

CSCS 2019-2020 SENIOR PACKET



**- IMPORTANT INFORMATION INSIDE FOR -
CSCS SENIOR**



ORDERING YOUR CSCS HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

All CSCS high school transcript requests are processed through Parchment, an electronic delivery system for educational records. Parchment offers students the ability to easily request transcripts and unofficial ACT/SAT test scores online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is no charge for electronic credentials for current students, but there is a fee of \$3.95 per transcript for alumni beginning August 1st of their graduation year. To set up an account, please follow the steps below...

Step 1: Go to www.parchment.com/u/registration/185333/account

Step 2: Choose **New Learner Account**. It's important that the student create the account for himself/herself. Creating a parent account is not recommended. If you have a registration code, please use it. However, it is not required to set up your account.
Important: Do not use a CSCS student email to set up an account since student accounts are deactivated soon after graduation.

Step 3: Enter the information requested to complete the registration process.

Step 4: Once your account is set up, you may order transcripts or test scores (otherwise referred to as "Credentials") at any time by choosing "Order Your Transcript" or "Order your Unofficial Test Scores" located on the main Dashboard page.

Important things to note...

- **IF YOU ARE APPLYING TO A COLLEGE THROUGH COMMON APP, PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT A TRANSCRIPT REQUEST THROUGH PARCHMENT.** Counselors will continue to upload your transcript directly to the Common App portal on your behalf once you have finished your application.
- If you want Parchment to send unofficial test scores (ACT and/or SAT), you must place an order for test scores in the same way you order your transcript on the Dashboard page. Note: If the college requires official test scores, you must request your scores to be sent directly from the testing agencies. Order them at www.Collegeboard.org for the SAT and at www.ACT.org for the ACT.
- If you are asked during the order process if you want an electronic copy or a paper copy of your transcript, it is best to choose an electronic copy, if possible. If you request a paper copy, you may be charged a fee and it will take longer to fill your request.
- Filling out ALL of the profile information on the Parchment site is NOT necessary unless you are interested in the additional tools offered on the Dashboard. We suggest only entering the required information designated by an (*). Therefore, it is not necessary to have your current GPA to set up a standard Parchment account.
- **WARNING:** If you tell Parchment that you want colleges to have information about you, they are then authorized to give your contact information out to those colleges and you will receive marketing information. Please make sure that you are okay with this before adding schools to your profile.

If you need assistance... If you have questions regarding setting up your Parchment account or sending credentials through this service, please contact the CSCS high school registrar for assistance:

Janet Kneram | Phone: (719) 268-2175 | Email: janet.kneram@cscslions.org

SENIOR timeline

SEPTEMBER

- ❑ **Sign up to take the September ACT or October SAT** if you are not satisfied with your previous scores. If you haven't yet taken the ACT and/or SAT, sign up for one or both of these tests. Each are given approximately six times per year.
- ❑ Work with your parents and Counselor to **narrow your list to three to five colleges** (if your plan includes a four-year college next year).
- ❑ **Schedule a more in-depth "senior interview" with your Counselor to keep working through your plans.** Acceptable times to have one would be during a study hall, before or after school, during a teacher aide period (if applicable and with teacher's consent), over a lunch period, etc. Parents are welcome to attend as well. Be sure that the school list you're compiling includes at least one or more colleges that are appropriate for your academic and personal record. Review your academic/personal records with your Counselor to ensure their accuracy.
- ❑ **Write/Call/Go Online to the colleges still on your list and request applications** if they're not already in your possession.
- ❑ **Begin to gather the information needed for the applications.** Make sure you're compiling every item they are requesting (application, fees, transcript, essay, recommendations, etc.).
- ❑ **Schedule/attend college visitations and meet with college admissions representatives** at CSCS when/if they visit. Check in the Counseling office for dates and times. If specific college reps do not visit CSCS you could either check with the college to see if they will be in the Colorado Springs area at another location or you could contact the alumni office to get the names of any alumni that live in the area if possible for further information. You could also schedule a visit to go to the school if it's within your family's abilities and means.
- ❑ **Develop your High School Resume** in English Class to streamline the application process (first couple of weeks in Mrs. Goss' or Mrs. Borkert's class) and line up two to three faculty members who would know you well enough and be willing to write you a letter of recommendation if the application requires it. Give them at least two week's advance notice before expecting it back. Letters of recommendation should typically remain confidential and go directly to the college. Confidential recommendations hold more weight because they provide a more candid assessment of you and your abilities. Provide pre-addressed, stamped envelopes for your recommenders to mail the recommendations in if an online link is unavailable.
- ❑ If you intend on playing college-level sports during your Freshman year, particularly at a Division I or II school, you will want to **obtain an NCAA Clearinghouse application form** from the Counseling office or online at www.NCAA.org. Talk with your coaches about other concerns or questions you may have.

