



Senior Student  
Post-Secondary  
Plans



College, Career,  
Military, Other.

# Hamburg Area HS

CLICK SLIDE SHOW to watch. Also, many links are embedded. Click on page to open links!

## On the agenda:

- Review: Credits and Graduation Requirements
- Trade or Apprenticeship
- Going Military?
- College Planning and Applying
- Parchment: **Transcript Request**
- Financial-Aid/Scholarship

## Graduation Requirements

### HAHS

- English 4 Credits
  - History 4 Credits
  - Math 3 Credits
  - Science 3 Credits
  - Math/Sci/Engi. 2 Credits
  - Wellness 2 Credits
  - Fine Arts 0.5 Credits
  - Computer 0.5 Credits
  - Personal Fin 0.5 Credits
  - Electives 4.50 Credits
- = 24.0 to Graduate

### Know your credits

If you failed a class, have you  
made it up?

## Graduation Requirements

### STATE (ACT 158)

### Work with HR Advisor on plan.

If you have not yet met the  
requirement, kick it in high  
gear.

# How do you know what your post-secondary plans are?

- Have you thought about a career?
- What research have you done to date?
- What makes you happy?
- Is college for you? 4 year or 2 year?
  - If college, have you thought about why? Does your career require it?
- Job Shadow- get into the workforce and see what is out there.
- Use resources to search fields of interest
  - [US Bureau Labor & Statistics](#)
  - [PA Career Zone](#)
- Mrs. Del Conte- Career Specialist
  - HS Library [shadel@hasdhawks.org](mailto:shadel@hasdhawks.org)

- Be resourceful
- Take initiative
- Know what you should be doing on your own and when to ask for help

1-2-7

# Trade or Apprentice program

## •BCTC Adult programs-

<https://berkscareer.com/ace/>

## •Thaddeus Stevens- Lancaster

<https://stevenscollege.edu/>

## •BTI <https://www.berks.edu/why-berks/>

## •LCCC Lehigh Carbon Community

<https://www.lccc.edu/academics/academic-programs>

## •Triangle Tech- Bethlehem

<https://triangle-tech.edu/locations/bethlehem>

- Offers Welding, Carpentry, Maintenance & CADD

## A few Union/Apprentice options:

### ● Iron Workers Local 404- Harrisburg

<https://www.ironworkerslocal404.org/training.aspx?zone=training&plD=6835>

### ● IBEW (Electrical)Local 743- Reading

<https://ibewlocal743.org/>

### ● Sheet Metal Workers Union 19-

Hamburg & Philly <https://www.smartlu19.org/>

### ● Local 1174 Construction- Allentown

<https://liunalocal1174.com/>

### ● Plumber Pipefitter Local 520- Harrisburg

<http://www.local520.com/apprenticeship.aspx?zone=apprenticeship&plD=6011>

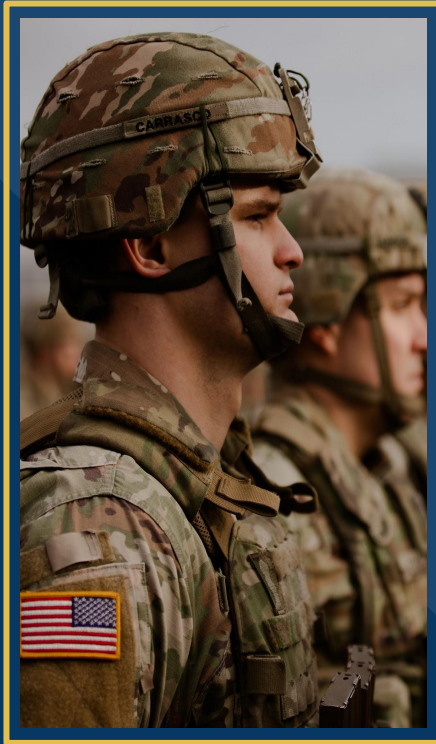
### ● Steamfitters Local 420- Philly and

surrounding areas <http://www.lu420.com/index.aspx>

### ● Heavy Equipment Union- Philly and

surrounding- <https://www.iuoe.org/>

# Military Bound



- **Discuss** plans with family
- **Determine** branch by researching options

**ASVAB**

ASVAB-for military & college-bound students.

