

Rockford Lutheran Sophomore College Night

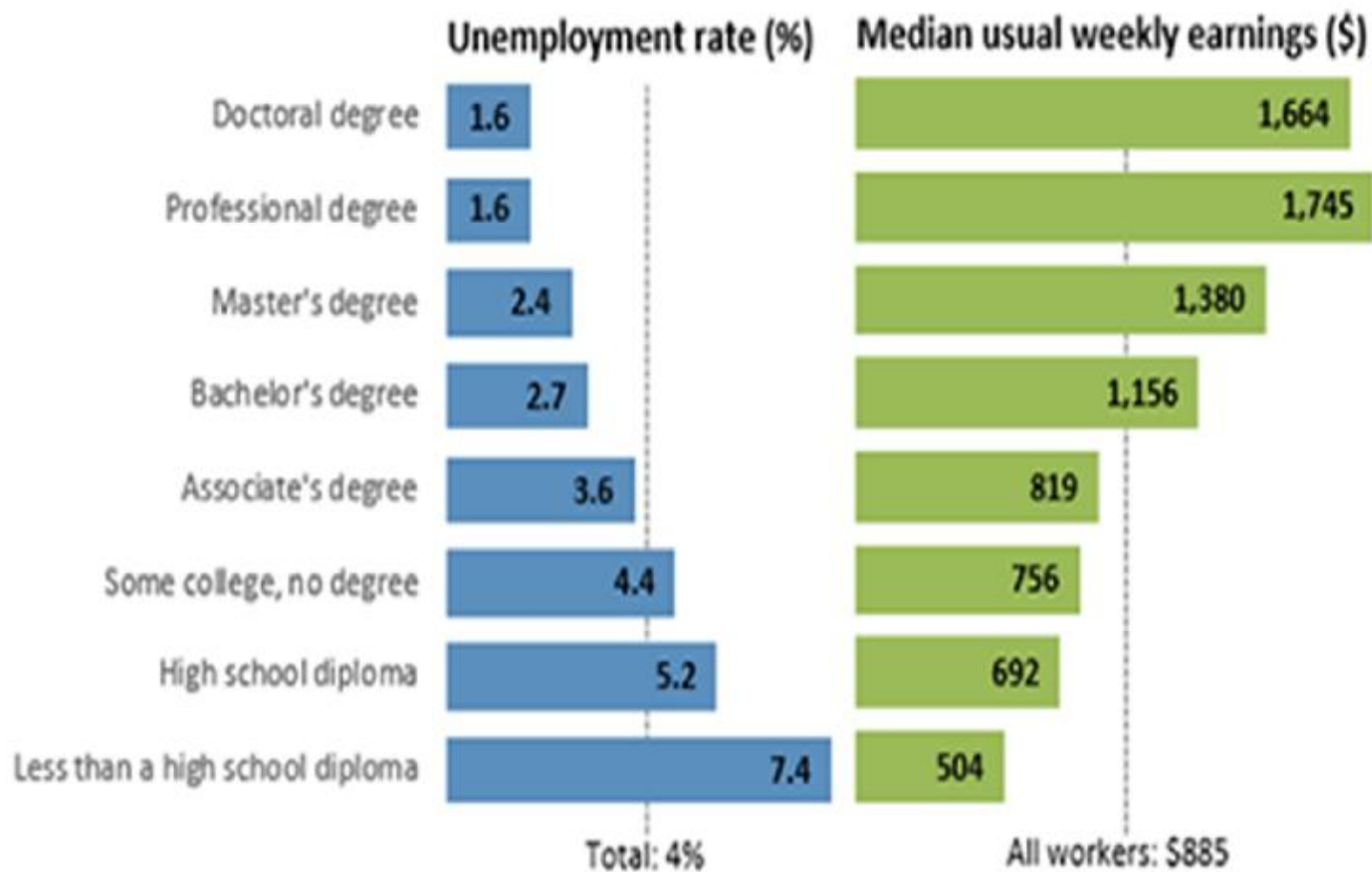
MISSION STATEMENT:

Rockford Lutheran School provides an exceptional college preparatory education in a challenging and inspiring Christian environment

Core Values

- **Christ Centered**
- **Excellence**
- **Service**
- **Harmony**

Unemployment rates and earnings by educational attainment, 2016



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

Questions for Parents:

1. **What is your biggest fear as relates to your student applying and attending college?**
2. **What counseling did you receive when you were in high school about the college admission process that was most helpful?**
3. **Do you know what services or resources are available to help your student with the college admission process?**

Questions for Students:

Common Questions:

What is a college “program”?

What are “gen-eds”?

What are “majors”, “minors”...?

What is the difference between a 2 year and 4 year degree?

Ask yourself some questions:

- Am I on target for college?
- What skills do I need to improve to be ready for college?
- Am I taking a rigorous core curriculum?
- What careers interest me most?

WHAT DO THE COLLEGES WANT?