- ❑ If you haven't already done so, begin to **research opportunities for scholarships** through the Counseling office and other sources. We encourage you to apply for many scholarships, but caution you not to count on financing your whole education this way. If you have internet capabilities at home, there's lots of sites you can start researching right from home.

OCTOBER

- ❑ If you have not already done so, **set up a Parchment account** so you can send transcripts to the colleges to which you are applying (see sheet in this packet for info).
- ❑ **Determine the deadlines for your applications.** Deadlines for early admission vary from college to college. Try to complete all your applications before Christmas break - by Thanksgiving break is even better. Many application deadlines or priority deadlines fall on Jan. 1, Jan. 15, Feb. 1, Feb. 15, or Mar. 1. Some of the highly selective colleges have deadlines before Christmas break. Make copies of everything and keep in a file.
- ❑ **Attend College Fairs in your area**, especially if you didn't go last year, and obtain more info so you can continue to narrow your options.
- ❑ Due to recent changes in the Federal Student Aid process, your parents and you can now create an account at <https://fafsa.gov/> and **complete the FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) starting October 1, 2019 using 2018 tax information. Even for students and their parents who don't think they'll qualify for financial aid, it still is advisable to complete the application and have it on file for colleges to reference.

NOVEMBER

- ❑ **Continue filing applications to colleges.**

DECEMBER

- ❑ **Be sure ACT/SAT scores have been sent to colleges on your list.** ACT and College Board (SAT) have made moves to allow students to customize their score reporting to a greater degree. Double-check score reporting policies at your prospective schools.
- ❑ **Make sure all of your applications have been submitted.** Certain state colleges, 2-year colleges, proprietary schools, mission organizations, private colleges and components of the military will have later deadlines than this, but the general principle of "the earlier, the better" holds true.
- ❑ Plan to **attend the anticipated Financial Aid Night Seminar held at CSCS in January** to get more in depth information on the financial aid process and different types of aid.

JANUARY

- ❑ If you've already submitted all your applications, this is really the time **to kick the scholarship search into high gear.**

- Keep working on your grades.** Don't start to fade now! Courses continue to count regarding admissions decisions throughout SECOND SEMESTER of the senior year. Colleges you apply to will not only want a mid-year report of your grades, but also an end-of-the-year report. They reserve the right to rescind an offer of admission if there is a sudden drop in grades.

FEBRUARY

- Remember to **monitor your applications** to be sure that all materials are sent and received on time.

MARCH

- Watch for acceptance letters** which will begin arriving in the March - May timeframe. Schools on rolling admissions will let you know of their decision as soon as they can process your application. If you are placed on a waiting list, follow up with a letter expressing your continued interest and let them know about current grades and other activities that might boost your chances of acceptance. Don't panic if you don't have any acceptances at this point. God is always in control and plenty of good schools will still have openings. Ask your Counselor for help.

APRIL

- Answer your mail from colleges** regarding financial aid awards, housing, etc. Follow-up is important! *Keep all offer letters, whether you accept the scholarship or not, so you can fill out your CSCS Grad Packet Forms that will be passed out this month.*
- Unless you applied Early Action or Early Decision, decide on the college you will attend by May 1.** Send the tuition deposit, if required. Congratulations, you've just completed a difficult task!
- Once a decision is made, **notify the colleges you do not plan to attend in the Fall.**

MAY

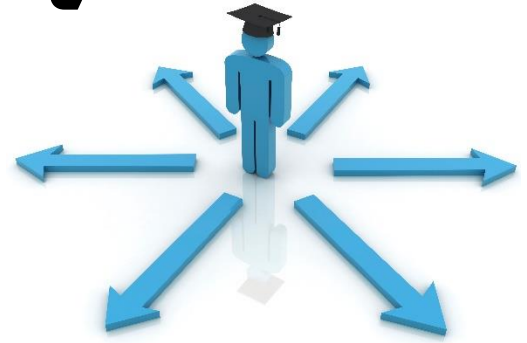
- Take AP (Advanced Placement) exams**, if applicable.

