



Junior Year | Fall Semester

- ☐ Consider studying for and taking standardized tests for college admissions (such as the SAT or ACT). Taking a prep course for these tests is helpful.
- ☐ Talk to your counselor about your academic requirements for colleges.
- ☐ Continue taking challenging courses and working for high grades.
- ☐ Continue community service involvement.
- ☐ Make a list of what you want in a college. Consider the following:
 - What affiliation do I want (Christian, private, or public?)
 - What size school do I want to attend?
 - How far from home do I want to be?
 - What type of community should be near the school?
 - What majors am I interested in?
 - What activities do I want to participate in?
 - What other characteristics am I looking for in a college?
- ☐ Review your list of college preferences and begin searching online for schools that match your geographic area, affiliations, etc.
- ☐ Collect data: Attend a college fair. Be on the lookout for counselor-led college visits. Begin collecting material from colleges and organize a filing system so you can locate information about each school.

Junior Year | Spring Semester

- ☐ Continue attending college fairs to gather information about schools and talking with your counselor.
- ☐ Register for the SAT or ACT.
- ☐ Meet with your counselor to review your test scores and college goals. Discuss your top college choice and scholarship options.
- ☐ Narrow down your college choices to a manageable number before applying.
- ☐ Schedule college visits to your top choices.
- ☐ Organize a file of awards, activities, leadership, and community service in preparation for filling out applications.
- ☐ Begin researching scholarships options that are open now.
- ☐ Begin formulating answers to potential essays or interview questions, such as "Why do you want to attend college?" and "What are your strengths and weaknesses?"
- ☐ Meet with your counselor to set up your senior year schedule.

Senior Year | Fall Semester

- ☐ Attend a college fair to gather printed materials about colleges
- ☐ Watch for early admission deadlines (usually November 1)
- ☐ Apply to your top five college choices:
 - First choice: your dream school
 - Second and third choices: within reach
 - Fourth and fifth choices: your safety net
- ☐ Write admission essays with care and have a teacher or parent proof them.
- ☐ Choose your references early and give them the recommendation forms to fill out.
- ☐ Submit a request to Mrs. Easter in the school office to have your transcript sent to your top colleges.
- ☐ Retake the SAT and/or ACT if needed.
- ☐ Research and apply for more scholarships.
- ☐ Visit your top college choices if you did not visit them in the spring of your junior year.
- ☐ Complete FAFSA (<http://studentaid.gov>) with your parents. Send FAFSA in as soon as possible after January 1. Request that your top colleges receive your information.
- ☐ Confirm that all target schools have your financial aid forms. Check with them to see about applying for institutional grants and scholarships.
- ☐ Begin examining housing options, meal plans, and course schedules.

Senior Year | Spring Semester

- ☐ Choose which school is the best match for you after reviewing acceptance letters and financial aid packages. Then, notify the school that you are accepting their invitation to attend.
- ☐ Set goals with parents on budgeting, working income, and future scholarships. Continue applying for grants and scholarships. Consider loan possibilities, if necessary.
- ☐ Meet with your counselor for senior “Walk and Talk.”

Senior Year | Summer

- ☐ Attend registration weekend at the college.
- ☐ Talk with your parents about what you will take to campus. Begin gathering the items you will need.
- ☐ Contact your future roommate when you get your housing assignment. Narrow down your packing list by deciding what items to share.
- ☐ Spend extra time with your family before you leave for college.