Georgetown
UNIVERSITY



HARVARD UNIVERSITY



BROWN UNIVERSITY
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

1. Grade Point Average (GPA)

- **Grading Scale**

- **A 92-100**

- **B 83-91**

- **C 74-82**

- **D 65-73**

- **F 64 and below**

- **GPA Points**

- **Honors Classes**

- **A 5**

- **B 4**

- **C 2**

- **D 1**

- **Regular Classes**

- **A 4**

- **B 3**

- **C 2**

- **D 1**

2. What Classes did you take?

- 8 credits of Religion (1 for each semester in attendance)
- 8 credits of English
- 6 Credits of Social Studies (including 1 credit each of Government and Economics, 2 credits of U.S. History and 2 credits of either Geography or World History)
- 6 credits of Mathematics at the high school level or a minimum of Pre-Calculus (completing Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II). (If a student completes Pre-Calc as a sophomore, 2 credits of additional Flex courses required).
- 6 credits of Science A min. of 2 credits each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- 2 credits of Fine Arts (Art, Music)
- 4 credits of Foreign Language
- 4 credits of Physical Education (including 1 semester of Health)
- 4 credits of Flex classes
- Additional courses in Science, Technology, Engineering, Fine Arts or Mathematics; or other Dual credit courses (with administrative approval)
- 4 credits of electives
- Minimum total of 52

2. What classes did you take?

- **Honors Classes**
- **Advanced Placement Classes**
- **Dual Credit Classes**

3. ACT Scores

| SCHOOL | ENGLISH | MATH | READING | SCIENCE | COMPOSITE |
|------------|---------|------|---------|---------|---------------------|
| RLS (2016) | 22.2 | 21.4 | 23.1 | 22.2 | 22.9 (24.4/27.5) |
| Illinois | 20.0 | 20.6 | 20.5 | 20.4 | 20.5 |
| 205(2015) | 17.4 | 18.4 | 18.6 | 18.4 | 18.3 |
| National | 20.1 | 20.6 | 21.3 | 20.8 | 20.8 |
| Boylan | | | | | 22.9 |

Study Skills Checklist for Students

- **Set a regular time and place to study each day and throughout the week.**
- **Keep a daily “to do” list.**
- **Set goals for yourself.**
- **Do your reading assignments before the material is discussed in class.**
- **Pay close attention and take good notes in class.**
- **Prepare for tests during your regular study times instead of cramming at the last minute.**

4. What did you do outside the classroom?

1. **Sports**
2. **Drama**
3. **Leadership**
4. **Clubs**
5. **Outside the school**

Keys to Good Educational and Career Planning

- **Take challenging college prep courses in high school.**
- **Explore the many career options available to you and think about how your career choices will affect your future.**
- **Set career goals and develop an educational plan to achieve them.**

Financial Planning for College

- **Start learning now about how much college will cost**
- **Learn about different forms of financial aid available**
- **Start saving now for college**
- **Think about how good grades and ACT scores can help make college more affordable**

Tax Benefits for Education

- **American Opportunity Tax Credit**

The American Opportunity Tax Credit provides a federal income tax credit of up to \$2,500 (40% refundable) per student based on the first \$4,000 in postsecondary tuition, fees and course materials paid by the taxpayer during the tax year.

- **Lifetime Learning Tax Credit**

The Lifetime Learning provides a federal income tax credit of up to \$2,000 per taxpayer based on the first \$10,000 in postsecondary tuition and fees paid by the taxpayer during the tax year.

- **<http://www.finaid.org/otheraid/tax.phtml>**

Where can I get more info?

- StudentAid.gov
 - Info about aid programs
 - Links to free scholarship and college searches
- www.LutheranColleges.org
- <http://rockfordlutheran.org/academics/counselor-s-corner>
- www.fastweb.com
- www.collegezone.com
- www.collegegreenlight.com (First generation)

A Common Question I Get: (From SendEdu)

- **Please answer the following questions:**
- 1. **Has the applicant been found responsible for a disciplinary violation at your school from 9th grade forward whether academic or behavioral, which resulted in the applicant's probation, suspension, removal, dismissal or expulsion from your school?**
- 2. **To your knowledge, has the applicant ever been convicted of a misdemeanor, felony or other crime?**
- 3. **If you answered yes to either or both questions, please explain the circumstances on the following page.**

How does the college search process work?

- **How do I begin the search?**
- **When do I start making visits?**
- **What do I do on a college visit?**

How Do We Stay Connected for College Planning and Scholarships?

- .. Visit our webpage: Counselor's Corner
- .. <http://rockfordlutheran.org/academics/counselor-s-corner>
- .. Visit our Facebook page: Rockford Lutheran Guidance Dept.
- .. <https://www.facebook.com/rlsguidance/>

How Do We Stay Connected for College Planning and Scholarships?

Class of 2020

- Remind.com
- Text to: 81010 Message: @cfcgd
- or
- [Rmd.at/cfcgd](https://rmd.at/cfcgd)

- Illinois Career Information System (Including ACT Test Prep)
- <https://ilcis.intocareers.org/materials/portal/home.html>
- Login: firstname.lastname
- Password: Rlhs2018