JUNE thru AUGUST

- You can use summer job earnings to help cover expenses your freshman year. If you work, **try to find a job in some way related to your career interests.**
- If your college offers it, **take advantage of preregistration for freshmen, as well as other programs, to ensure a smooth transition from high school to college.** Get involved right away!

tips for...

Choosing the Right College



Things You Can Do:

- **PRAY.** Include God in every step of the process.
- **TALK TO PARENTS.**
 - They are integral partners in the process.
 - Consider current circumstances and finances.
- **KNOW YOURSELF.** Personal Profile, Preferences, Propensities.
- **INTERVIEW THEM.** Make schools tell you about themselves.
- **FORM PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH ADMISSIONS REPS.**
 - This person is your advocate, coach, and source of information.
- **MEET WITH SCHOOL COUNSELORS AND OTHER TRUSTED ADVISORS.**
- **MAKE COLLEGE VISITS.** Don't leave things to chance.
- **TALK WITH COLLEGE REPS.** Many come to the school and/or area.
- **ATTEND COLLEGE FAIRS.**
- **USE ONLINE SEARCHES TO RESEARCH SCHOOLS.**
- Access **REFERENCE MATERIALS.**
 - CSCS Guidance Office
 - Online
 - Bookstore/library

Things To Take Into Consideration:

- **TYPE OF SCHOOL**
 - Christian, secular, large research university, state university, private liberal arts college, Ivy League, community college, military academy, vocational/technical school, Bible college, missionary organization, online, proprietary schools, etc.
- **LOCATION OF SCHOOL**
 - In-state, out-of-state, rural, suburban, urban, residential, commuter campus, etc.
- **REVIEWS/RANKINGS**
 - Keep in mind that reviews only tell part of the story, the same way a resume only tells part of your story.

- **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**
 - Consider likelihood of being admitted, selectivity.
- **PROGRAMS OF STUDY**
 - Degree offerings, number of degrees and types.
- **LEVEL OF PERSONAL ATTENTION THEY CAN GIVE**
 - Student to faculty ratios
 - Academic support services available
 - Opportunities for spiritual development
- **TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDITS**
 - Dual Credit
 - Advanced Placement
- **THE COST**
 - Financial aid available
 - Incentives for coming
 - Scholarship eligibility
- **RESIDENTIAL NEEDS**
 - Type of housing
 - Safety
 - Access
 - Facilities
 - Proximity
- **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS**
 - Division I or II athletic programs
 - ROTC programs
 - Clubs, recreation
- **ACADEMIC RIGOR**
- **CAREER SERVICES**
 - Placement rates of graduates
 - Internship opportunities



What do Admissions Committees Consider in an Applicant?

- Did the applicant challenge himself/herself to the greatest extent possible within the context of his/her school (core curriculum, extracurricular, leadership, service, academic enrichment)?
- What will they bring/contribute to the overall school environment/culture?
- What kind of student will they be in the classroom?
- Do they have an opinion of their own and can they defend it? Are they their own thinker?
- Do they take ownership for things? What's their maturity level?
- How much do they know about the school? What are their motives for attending?
- What's their likelihood of success? Are they a good investment? A good risk?
- How did they develop over the four years?
- Do they have a sense of direction and what they want out of life?
- How did they deal with setbacks and/or adversity?
- Are they a "serial joiner" or did they stick with something over time?
- What's compelling about their story or their journey so far?
- Do others' comments about them corroborate what they say about themselves?
- Are there any unexplained shifts or irregularities in grades/performance?
- How did they handle their senior year?
- What about their character? Do they demonstrate integrity? Humility?
- How well do they express themselves in writing?
- Did they meet all deadlines? Did they follow all directions?
- How many other schools are they applying to?
- What's their level of curiosity, motivation, ability to grasp difficult concepts, contribution to class discussion and other academic qualities?
- If they were waitlisted, did they show persistence?

* Notice that grades and test scores are not listed above. They are a given, but clearly not the only thing admissions committees look at when considering an applicant.

