

Counselor Corner
By Chris Lee

The O'Brate Foundation is committed to helping youth with limited resources (check with your counselor for income requirements) succeed in reaching their educational goals and becoming positive contributors to society. O'Brate invests more than just money in scholars by providing each of them a staff mentor to help work through the challenges of adjusting to college. In addition, we also provide our scholars with Financial Literacy programming and Personal & Professional Development opportunities and workshops. Its Traditional College Scholarships are based on financial need, renewable and range in size from \$500 to \$5,000 annually. Find out more at <https://obratefoundation.org/traditional-scholarship>. Deadline for this detailed application is May 1.

The O'Brate Foundation desires for students with limited financial means to have the ability to take college courses while in high school. The Dual-Credit Awards vary based on each student's enrollment status and financial situation. This is like a refund for classes you have already taken. Application deadline is April 1 for the spring semester. Find out more at <https://obratefoundation.org/dual-credit-scholarship>

Fort Hays State University Information Enterprise Institute would like to invite your students and faculty to attend CyberCon 3.0 on February 16th, 2024, in the Memorial Union Ballroom. Agenda of speakers is still being determined and it will notify you when the agenda is confirmed. CyberCon 3.0 is an opportunity to explore cybersecurity and the landscape of the cybersecurity industry. Participants will hear from industry-leading professionals, participate in hands-on activities, and have the opportunity to win prizes. We ask that students and faculty register separately through <https://www.fhsu.edu/iei/cybercon/>. Registration will include access to all CyberCon 3.0 sessions, a continental breakfast, lunch, and a swag bag.

For the fourth year, American Implement and Western State Bank are excited to partner together to help support the future of the agricultural industry in our areas of service. We are providing the AG Future Scholarships to graduating high school seniors and/or continuing college students pursuing further education (degree or program) in an agricultural field. Ten \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded! The deadline to apply is March 31. Go to www.americanimplement.com/about-us/ag-future-scholarship-program to apply. Kassie Miller of GPHS is a recent winner.

The Western Kansas Chapter of American Petroleum Institute (API) is pleased to announce it will once again be awarding scholarships of \$1,000 annually (\$500 paid each semester) that may be renewed for up to four years. This scholarship can be used at a two-year or four-year college. The "regular scholarship" is for the applicant's parent(s) or guardian(s) &/or grandparent(s) who were/are employed in the oil or gas industry. "Industry" Scholarship is for applicants who are enrolled in an oil or gas-related major, such as engineering or geology. Your counselor should have a copy of the application, but if you have questions contact Jill Suchy at 620.564.3800 or jill@southwinddrilling.com

Wichita State offers many programs for students/parents to familiarize themselves with this school. Shocker Saturday programs will be offered on Feb. 10, March 9, 26, and April 20. If you want to visit on a school day try a Black and Yellow Day on Feb. 10

or April 19. Freshman/Sophomore (high school) students are specifically invited to visit on April 27. Every weekday virtual visits are possible. For any of these programs go to wichita.edu/visit.

For admitted Shockers W-S-YOU is a day to finalize your plans for WSU. During this March 23 visit you will also have the opportunity to win prizes and get your Future Shocker Yard Sign. Register for this event at wichita.edu/WSYOU or call 316-978-3085. If you are attending another school, be looking for a similar program.

Deadlines to remember: Feb. 15-Final deadline to apply for FHSU scholarships; Feb. 19-Deadline to apply for Ellis Foundation Scholarship; March 8-deadline to apply for April 13 ACT; March 31-Deadline to apply for Kansas Masonic Foundation Scholarships; May 3-deadline to apply for June 8 ACT; June 5-8-Hispanic College Institute at FHSU; June 7-deadline to apply for July 13 ACT.

Sophomore/Juniors Days: Feb. 15 at NCKTC-Beloit; Feb. 21 at NCKTC-Hays; April 15 at FHSU.