**OCT 18th @ HAHS**

Sign up with form in HS Counseling Office

- **Active Duty**

Army, Marines, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard

- **Reserve**

Army, Marines, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard

- **National Guard**

Army or Air Force

- **Coast Guard**

- **Military Academies**

- **Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, Navy**



**Contact** a recruiter- use recruiter finder tool on military branch website





# College-Bound

The Application Process

01

## Create a list of colleges

Research  
Variety  
Visit

02

## Apply

Follow the directions!  
College Application or Common  
Application

03

## Send application documents

Transcript  
Recommendation Letters  
Application fee \$\$  
Portfolio \*  
Writing sample \*  
Interview \*

04

## Financial Aid & Scholarship

FAFSA  
PHEAA  
College-specific scholarships  
Outside scholarships





01

## CREATE LIST

Research  
Variety  
Visit

01

Create List

## Use College Match Programs

### Search by:

- Location
- Major
- Size
- Selectivity
- Cost \$

College athlete?  
Register with the [NCAA](#)



U.S. News & World Report



PETERSON'S

EDUCATION  
PLANNER.org



CollegeBoard

Select 4-8  
Schools

Safety  
Good Fit  
Reach



## Safety Schools

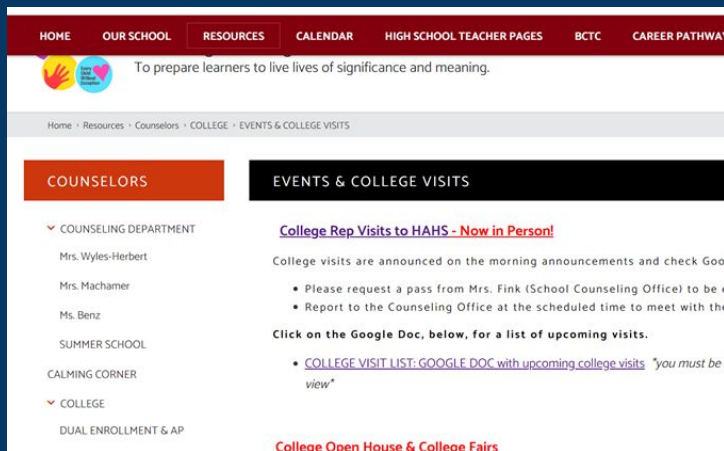
Guaranteed admission  
Financially affordable

## Good Fit Schools

Academically right  
Affordable

## Reach Schools

Higher tier  
Very competitive  
and/or financially expensive \$\$



## College Reps @ HAHS

Visit HAHS Counselor Webpage to view Google doc updated with College Rep Visits.  
<https://www.hasdhawks.org/Page/806>  
 Also listen to morning announcements.



## Visit

Get on as many campuses as you are able.  
 The more time you put in now, will benefit you later when making your final decision.