FINANCING: A Multi-Pronged Approach



- ☞ **Advanced Placement and Transfer Credit (AP, Dual-Credit, PSEO, CLEP)**
 - ☞ **Stay in state (COF: \$94 per credit hr at Public, \$47 per credit hr at private up to 145 hrs)**
 - ☞ **Regional Tuition Discounts: Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)**
<http://www.wiche.edu/wue>
 - ☞ **Scholarships: Institutional, At-Large (Corporations, Professional Organizations, Private Organizations, Foundations, Non-Profits, Affiliations, Industry Associations and Organizations), Athletic, and Military.**
 - ☞ **Work-Study and Assistantships (Working on campus)**
 - ☞ **Consolidate/minimize loans. Loan Cancellation/Forgiveness Programs for entering certain fields of study, sectors of the workforce and/or working with underserved or disadvantaged populations.**
 - ☞ **Articulation agreements with Community Colleges and guaranteed transferability (60+60).**
 - ☞ **Savings Plans and Tax Incentives (529's, ESA's, IRA withdrawals, prepaid tuitions funds, tax credits, tax deductions, loan interest deductions)**
 - ☞ **Accelerate academic program by taking summer, online, Interim/Winterim/J-Term courses.**
 - ☞ **Used textbooks, rented textbooks, electronic textbooks.**
 - ☞ **Living at home.**
 - ☞ **Employer tuition reimbursement programs, if available.**
 - ☞ **Fixed-Tuition Degree Programs (Locking tuition rate for four years)**
 - ☞ **Military**
 - ☞ **Other In-State Incentives (Boettcher, CSU Commitment to Colorado, CU's Guaranteed Transferability from Community Colleges)**
 - ☞ **Federal, State, Institutional Loans.**
 - ☞ **Family and/or friend gifting, crowd funding.**
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The College Opportunity Fund

The College Opportunity Fund (COF), created by the Colorado Legislature, provides a stipend to eligible undergraduate students. The stipend pays a portion of your total in-state tuition when you attend a participating college. Eligible undergraduate students must apply, be admitted, and enroll in classes at a participating college to receive this benefit. Both new and continuing students are eligible for the stipend. Students who do not apply will be responsible for the full amount of in-state tuition.

Current Tuition Stipend...

Public Institution	\$94.00 per credit hr	15 credit hrs/sem (30/year)	\$2,820 for the year
Private Institution	\$47.00 per credit hr	15 credit hrs/sem (30/year)	\$1,410 for the year

Qualifying students may use the stipend for eligible undergraduate classes. The stipend is paid to the institution at which the student is enrolled (see list of participating schools on the back). The amount of per credit hour funding is set annually by the Colorado Legislature. Each eligible undergraduate student can receive stipend funding for up to 145 credit hours. Certain exceptions may be made to the credit hour limit with an approved waiver.

Eligibility Requirements...

If you attend a participating Colorado PUBLIC college or university:

- There are no income qualifications.
- You can be a part-time or full-time student.
- You must be an undergraduate student
- You must be classified as an in-state student for tuition purposes, as determined by the college.

If you attend a participating Colorado PRIVATE college or university:

- You must demonstrate financial need through eligibility for the federal Pell Grant.
- You can be a part-time or full-time student.
- You must be an undergraduate student.
- You must be classified as an in-state student for tuition purposes, as determined by the college.
- You must have graduated from a high school in the state of Colorado or completed a non-public home-based educational program in Colorado.

Additional Info...

- You must be at least 13 years of age to apply.
- You need only apply once.
- You can apply now - you do not need to know what college you will ultimately attend.

Participating Colleges and Universities...

Four-Year PUBLIC Institutions

- Adams State University
- Colorado School of Mines
- Colorado State University
- Colorado State University - Pueblo
- Fort Lewis College
- Colorado Mesa University
- Metropolitan State University of Denver
- University of Colorado - Boulder
- University of Colorado - Colorado Springs
- University of Colorado - Denver
- University of Northern Colorado
- Western Colorado University

Two-Year PUBLIC Institutions

- Arapahoe Community College
- Colorado Northwestern Community College
- Community College of Aurora
- Community College of Denver
- Front Range Community College
- Lamar Community College
- Morgan Community College
- Northeastern Junior College
- Otero Junior College
- Pikes Peak Community College
- Pueblo Community College
- Red Rocks Community College
- Trinidad State Junior College

PRIVATE Institutions

- Colorado Christian University
- Regis University
- University of Denver

COLLEGE PLANNING RESOURCES



- Always begin your financial aid and scholarship process by researching your specific college or university's funding options.
- Many of the websites listed here have tools in multiple categories; so it is worthwhile to invest some time.
- Watch the weekly CSCHS Eblast for specific scholarship postings.
- Feel free to stop in and talk to the High School Counselors for additional resources. They are there to help!

