



Senior Options Program Parent FAQ SHEET

Scarsdale High School
Senior Options Program
2011-2012

Process begins for students in January – All students are part of an orientation to the program given through their English classes.

During orientation students are introduced to the website, given information about deadlines and requirements, and given resources to begin their search for their senior options project.

**BECOME FAMILIAR
WITH THE PROGRAM
BY PERUSING THE
SENIOR OPTIONS
WEBSITE:**

[http://
www.scarsdaleschools.k
12.ny.us/page/2094](http://www.scarsdaleschools.k12.ny.us/page/2094)

**COME TO THE
PARENTS
INFOR-
MATION
MEETING
Monday
Feb.6, 2012**

Important Deadlines

- ◆ Choosing a mentor -- Students are given one week (1/9—1/13/12) to speak with teachers in the building and to secure a mentor. The Mentor Commitment Forms are due **1/13/12** (submitted to Room 265).
- ◆ Securing a sponsor for their internship – Sponsor Registration Forms (completed by sponsor must be handed in to Room 265 by **3/2/2012**
- ◆ Completing an Independent Project Proposal – Proposals must be submitted into the Student's network folder by **3/2/2012**.
- ◆ Completing an Internship Proposal – Proposals must be submitted into the student's network folder by **3/16/12**.
- ◆ Submitting a Parent Signature Form (Parents MUST approve the senior options chosen by students and the forms are due **3/16/2012**. Forms should be submitted to Room 265.
- ◆ Senior options begins on Monday **4/30/12** and ends on Tuesday **6/12/12**.

Before Senior Options Begins:

- ◆ Do encourage your students to meet frequently with their mentor.
- ◆ Do encourage your students to use the resources on the website.
- ◆ Do discuss the pros and cons of local internships versus internships in the city (Consider cost and afterschool commitments such as sports or jobs. Students can receive up to 5 hours of time for travel if they are traveling an hour or more one way.) Sometimes smaller local organizations are better choices than larger city-based organizations as students have more opportunity for hands on work.
- ◆ Do encourage students to make sure they discuss exactly what they will be doing at the internship with the sponsor.
- ◆ Do encourage students to explore passions, interests, possible career choices.

Senior Options Myths:

- ◆ Don't believe that most students use family connections to secure an internship. In fact, the best internships are ones which the students find on their own. The process forces the students to be sure they are finding an internship that really interests them. In fact, when parents "set up" their children in a friend's office, the students are frequently bored.
- ◆ Don't believe that most students do not really work 30 hours/week. In fact, the mentors and the Steering Committee monitor internships and students who do not follow the required hours have found their graduation in jeopardy.

Basic Requirements

- ◆ Students will work 30 hours per week, 5 days/week, 6 weeks.
- ◆ Students may not work for their family.
- ◆ Students may not receive pay.