Let's see how easy it is to start a visit

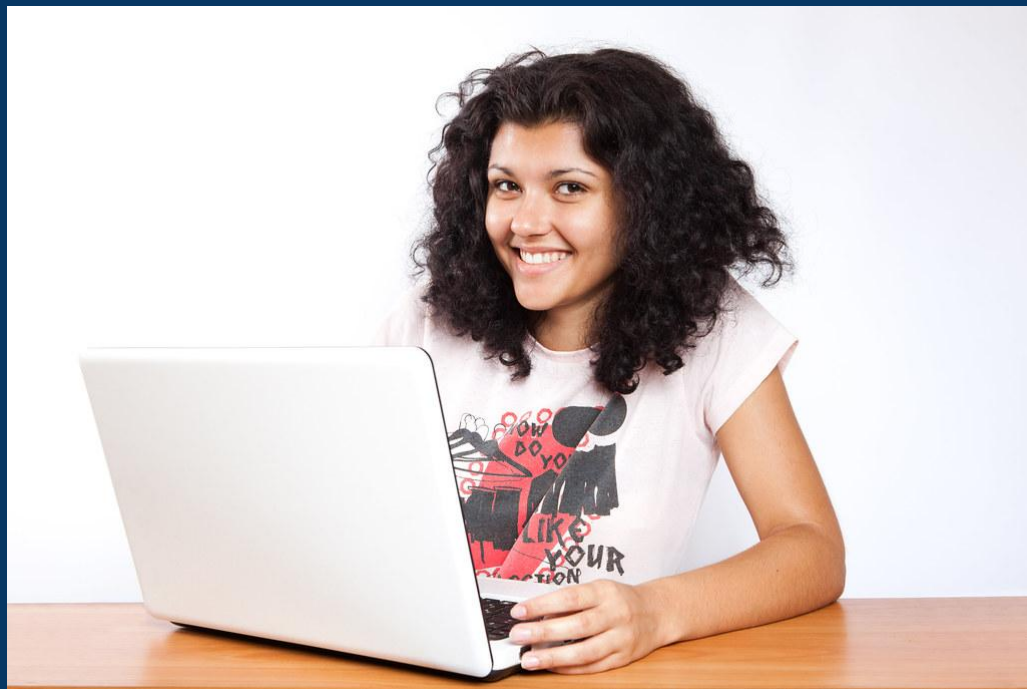


02

## APPLY

Follow Directions  
Complete Application

**Use Personal  
Email**







### Step 1 ?

Follow the directions for each college/application

### Step 2

Complete online application-*again use personal email address*

### Step 3

Send/upload/request all required documents



# Apply:

## College Application- Apply Online

- 1 application for each individual college
- App fee or fee waiver?
- Transcript
- Personal Statement/essay
- Recommendation Letters
- SAT/ACT test or test-optional > When to send?

## Common Application- Apply Online

- 1 application for multiple colleges
- Long & involved application that includes an essay, sometimes short answer responses.
- App fee or fee waiver?
- Student must manage all required documents.
  - Add Recommender(s)
  - Add HS Counselor
  - Transcript will be sent by Counselor through Common App (so no Parchment needed)



## **Common App HELP/FAQs-**

<https://www.commonapp.org/apply/first-year-students>

# The Essay:

## **Also known as:** **the Personal Statement.**

- Make it count! Might be the only item a college receives about you, beyond grades and test scores.
- Draft, edit, review, and upload to your application. Should take time, not to be rushed.
- Write about something personal, meaningful, memorable.

## **Resources:**

### **Collegeboard/Big Future Writing Guide:**

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/plan-for-college/apply-to-college/application-process/ultimate-college-essay-guide>

### **Common App Essay Prompts:**

<https://appsupport.commonapp.org/applicantsupport/s/article/What-are-the-2024-25-Common-App-essay-prompts>

### **How to write a college essay:**

<https://blog.collegevine.com/how-to-write-a-personal-statement-that-wows-colleges>

### **Purdue Writing Lab: Personal St. tips!**

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/job\\_search\\_writing/preparing\\_an\\_application/writing\\_the\\_personal\\_statement/index.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/job_search_writing/preparing_an_application/writing_the_personal_statement/index.html)

**SAT/ACT test required or test-optional?**

**Let's talk about TESTS- next slide**

# The SAT/ACT tests



Counselors recommend that all college-bound students take the SAT or ACT



Some specific majors may still require an SAT/ACT such as Nursing, Engineering, Premed, and the Military Academies



Each college uses SAT/ACT in test-optional world, differently. Scholarship consideration, admission, or no impact



How do I know if a college or major is test-optional or required?



If test-optional- when should student send scores?

Let's take a quiz!  
Next Slide



03

## SEND APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Transcript  
Recommendation Letters  
Fee  
Other?



After you START the application,  
request an official transcript  
through Parchment.



## Send Documents:

### Transcript:

- Hamburg uses PARCHMENT to electronically send transcripts to colleges.
- Please do NOT email your counselor to send a transcript.
- DO set an appointment with counselor if you have questions about the application process.

### **\*\*Exception\*\***

**If applying using Common App,  
Counselor will send transcript through the  
Common App account.**

- Visit Counseling Office Webpage
- Transcripts & Recommendation TAB
- Watch Tutorial Video to Request a Transcript
- Click on REQUEST MY TRANSCRIPT link
- Create a Parchment account and SEND
  - \$1.00 for each request

### Know deadlines!

- Merit scholarship deadlines are early.
- Early Decision/Early Action includes a completed FAFSA
- RACC/Dual Enrollment and/or AP Exams  
(student must send official transcripts FROM RACC or scores from Collegeboard to your college)

## Recommendation Letters:

- **Know the requirements:**
  - Which teachers are required
  - How many, if any
  - Who knows you the best
- **Request:**
  - Make an in-person request
  - Follow up with an email
  - Complete Rec Request Form(s)
    - Teacher Recommendation Req.
    - Counselor Recommendation Req.
- **Know how to send:**
  - Student should know how to send the Recommendation once complete.
  - Should writer upload to Common App, electronic link, email Admissions Office, etc?

## Application Fee:

### Application not complete without paying for Fee or Fee Waiver

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- Each school has their own set fee to apply (\$35, \$65...)
- Even if using Common Application, student will still have to submit payment for each college.
- **Fee Waivers:**
  1. **For financial need-** free or reduced lunches or documented hardship  
- Or -
  2. College offers fee waivers for:
    - Visiting the college/tour
    - Apply by certain date
    - Offers Fee Waiver CODE

**Ask Admission! It doesn't hurt to see if they have a waiver available.**

## Other:

### What else is required for application/specific major?

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- Physical Therapy
  - Requires observation hours for the application
- Music Major
  - Might require an audition
- Test Optional Alternative
  - Some schools have an "alternative" requirement if student chooses Test Optional.
  - This could be a written explanation of why they chose test-optional.



**FAFSA**  
**PHEAA**

## College-specific scholarships

## Outside scholarships



# FAFSA

ALL students **AND** parents of college-bound students **must** complete a FAFSA federal online form



**website: *fafsa.gov***

- Parent/contributor will create an account
- Student will create an account- **LINK** together.
- Select correct application year **2025-2026**

**Target Application Opening Date:**  
**Oct 1, 2024**

## **From Federal Student Aid:**

We have heard from students, families, institutions and states, that it is important for the 2025-26 FAFSA form to launch on October 1. The Department is working toward this goal and will share updates about additional functionalities as we learn more.

**fafsa help center:**

<https://studentaid.gov/help-center/answers/landing>



# PHEAA



Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

PA State Grant  
Program + Loans

## Financial Aid Webinars *-click*

*Virtual info sessions.*

*Click link for more details and to register!*

- **SEARCHING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS & AFFORDING THE BALANCE**
  - 9/10 @ 12pm, 9/26 @ 630pm
- **FINANCIAL AID TIMELINE**
  - 9/12 @ 630pm, 9/24 @ 12pm
- **BORROWING FOR EDUCATION-WHICH LOAN IS RIGHT?**
  - 10/8 @ 12pm, 10/29 @ 630pm
- **UNDERSTANDING THE OFFER LETTER**
  - 11/5 @ 12pm, 11/21 @ 630pm

PA

State Grant  
Program

PA

FORWARD<sup>SM</sup>

Student Loans





College-Specific Scholarships

- When student applies to a college, many times they are screened for scholarships.
- Some colleges have a separate scholarships application.



Local & National Scholarships

- Check HS Counseling Office Webpage.
- **Esther Ludwig application: Strict deadline in early Jan, tbd.**
- BCCF- <https://bccf.org/scholarship-opportunities/>
- Use National Search engines for Scholarship search

# The Esther Ludwig Scholarship

- Open to all Hamburg residents who attend a 2 year or 4 year college full-time.
- 2 year college requires 80% Unweighted GPA or higher
- 4 year college requires 85% Unweighted GPA or higher
- Application opens November 2023 with a Jan 2024 strict deadline!
- Students will receive manilla envelope with instructions. Applications are managed by an outside agency.



- Dozens of scholarship opportunities for Berks County students
- Various criteria for each scholarship
  - ➔ Students should review criteria to apply to relevant scholarships
- March 1st deadline!

## Search Also....

- Local Organizations (*Lions Club, Rotary Club, Credit Union, Employer*)
- Scholarship Search Engines for National, State, and Local Scholarships
  - ➔ [Collegeboard/BigFuture](#)
  - ➔ [Scholarships.com](#)
  - ➔ [US Department of Labor: Scholarship Search](#)
  - ➔ [Fin Aid for Military Families](#)



## Next Steps for Students!

- Counselors meet with all senior English classes for a similar presentation next week.
- Individual senior meetings are scheduled to discuss plans specific to each student. Students can prioritize their meeting to sooner if requested.
- College Admission Counselors visit HAHS throughout the Fall term. Encourage your senior to meet with college(s) of interest.

- **College Workshops Happening in the HS**

**Library! Sign up coming soon! Topics include:**

- College application completion
- Financial Aid & Scholarship
- Esther Ludwig and BCCF Scholarship information & completion, and more!

All students, complete the **POST-Survey** now and let us know when you'd like to schedule your Senior Meeting!  
Log into email.

**POST-Survey & Appointment Request: Click**

Be resourceful with the information you have at your fingertips. Visit the  
HAHS Counselor Webpage OFTEN 😊  
<https://www.hasdhawks.org/domain/183>





# Thanks!

Mrs. Wyles-Herbert  
[micwyl@hasdhawks.org](mailto:micwyl@hasdhawks.org)

Mrs. Machamer  
[alemac@hasdhawks.org](mailto:alemac@hasdhawks.org)

Mrs. Fink, HS Counselor Secretary  
[joyfin@hasdhawks.org](mailto:joyfin@hasdhawks.org)

CREDITS: This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, including icons by **Flaticon**, and infographics & images by **Freepik**

# Important Dates!

***\*\* for more events, check out the guidance website\*\****

Date	Time	Location	Event
October 2024	check gov site	online	<b>FAFSA APPLICATION FOR 2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR</b>
10/5/25	8:00AM	SAT Test Site	<b>SAT EXAM</b> (REG. BY 9/20) <a href="https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat">https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat</a>
9/30/24	5:00 - 8:00 PM	Albright College	<b><u>Berks Regional College Fair</u></b> held at Albright College
10/18/24	7:45AM	HAHS	<b>ASVAB</b> Military Entrance Exam - @ Hamburg High
10/26/24	8:00AM		<b>ACT</b> (REG. BY 9/20) <a href="https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html#dates">https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html#dates</a>
Opens 11/1/24	DUE around 1/1/2025	apply online	<b>ESTHER LUDWIG SCHOLARSHIP</b> Student who meet criteria can qualify for up-to about \$10,000 for four years of post-secondary!
		online	<b>Check Counselor Webpage for all your college questions!</b> <a href="https://www.hasdhawks.org/domain/183">https://www.hasdhawks.org/domain/183</a>
11/2/25	8:00AM	SAT Test Site	<b>SAT EXAM</b> (REG. BY 10/18) <a href="https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat">https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat</a>
6/2025			Dual Enrollment Students: Send RACC transcript to college you will attend
6/2025		online	Request a FINAL GRADUATE TRANSCRIPT to be sent to the college you will attend- PARCHMENT.COM

# Links from slideshow

- HAHS Counselor Webpage <https://www.hasdhawks.org/domain/183>
- NACAC College Fairs <https://www.nacacfairs.org/virtual>
- NCAA how to Register <https://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/how-register>
- PACAC College Fairs <https://www.pacac.org/college-fairs>
- SAT [www.sat.org](http://www.sat.org)
- ACT [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
- FAFSA [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- PHEAA [www.pheaa.org](http://www.pheaa.org)
- PARCHMENT – Transcript <https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/20870/account>
- COMMON APP <https://www.commonapp.org/>
- HAHS College Visits posting EVENTS & COLLEGE VISITS <https://www.hasdhawks.org/Page/806>
- RACC <https://www.racc.edu/>
- Army <https://www.goarmy.com/>
- Marines <https://www.marines.com/>
- US Air Force <https://www.airforce.com/>
- Navy <https://www.navy.com/>
- Coast Guard <https://www.uscg.mil/Join/>

• COLLEGE BOUND •

Post-Secondary Planning

**College-Bound** Complete a college search and sign up for a college tour or event

**College Search** Start by creating a list of schools using a college matchmaker tool (Collegeboard Big Future, CollegeScoreCard, Petersons, etc.) Today we will use Collegeboard/Big Future.

Big Future: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org> Click on College Quiz. Sign in or Search on own. Begin your search by filtering Location and Major to narrow down your options. TIP \*Start with the state you are interested in and if you are unsure of a major, filter by size.

1. Choose 2 colleges to focus on your search and fill out the information, below. Check out their open house events and college visit opportunities!