SCHOLARSHIP SEARCHES

Here are some sites we recommend that help you identify and apply for scholarships:

- GOINGMERRY.COM
- SCHOLARSNAPP.ORG

Other helpful search engines:

- COLLEGEINCOLORADO.ORG
- TUITIONFUNDINGSOURCES.COM
- BIGFUTURE.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG
- UNIGO.COM
- SCHOLARSHIPS.COM
- COLLEGEANSWER.COM
- FASTWEB.COM

FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

Financial Aid begins with completing the FAFSA! Start here...

- FAFSA.ED.GOV
- STUDENTAID.ED.GOV

Other great places to learn about Financial Aid and Scholarships:

- COLLEGECONFIDENTIAL.COM
- SAVINGFORCOLLEGE.COM
- ESTUDENTLOAN.COM
- PRINCETONREVIEW.COM

Going to school in Colorado?

Be sure to register for COF – The Colorado Opportunity Fund!

[//HIGHERED.COLORADO.GOV/FINANCE/COF/](http://HIGHERED.COLORADO.GOV/FINANCE/COF/)

PLANNING & APPLICATION

Simplify your application process with these apps & their partner schools:

- COMMONAPP.ORG
- APPLICATIONU.COM

Compare schools and gather data:

- COLLEGESCORECARD.ED.GOV
- NCES.ED.GOV
- COLLEGEDATA.COM
- NACAC.COM

Needing some career planning tools or assessments?

- PRINCETONREVIEW.COM/QUIZ/CAREER-QUIZ
- MYCOLORADOJOURNEY.COM/JOURNEY/TOOLS
- *Your test results from ACT/SAT series tests have some analysis and links to further explore!*

OTHER COOL RESOURCES

RAISE.ME

GREAT FOR 9th – 12th GRADE!
Micro-scholarship opportunities and a great way to track your high school achievements!

THECOLLEGEFUNDINGCOACH.ORG
Individual financial planning consultations for families at any stage of college funding preparation.

Planning on playing a sport in college? Make sure you're in the know with these resources:

NCAA Eligibility Center:
NCAA.ORG/STUDENT-ATHLETES/FUTURE

NCAA Timelines:
COLLEGEATHLETICADVISOR.COM/DUALTRACKTIMELINE

NCAA Scholarship Information:
COLLEGESPORTSSCHOLARSHIPS.COM/NCAA-ELIGIBILITY-CENTER.HTM



COLLEGE APPLICATIONS for INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**Highlighted Items are those that are applicable ONLY to International Students*

Documents/information you will have to submit:

- **Special undergraduate application** or regular/standard application with “International Student” indicated as classification. (Check with institution)
- GPA/Class Rank
- College Prep Curriculum (Math, Science, English, and Social Studies)
- **Foreign Language Requirement.** Varies by institution. Many schools will waive this requirement since international students already have proficiency in a second language.
- **ACT/SAT Test Scores:** No set “handicap” given necessarily to international students on these tests because English is their second language. Scores are scrutinized, but the fact that English is not their native language is taken into consideration. Bottom line: The college is trying to determine likelihood of success.
- **TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or IELTS (International English Language Testing System) Scores.** TOEFL is internet-based and can be registered for on line. It may be required for all international students (depending on the institution) or for only certain applicants who have lower scores in English proficiency on tests like the ACT/SAT.
- **Other Factors: Letters of recommendation, extracurricular activities, responses to personal essay questions, and interview**
- **Official High School Transcript and Application Fee**
- **Immigration Documents: I-20, F-1, I-94.** The High School releases the student’s records to the college’s control. The college issues a new I-20 and the student obtains an F-1 Visa with a new expiration date.
- **Proof of Immunizations**
- **Financial Eligibility Form,** accompanied by documentation from financial institution, verifying family’s ability to pay. (Parents usually have to sign off as student’s “sponsor.” International students pay higher non-resident tuition rates.)

