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bluegrass community & technical college
SPRING 2013
 educational talent search

the STAR news

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR SPRING?

This past winter ETS hosted two ACT Prep Workshop instructed by Mr. Patrick Brooks who is currently a Math and French teacher at Bryan Station High School. The workshops were broken down to allow students to focus on two areas of the exam at a time. The December workshop covered the English and Reading portion of the exam, and the March workshop focused on the Math and Science portion.

More than 20 students along with four of our ETS staff also participated in the Kentucky Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (KAEOPP) annual TRiO Day program, which was hosted this year by Morehead State University (MSU). Our ETS students met up with students from other ETS and Upward Bound programs from throughout the state of Kentucky. Students were provided a tour of MSU's campus before dining in the college's cafeteria. Following lunch, we were provided a variety of workshops to attend such as KHEAA Financial Aid Jeopardy, True Colors- Discover Your Personality, Zumba, Eat This Not That- Avoid the freshman 15, AmeriCorps- Job Opportunities, Voter Registration/Political Advocacy, Art Workshop- Mask Making, Campus Safety/Basic Self Defense, 21st Century Job Skills, What's My Line?-Theater Improvisation, Careers in Broadcasting, or Study Abroad. Our visit to MSU concluded with a TRiO Rally and Awards Program at which one of our very own ETS students, Miss Cierra Jackson, a freshman at Bryan Station High School, won an iPod Touch!

As we look to spring, we have a couple activities coming up. First is our spring break trip where we will head to the windy city of Chicago! We are really looking forward to this trip and believe it will be a great experience for our students. We also have our Family Night/Senior Celebration coming up in May. We will celebrate our Seniors, as well as our Student Ambassadors for all their hard work. This event is open to all current ETS students; be looking for the invites in April. We hope to see you there.



TALENT SEARCH AT



MOREHEAD STATE



UNIVERSITY



UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Break Trip 04/01-
Chicago, IL 04/04

Sr Recognition Family Night 05/21
BCTC Leestown Campus

Middle School Camp 06/17-
University of Kentucky 06/20

BCTC Talent Search serves 680 middle and high school students from Clark, Fayette, and Scott counties through funding from the US Department of Education. Our purpose is to help our participants:

- ◆ Excel in school
- ◆ Develop awareness of potential careers
- ◆ Experience positive cultural activities
- ◆ Understand and pursue postsecondary educational opportunities

The Star News is a quarterly publication of the BCTC Talent Search Project, edited by Libbe Jefferson.

Information in this publication was taken from University of Illinois, Wikipedia, Lexington Fayette Urban County Government, US News & World Report, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, ABET and University of Chicago.

Dear ETS Parents,

It's hard to imagine summer being around the corner with these odd snow storms and frigid temperatures, but it is. The trees are starting to leaf out and I saw my first daffodils budding yesterday. Even while we still wear our winter coats, it is time to begin planning for summer and activities for the kids! I know this is difficult, but work with me here.

All of the area hospitals are gearing up for their Teen Volunteer Training sessions for the summer. This exposes students to the inner workings of a hospital, the many different career opportunities within, and how to care for patients. Volunteers sometimes are the only real visitors some patients see and it means so much to them. Sometimes little ones need a book read to them providing overwrought and anxious parents a little down time. The experiences gained and interpersonal skills learned are invaluable to students.

If working is in the cards for your student, there are several great options for them to learn about the world of work, and to understand first-hand what is expected of them from potential employers. The 2013 Summer Youth Employment Program will place over 225 youth into jobs at businesses and organizations across the city. Students who are 14 – 17 will work a part-time job for 6 weeks in the summer and LFUCG will pay their salary! Interested? Call the Division of Youth Services at 859-246-4300.

All of these opportunities and more are listed for you by calling 2-1-1. This is a hotline for the Lexington area with information about all kinds of summer programs and other much needed assistance. It is a great resource for everyone.

Stay warm and dry this spring. Enjoy the wonderful display of colors and blooms as Spring sets in and everything comes back to life. It is my favorite time of year!



Carol Elrod, Director

COLLEGE PROFILE



Founded in 1890, The University of Chicago is a private research institution with more than 15,000 students. University of Chicago is a culturally diverse institution with more than 150,000 alumni, 2,000 faculty and 900 students from across the globe. UC is located in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood on Lake Michigan and sits on 215 acres of land that was designated a botanical garden in 1997. The University of Chicago offers more than 49 majors and 29 minors, 30 graduate degrees and 40 professional degrees divided among eight different schools: Chicago Booth School of Business, The College (undergraduate studies), Divinity School, Graham School of Continuing Liberal and Professional Studies, Harris School of Public Policy Studies, Law School, Pritzker School of Medicine and School of Social Service Administration.



University of Chicago campus with Chicago skyline

With more than 400 student organizations, from greek life to a film club, they have something to offer everyone. UC also has a wide range of sports for students to participate in. Men's athletics include baseball, basketball, cross country, football, soccer, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field and wrestling. Women's athletics include basketball, cross country, soccer, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field and volleyball.