Name of College \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_

Name of College \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_

**College Fair Events and Admission Events (Berks):** Consider registering for virtual fair using NACAC or PACAC OR register to attend an in-person event or virtual event at a specific college of your choice.

- **RACC Event:** HS Senior & Parent night (Tues 9/26 6pm), Open Enrollment Day (Oct 3 10am-5:30pm) <https://www.racc.edu/events>
- **Albright College Visits and Events:** Open House (Sat 10/21 10am), All Majors Event (Sat 10/9 9:30am), also schedule individual info session! <https://admission.albright.edu/portal/events>
- **Alvernia University Visits and Events:** Schedule individual tour or attend Campus Visit. Open House (Sat 9/9) and various upcoming dates <https://www.alvernia.edu/admissions-aid/visit/undergraduate-visits>
- **Kutztown University Visits and Events:** Daily tours and various open house dates. <https://www.kutztown.edu/admissions/visit-ku.html> Fall Open House (10/21, 11/4, 11/11)
- **PSU Berks Visits and Events:** Open House (Sat 10/7 9am) Daily tours available, and schedule individual appointments by phone or zoom <https://berks.psu.edu/admissions-events>
- **BERKS REGIONAL COLLEGE FAIR** @ Albright College: Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> 2023 6:00-8:00pm.
  - o North 13<sup>th</sup> and Bern Streets Reading, PA 19612
  - [https://pacac.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com\\_jevents&task=icalevent.detail&evid=73](https://pacac.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_jevents&task=icalevent.detail&evid=73)

1. Name of Event(s) you might sign up for \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*You may find your own event/visit. The listing above are examples of national fairs and local colleges\*\**

• CAREER •

Post-Secondary Planning

**Career Search Activity** Planning on working right out of High School

Use career websites to search for opportunities (O\*Net, PA Career Zone, Smart Futures, Road Trip Nation)

Seek employment with growth potential by networking with family, friends, and community members.

**O\*Net online** <https://www.onetonline.org/find/> Use the Find Occupations section to search for careers using options like Bright Outlook, Job Family, or All Occupations. Try a few searches before selecting 2 careers to research.

1. **Name of Career** \_\_\_\_\_

Tasks: List 2

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Knowledge: List 2 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Detailed Work Activities: List 2

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Wages and Employment Trends: (Scroll all the way down)

Median Wages \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Projected Job Openings \_\_\_\_\_

Sources of Additional Information: List 1 website \_\_\_\_\_

Is this something you could see yourself doing for a living? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Continue to explore careers using programs like O\*Net, PA Career Zone <https://www.pacareerzone.org/> Smart Futures <https://www.smartfutures.org/> and Collegeboard <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/explore-careers>

• CAREER •

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1. **Name of Career** \_\_\_\_\_

Tasks: List 2

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Knowledge: List 2 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Detailed Work Activities: List 2

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Wages and Employment Trends: (Scroll all the way down)

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• MILITARY •

Post-Secondary Planning

**Military Bound** Interested in entering the US Military? \*Must graduate high school or complete the GED.

Search each branch website and choose the path(s) you would consider.

**Adult Duty**

- **Army** <https://www.goarmy.com/>
- **Marines** <https://www.marines.com/>
- **Air Force** <https://www.airforce.com/>
- **Navy** <https://www.navy.com/>
- **Coast Guard** <https://www.uscg.mil/join/>

**Reserve-Army, Marines, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard**

**National Guard- Army or Air**

**ROTC- Army, Air Force, Navy & Marine** <https://www.todaysmilitary.com/education-training/rotc-programs>

Reserve Officer Training Corps

- **ASVAB** (required military entrance exam) <https://www.military.com/join-armed-forces/asvab>  
Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery
  - Offered at HAHS in October only once/year (Oct 20, 2023). Contact Counseling Office to sign up or a recruiter to schedule an ASVAB at an alternate location.
  - STUDY! Do not take the test without studying.
  - Must meet your military branch qualifying score (31 or higher)
- Know your contract. Before you join, be 100% committed.

1. List the branch(s) you are considering \_\_\_\_\_

2. List the careers within each branch, you are considering

**Branch** \_\_\_\_\_ Career(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Branch** \_\_\_\_\_ Career(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Branch** \_\_\_\_\_ Career(s) \_\_\_\_\_

3. List the recruiter's name and contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

