROTC Scholarships are *VERY Competitive!*

Websites: <http://todaysmilitary.com/>

<http://www.military.com/education>

<http://official-asvab.com/>

Planning to attend a University?

Our in-state universities require:

- 3.0 Core GPA or
- Top 25% in Class or
- ACT – 22 or SAT- 1040

** Requirements can change year to year.

Helpful Websites for University Bound Students:

NCAA - www.eligibilitycenter.org

NAIA - www.playnaia.org

ACT - www.actstudent.org

SAT- www.collegeboard.com

Scholarship sites: www.fastweb.com

Community Colleges

Community college can be a more affordable way to start your education, or it can be a means to a technical certificate or two-year degree. Arizona has several public two-year/community college options. The best time to apply to community colleges is in the spring of senior year. Community colleges require a high school diploma and students must take placement tests in math, reading and writing.

Remember if you have earned dual credit, you already have a community college transcript!

Technical/Trade Schools

Technical Schools are another option for those pursuing a trade. Depending on the career/skill you are seeking there can be many different schools to choose from. It is important to research these schools. Take the following into consideration when searching for a Technical School:

- Length of time to earn the certificate
- Cost of the school
- Do they offer job placement after certification/graduation?
- Do they offer internships?

Are scholarships and financial-aid available at these schools?

YES! Community colleges and Technical/trade schools offer financial aid. Students should complete the FAFSA (check out the Financial Aid page on this site). Maricopa County Community Colleges offer the Presidential Scholarship, if awarded this covers full tuition for up to four semesters. [Maricopa Honors Information and Presidential Application](#)

Maricopa County Community Colleges

Maricopa county has ten community colleges to choose from. In PUSD most dual enrollment is through Glendale Community College, Gateway and Estrella Mountain. All Schools share one website: [Maricopa Community Colleges](#)