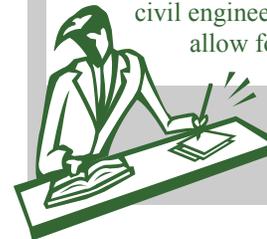
The current tuition costs for The University of Chicago is \$43,581 for full time students. The cost of room and board is \$13,137. To apply, students need to submit an application for admission, official high school transcripts, two teacher recommendations, ACT/SAT scores and a midyear report to University of Chicago. For more information, contact the Office of Admissions at 773.702.8650 or go to www.uchicago.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

CIVIL ENGINEERING

Civil engineering is a discipline that deals with the design, construction, and maintenance of the physical and naturally built environment. Civil engineers have the knowledge and tools necessary to practice in the following areas of specialization: environmental and water resources engineering, geotechnical engineering, structural engineering, and transportation engineering. They will be able to apply their knowledge and skills to formulate and solve civil engineering problems, both well-defined and ill-defined. In order to become a civil engineer, students must get receive a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, you can locate a list of accredited schools by going to the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) at www.abet.org. Civil engineers are required to take the Fundamentals of Engineering Examination (FE) upon graduation. Furthermore, they must also take the Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam (PE) five years after graduation or the Structural Engineering Examination in five to ten years if going into structural engineering.

There are several different career paths for those who hold a degree in civil engineering. The most notable are environmental engineer, construction engineer and structural engineer. An environmental engineer deals mostly with the treatment of chemical, biological and thermal waste, the purification of water and air, as well as the remediation of contaminated sites due to prior waste disposal or accidental contamination. A construction engineer deals with the planning and completion of the designs from transportation, site development, hydraulic, environmental, geotechnical and structural engineers. These engineers will draft the building, review contracts, review logistical operations and monitor supplies. A structural engineer deals with the structural design analysis of buildings, bridges, towers, tunnels, off shore structures like oil and gas fields in the sea, aero structure and other structures. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the demand for civil engineers is expected to grow 19 percent through 2020 and allow for numerous job openings.



COLLEGE MAJOR

An environmental engineer uses the principles of engineering, soil science, biology, and chemistry to develop and create solutions to environmental issues. They put their efforts into finding ways to improve recycling, waste disposal, public health, and control of water and air pollution. Environmental engineers also deal with global issues including safe drinking water, climate change, and sustainability. Environmental engineers will work in a variety of different settings depending on the field that they are working in. If they are working with other engineers or regional planners, they will typically work in an office. If they are working with business and lawyers, they work in a combination of an office and at seminars giving necessary information and data. If an environmental engineer is working with hazardous waste technicians, they will typically be working at that specific site.

In order to become an environmental engineer, you need to achieve a bachelor's degree in environmental, civil, chemical or mechanical engineering from a college or university that is accredited by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET), www.abet.org. Experience is one of the key factors employers look for, so cooperative engineer programs are always a plus to have. An environmental engineer should also have a Professional Engineering (PE) license. In order to obtain this licensure, you must possess the following: an engineering degree from an ABET accredited school, a passing score on the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam, relevant work experience and a passing score on the Professional Engineering exam.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median wage for an environmental engineer is \$78,740. The job outlook for an environmental engineer is expected to grow 22 percent through 2020, which is faster than average. If you would like to learn more about being an environmental engineer, please visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics website at www.bls.gov.

Spring is the time of year that colleges send out their all-important financial aid packages to accepted applicants. Understanding this much anticipated piece of information will help you make a better decision about which college to attend and what costs you will incur. Here are some common assumptions about financial aid awards that should be avoided:

Assumption 1: All components of your packages are free money. Financial aid packages may include awards in two categories of aid – money you won't have to pay back and money you will. It may sound simple, but it's important to realize the difference between gift aid – scholarships or grants – and aid you will have to pay back – loans. It's also important to be aware of a third type of aid – work study – money that you will have to earn through a paid job on campus. By comparing the amount of each type of aid awarded to you at each college you have been accepted into, you can get a better idea of which school is offering the best package.

Assumption 2: Your awards will be renewable. Once you've determined which parts of your package are made up of scholarship and grant aid, it is important to note any conditions attached to that money. Totals for scholarships and grants may fluctuate over the years depending on your GPA, your financial need, your intended major, or your status as a full or part-time student. Need-based aid, like Pell grants, may also be subject to congressional budget changes each year. Finally, don't forget that **you must fill out your FAFSA each year you are a student** in order to renew financial aid. Do this early so that you don't jeopardize award amounts.

Assumption 3: The total you see is what you'll actually pay. Make sure to explore all the costs associated with your college of choice. The out-of-pocket costs listed on your financial aid package may not include parking permits, lab fees, book charges, or fees assigned to special courses. Colleges try to base aid packages on a comprehensive cost of attendance, but the details of your personal situation may be more or less than that of their average.

Assumption 4: The total cost will hold steady until graduation. Unless your college of choice offers a tuition guarantee, there's a good chance that your costs may increase a little each year. That being said, an increase in tuition will be reflected in an increased cost of attendance, which may or may not be absorbed by increases in your financial aid package in the future. If you are planning on starting at a 2-year school and then transferring to a 4-year institution, look into transfer agreements that offer tuition guarantees or locks at the often lower 2-year tuition rate. It will be worth your while.

Assumption 5: You can't negotiate. If you're disappointed with the financial aid package from your top-choice school, it usually doesn't hurt to contact an admissions or financial aid officer. If there have been drastic changes to your family's financial situation or you feel circumstances weren't adequately represented on FAFSA data, it's worth trying to appeal to get a better decision. Just know that it can take time, so plan according to your current awards.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER