



CAREER CENTER CONNECTION

NEWS FROM THE SIMLEY HIGH SCHOOL CAREER CENTER

NOVEMBER, 2017

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE MONTH RECAP

October was College Knowledge Month and what a busy month it was! There was a new college knowledge fact of the day announced each morning throughout the month and a successful college fair Wednesday took place during the last week of the month. Seminars on the Common Application and College Essays were also offered.

There were a multitude of college representative visits to Simley that were well attended by students. In addition, there were a significant number of applications submitted, particularly during the last full week of October when all 37 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities waived their application fees.

A College Goal FAFSA Completion night was held during conferences. Financial Aid officers from Inver Hills Community College, Dakota County Technical College, and St. Paul College were on-site to assist families and answer questions about financial aid and the FAFSA application. The event was a great success with almost 40 families in attendance, most of whom were able to complete and submit the FAFSA! Thanks to all who participated in the event.

All students were eligible to enter a drawing for great college gear and other prizes with the grand prize (for seniors only) being a mini fridge for their dorm room next fall! To be eligible to enter, students must have: attended a college rep. visit at Simley, visited a college campus, or submitted a college application sometime during the months of September or October.

The drawing took place on Wednesday, November 1st and the grand prize winner of the mini-fridge is **Lukas Mundt!**

Other winners of college t-shirts, bags, water bottles, mugs, and other college prizes are: Brynn Thompson, Oscar Islas, Essence Johnson, Stephen Roth, Winter Chandler, Perla Leon, Katie Madden, Ben Tinnucci, Lane Seidl, Mindy Kolodziejski, Talashia Riley, Chloe Pigg, Crystal Rodriguez, Zac Miller, Samy Acuna, Jakob Nelson, Daniella Ungarian, Konnor Carlson, Rachel Wolfe, and Asha Saraswata.

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COLLEGE FAIR AT SIMLEY WAS A SUCCESS!

STUDENTS EXPLORE A VARIETY OF COLLEGE OPTIONS



Simley was happy to host a successful college fair for students this past week. The fair took place on Thursday, November 2, 2017. Simley partners with MnACC (Minnesota Association of Counselors of Color) to bring this fair to students. There were over 50 colleges and universities in attendance- public, private, technical, community, and 4-year from around Minnesota and neighboring states. Grades 10-12 each had 30 minutes at the fair to connect with representatives, gather information, and explore a variety of college options for after high school. It was a great opportunity for students and always a fun day for everyone involved!



SENIOR APPLICATION REMINDERS

A reminder that many application deadlines are quickly approaching. Many colleges offer a variety of admission plans and there are always several pieces of the application process that need to be submitted for an application file to be considered complete. In general, students must submit the following to a post-secondary institution as a part of the application process:

- ✓ **Application-** can be found on the college's website. Student will be required to create an account and then will use this same login to check the status of their
- ✓ **Official high school transcript-** Students order their transcript electronically at: www.parchment.com. Students will set-up an account, add Simley as their high school, and then request delivery of their transcript to whichever colleges they choose. Transcripts are \$3.60 each but if a student needs paper transcripts sent they should see their counselor or Ms. Kimble. Please note that all students *must* send an official final transcript via Parchment at the end of the year.
- ✓ **Test scores-** All colleges will require some sort of testing as a part of the application/admission process.
 - 4-year colleges and universities typically require the ACT/SAT. Some schools will accept a copy of the unofficial score report; however, many schools now require an official copy of scores which must be sent directly from the testing company (www.act.org or www.collegeboard.org). Check college website to see what is required.
 - Students planning to attend a community or technical college can either send their ACT scores (if high enough to be considered college-ready) or else they will be required to complete the *Accuplacer*. This is a placement test that can be taken directly at the college they plan to attend.
- ✓ **Letters of recommendation-** Students should check their college's requirements before asking for letters of recommendation as most colleges don't require them. If a school does require letters, they typically ask for two and students should consider asking core classroom teachers for these recommendations.
- ✓ **Application fee-** If your school charges an application fee, it does need to be submitted prior to the application deadline. If a student is on free or reduced lunch they should see Ms. Kimble or their counselor, as they are eligible for up to four application fee waivers.

'CONSTRUCT TOMORROW' FIELD TRIP

construct tomorrow

There was a field trip to "Construct Tomorrow" on Wednesday, November 8th at Harriet Island. Apprenticeship training coordinators, prime and sub-contractors and youth educators were present to teach students about careers in the construction trades. Students were provided with hands-on experiences and exposure to a variety of career pathways and information about apprenticeship training, wages, and job opportunities. Some examples of activities students can participate in include: operating a virtual spray painting gun, setting tile, wire circuits and trowel cement.

