



## 2019-2020 COLLEGE COUNSELING CHECKLIST AND TIMELINE

Dexter Southfield CEEB Code: 220262

CLASS 9	
<b>October 17, 2019</b>	College Counseling Block
<b>January 16, 2020</b>	College Counseling Block
<b>February 6, 2020</b>	Parent Coffee with the College Counseling Office
<b>February/March</b>	Register for next year's classes.
<b>March</b>	Register for June SAT Subject Test in Biology (ecological) if appropriate. See SAT Subject Testing Guide for guidelines. Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register.
<b>April 23, 2020</b>	College Counseling Block

CLASS 10	
<b>October 24, 2019</b>	College Counseling Block
<b>January 23, 2020</b>	College Counseling Block
<b>February 6, 2020</b>	Parent Coffee with the College Counseling Office
<b>February 26, 2020</b>	Take PSAT 10 at school. No registration necessary.
<b>February/March</b>	Register for next year's classes.
<b>March</b>	Register for June SAT Subject Tests if appropriate. See SAT Subject Testing Guide for guidelines. Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register.
<b>April 22, 2020</b>	College Counseling Block

- Work hard in school; take the most challenging courses you can while still earning's and B's.
- Read, read, read!
- Get involved in the school community through sports, theater, music, clubs, volunteering, and leadership opportunities. Also, get involved in your local community.
- Follow school rules and build strong relationships with teachers and classmates. Keep important schoolwork, essays, and projects in a portfolio.
- Stay informed about current national and global events by reading and watching reliable and trustworthy news sources.
- In the summer, get a job, volunteer in your community, try something new; learn a new skill or hobby.

CLASS 11	
September	<p>Meet with college representatives who visit campus. Attend college fairs and local college events and information sessions.</p> <p>Register to take a free ACT Practice Test at school on 11/16/19.</p>
October	<p>Register for optional December SAT: 12/14/19. Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register. (Registration Deadline: November 8, 2019)</p>
October 16, 2019	Take PSAT/NMSQT at school. No registration necessary.
November 16, 2019	Take ACT Practice Test at school.
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junior Student and Parent Questionnaires emailed to students and parents to be completed by January 10, 2020.</li> <li>• Register for Summit Educational Group ACT or SAT prep course offered at Dexter Southfield on Saturday mornings.</li> </ul> <p>ACT prep course registration: (Deadline: January 3, 2020) <a href="http://mytutor.com/product/ds-apr20-act/">http://mytutor.com/product/ds-apr20-act/</a></p> <p>SAT prep course registration: (Deadline: January 31, 2020) <a href="http://mytutor.com/product/ds-may20-sat/">http://mytutor.com/product/ds-may20-sat/</a></p>
December 4, 2019	Class 11 Student and Parent College Night
December 14, 2019	Take optional SAT test.
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend College Essay Bootcamp during J-term to begin drafting a college essay.</li> <li>• Register for optional March SAT: 3/14/20. Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register. (Registration Deadline: February 14, 2020)</li> <li>• Register for optional April ACT: 4/4/20. Go to <a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a> to register. (Registration Deadline: February 28, 2020)</li> </ul>
January – May	<p>Attend 7 College Counseling Blocks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare for either SAT or ACT test (attend Summit Saturday ACT or SAT prep class at school, hire private tutor, or prepare individually).</li> </ul> <p><b>Class 11 College Counseling Appointments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Student meets with assigned college counselor. Counselor begins to learn about the student, their goals and interests, and what types of schools may be a good fit. Student and counselor generate a preliminary college list.</li> <li>– Parent(s) and college counselor meet (with student if possible) to discuss preliminary college list.</li> <li>– Student meets with college counselor to discuss college visits</li> <li>– and to modify college list.</li> </ul>
February 17-18, 2020	Plan to visit colleges over Presidents’ Day and Winter Holiday and interview if possible.

CLASS 11	
February	Register for optional May SAT: 5/2/20. Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register. (Registration Deadline: April 3, 2020)
March 14, 2020	Take optional SAT.
March 16-27, 2020	Spring Break: Set aside time to visit colleges.
March	Register for June SAT Subject Test(s) on 6/6/20 if appropriate. Students should consult with their teachers about whether they should take test(s). Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register. (Registration Deadline: May 8, 2020)
April 4, 2020	Take optional ACT test.
April 26, 2020	Attend BISCCA College Fair. Location TBA.
May 2, 2020	Take optional SAT test.
May 4-8, 11-15, 2020	Take AP exam(s) in school if enrolled in AP course(s).
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask two junior year teachers to write you recommendations (ideally history, English, science, or math teachers). Consult with your college counselor first.</li> <li>• Begin Common Application online in College Counseling Block.</li> <li>• Register for optional July ACT. Go to <a href="http://www.act.org">www.act.org</a> to register. (Registration Deadline: June 19, 2020)</li> </ul>
June 6, 2020	Take SAT Subject Test.
June	Register for August SAT. Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register.
July 18, 2020	Take optional ACT test.