NOTE: Once the student is admitted, the ESL program monitors the student’s progress. They offer tutoring and other academic services. (Program differs by college, but all should have an Academic Support Services Office.)

IMPORTANT GRADUATION DATES TO NOTE, 2020

- **Senior Lunch with Mr. Young - Monday, May 11, 11:05 am**
 - **Senior Walk / Cap and Gown Distribution - Monday, May 11, 12:10 pm -**
 - **Senior Recognition Assembly - Monday, May 11, 12:30 pm - CSCS Auditorium**
 - **Senior Finals - Monday thru Wednesday, May 19-21 (See finals policy)**
 - **Graduation Practice - Thursday, May 21, 9:00 am**
 - **Rocky Mountain Calvary Chapel - 4285 N. Academy Blvd**
 - **Class Picture - Thursday, May 21. 6:00 pm, (Seniors arrive at 5:45 pm)**
 - **Woodmen Valley Chapel Rockrimmon Campus - 290 E. Woodmen Road**
 - **Baccalaureate Service - Thursday, May 21, 7:00 pm,**
 - **Woodmen Valley Chapel - 290 E. Woodmen Road**
 - ~ The Blessing - The blessing has been a part of the Baccalaureate ceremony since 1998 and is one of the most meaningful facets of graduation. The “blessing” is an opportunity for parents to share and pray with their student. Here are some details outlining the event:
 - ~ At the conclusion of the Baccalaureate service, the senior class will be directed to form a circle around the sanctuary. Watch where your senior goes so you may join them when invited.
 - ~ Family members will then be asked to join their student.
 - ~ Parents, family, and friends invited by you will share blessings with the graduate privately in groups around the sanctuary.
 - ~ The blessing is generally 3-5 minutes long. Accomplishments, along with hopes and desires for each student as he/she moves into adulthood, are typically included in the blessing. It may be written or said in the form of a prayer, a poem, a collection of thoughts and memories.
 - ~ The entire family is welcome to join in this special time.
 - **Graduation Ceremony - Friday, May 22, 10:00 am (Seniors Arrive at 9 am)**
 - **Rocky Mountain Calvary Chapel**
 - **4285 N. Academy Blvd**
- ~ Attire for both Graduation and Baccalaureate: Young ladies: dress shoes, a skirt shorter than the length of the gown, and a top that does not show above the collar of the gown. Young men: dress shoes, dark dress pants, and a white collared dress shirt. **Blue jeans, shorts, tennis shoes, and flip flops are not allowed** at either service. **Don't forget your cap, gown, and tassel. No decorating allowed.**



FINAL EXAM AND ATTENDANCE POLICY/PERK FOR SENIORS

SECOND SEMESTER ~ 2019/20 SCHOOL YEAR

The final exam policy applies to seniors for SECOND SEMESTER ONLY.

All seniors will be required to take final exams for the second semester unless **BOTH** of the following conditions are met:

- ◆ **Grades:** 85% (B) semester average
- ◆ **Attendance:**
 - ◆ No more than 5 unapproved absences for the entire second semester.
 - ◆ **Approved Absences** NOT counted against the total:
 - ◆ School Initiated (early dismissal, field trip, etc.)
 - ◆ **Unapproved Absences** counted against the total:
 - ◆ All illness-related absences (sickness, doctor visits, hospitalizations, bereavement, etc.)
 - ◆ All family-initiated absences (family trips, vacations, mission trips, work, convenience, etc.)
- ◆ With a signed document from the college representative, seniors may miss an additional three days for college visitations. These will not count against the total if a signed note is brought to the office upon return.

AP and All College Credit Courses:

- ◆ All students in AP and dual-credit courses are expected to take the final exam whether or not they are taking the course for college credit. The semester average and attendance exemptions listed above do not apply to these courses.

Online Instruction Days (Moodle):

- ◆ Not logging into Moodle counts against you as an unapproved absence.
- ◆ You must log into each class to be considered present.

*Official attendance records are kept in the high school office.
Contact Mrs. Eng at 535-2727 if you have any
questions regarding attendance.*