The event was hands-on, engaging, and extremely informative. It is so important for students to be exposed to apprenticeships as another postsecondary option and this is the perfect platform from which to learn. Union apprenticeship (paid on-the-job training) programs pay you to learn a construction career, offer good wages, great benefits, and no college tuition costs.



TRENDING CAREERS

FORENSIC SCIENCE TECHNICIAN

What is a Forensic Science Technician?

Forensic science technicians study physical evidence to solve crimes. Forensic scientists usually specialize in either Crime scene investigation or Laboratory analysis. Crime scene investigators determine what and how much evidence to collect. They take photos and make sketches of the crime scene. Forensic science technicians who work in laboratories examine the evidence in order to reconstruct the crime scene. They try to determine the relationships among all the evidence in order to link a suspect to the crime. Forensic science technicians interpret lab findings and often confer with experts or other technicians.



Work Environment

In a typical work setting, forensic science technicians: have a high level of social contact, work in a group or as part of a team, work indoors when analyzing evidence and sometimes outside when collecting evidence, must be extremely exact in their work and typically work a 40-hour week.

How to Become a Forensic Science Technician

To become a forensic science technician, you typically need a high school diploma, moderate on-the-job training, and a post-secondary degree are required. Most technicians hold a bachelor's degree in science or a science-related technology. Post-secondary work in physics, chemistry, and other lab based courses are of extreme importance. No further licensure is required for this job.

In high school, take courses that will prepare you for college. Forensic science technicians need a strong background in math and science. Helpful electives to take that prepare you for this occupation include: Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry, Computer Applications, and Criminology.

Other things to note:

- ✓ An associate degree prepares you to work as a forensic science technician.
- ✓ Some schools combine criminal justice and forensic science into a single bachelor's degree program.
- ✓ Some schools offer forensic science as a minor. In these cases, most students major in biology or chemistry.
- ✓ Programs in forensic science are considered good preparation for future study in law, medicine, criminal justice, or additional study in forensic science. In fact, it is becoming common for employers to require a graduate degree in forensic science. Because of this, many students get a bachelor's degree in a science, such as biology or chemistry, and then get a master's in forensic science.

Local Colleges Offering Forensic Science as a Major

Central Lakes College, Brainerd (Associate of Science)
Central Lakes College, Staples (Associate of Science)
Century College (Associate of Applied Science)
Hamline University (Bachelor of Arts, Graduate Certificate, Minor)
University of North Dakota (Bachelor of Science)
University of Wisconsin, Madison (Bachelor, Master, Doctorate)

Pay

The median annual wage for a Forensic Science Technician was \$53,980 for 2016.

Job Outlook

Demand for this occupation is expected to be very strong. Most growth will come in digital forensics and DNA specialties. Because most technicians work for government agencies, growth in this occupation is related to funding for their departments. Competition for jobs will be strong because of the interest in forensic science and crime scene investigation created by television shows.

COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, ST. PAUL

www.csp.edu

Private, 4-year institution, part of Minnesota's Private Colleges



When you attend Concordia University, St. Paul, you're more than just a student. You're part of the Concordia family. Students come from diverse backgrounds, faith traditions, and cultural heritage, but all are part of the Concordia community—where you'll find a warm and welcoming place to grow academically, spiritually, and personally.

Student demographics: 2,567 Undergraduate students

Average class Size: 14

Student/faculty ratio: 16:1

Tuition (2016-2017): \$21,250

Room & Board: \$8,500

93% of undergraduate students receive financial aid.

Admissions:

Visit www.csp.edu/apply to apply online. August 1 deadline for fall semester. Application fee of \$30 (waived if you visit campus or apply online). Must also submit official ACT/SAT scores and official transcript.

Grade point average (3.13 GPA)

ACT/SAT scores: (18-24 average ACT)

Academic Programs:

Concordia offers 76 majors and 48 minors with the 5 largest majors being: Education, Biology, Business Management, Exercise Science, and Psychology. Concordia also offers 25 graduate programs.

Housing and Campus Life:

Concordia has a wide variety of clubs and organizations making it easy to get involved. They also offer NCAA Division II athletics. Concordia has 4 residence halls and 80% of students live on campus their first year. First-year students live in community-style halls with 2- or 3- person rooms and centrally located bathrooms. Upperclassmen live in apartment-style halls with fully furnished studio, 2- or 4-bedroom suites with private bedrooms. All buildings have secured doors with access using your student ID. Students walk no more than five minutes from your residence hall to anywhere you need to go on campus.

Noteworthy:

Concordia delivers an educational experience that is responsive to the needs of our students, relevant demands of the job market, and provides real preparation for thoughtful living and dedicated service.



*Information taken from Concordia University's website and the 2016-2017 Private College Guide. www.actstudent.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

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FACT: *There are 4,627 higher education institutions in the United States.*

As of 2015, there were 9.54 million females enrolled as undergraduates and 7.5 million males enrolled as undergraduates.