#### Academics:

- Take more challenging courses. Strength of curriculum is an important factor in admissions decisions at selective colleges.
- Work hard in your classes; this is the last full year of grades that colleges will evaluate upon applying. Try to improve on last year's grades if possible.
- Remember to build positive working relationships with your teachers. Two of your junior year teachers will write college recommendations for you. You want them to be able to describe your work ethic, approach to challenging material, how you handle disappointment, how you work with groups of peers, how you contribute to class discussions, the level of your analysis, and how hard you push yourself beyond basic expectations.

#### Standardized Testing:

- We recommend juniors take, at a minimum, one SAT or ACT test prior to the summer of their senior year. Plan and consult with your college counselor about a testing plan.

#### Extracurricular Activities:

- Stay involved in sports, theater, clubs, and volunteering. See where you could be a leader either formally or by example. Start your own initiative if there is an issue or concern that you want to address. Do your best to remain consistent in your participation – don't jump around too much between sports and activities. Think quality over quantity.

**Collegiate Athletics:**

If you are interested in playing a sport at the college level:

- Talk to your coaches to create a list of colleges and an indication of the level of competition for which you project.
- Complete institutional online recruiting questionnaires and contact respective coaches.
- Students interested in playing Division I or II college athletics will need to register on the NCAA website (<https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>) and complete the Athletic Recruitment Forms by the end of the school year. The College Counseling Office will send final Class 11 transcripts to the NCAA for students who have registered.

**Explore and Research College Options:**

- Start thinking about WHY you want to go to college. Imagine who you want to be by the end of your college years – who do you want to become? Which types of colleges, programs, and experiences can help you grow into that person?
- Start touring college campuses to get a feel for large, medium, small; urban, suburban, rural; research universities, liberal arts colleges, STEM colleges, business colleges, arts colleges, etc.
- Do effective, quality research on your college list. Beware of online sources such as niche.com, College Confidential, and other sources that are not compiled by educational professionals in the counseling field.
- Read reliable news sources and stay informed on important events in the world.

**Reflect:**

- Check your social media presence – only share photos and information you would share with your grandmother.
- Focus on yourself; don't worry about what other people are doing, what they think, the gossip you hear, the myths that are spread, etc.

**Special Interests:**

- If there is interest in a U.S. military academy, request a pre-candidate questionnaire and complete it.
- Work closely with the Art Department if you are preparing an art portfolio.

**Summer Before Class 12:**

- Update your resume.
- Get a job or do something interesting, productive, or educational. Push your boundaries. Seek out an experience that you haven't had before.
- Tour colleges to try to narrow down your prospective colleges list. If possible, schedule interviews as well.
- Those interested in pursuing a sport in college, attend camps and showcases.
- Complete your Common Application, essay, and supplemental essays.
- Polish the college essay draft that you produced in English class.
- Keep reading for fun.
- If you plan on submitting a portfolio of art or music, begin to collect your work.
- Make sure that you can explain WHY you want to apply to each college on your list. If you don't know why, you need to do more research to provide specific, concrete reasons.

CLASS 12		
<b>August</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete your online Common Application, essay, and supplemental essays.</li> <li>• Register for optional October SAT and/or SAT Subject Test(s): 10/5/19. Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register. (Registration Deadline: September 6, 2019)</li> </ul>	
<b>August 24, 2019</b>	Take SAT test.	
<b>September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students meet with college counselor to discuss summer adventures, teacher recommendations, college visits, and finalize college list and deadlines on the Common Application.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet with college representatives who visit campus. Attend college fairs and local college events and information sessions.</li> <li>• Register for optional November SAT and/or SAT Subject Test(s): 11/2/19. Go to <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> to register. (Registration Deadline: October 3, 2019)</li> <li>• Be aware of the requirements for each of your schools and their specific programs (i.e. financial aid deadlines, SAT IIs, foreign language, levels of math, supplemental essays, recommendations, portfolios, or auditions).</li> <li>• Have the following prepared for your first senior college counseling meeting: Completed Common Application and college essay.</li> </ul>	
<b>November</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For those applying for financial aid, parents should complete the FAFSA as early as possible (<a href="https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa">https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa</a>). Some schools, particularly private colleges, also require the CSS Profile (<a href="https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/">https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/</a>). These forms are typically due when applications are due.</li> <li>• Complete all early action and early decision applications.</li> </ul>	
<b>November 2, 2019</b>	Take optional SAT test and SAT Subject Test(s).	
<b>December</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete and submit all regular decision applications.</li> <li>• Report all early application results and merit aid packages to your counselor.</li> </ul>	
<b>January</b>	Ensure all applications are complete at each college.	
<b>February</b>	Contact colleges where applications have been deferred with updates, news, and additional information if helpful.	
<b>March-April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update colleges on any news, additional information, new awards, or accolades.</li> <li>• Contact colleges that deferred your application in the early round to communicate your continued strong interest.</li> <li>• Meet with your college counselor to discuss acceptances, options, and compare financial aid packages if necessary.</li> <li>• Report all regular decision results and merit aid packages to your counselor.</li> </ul>	

<b>CLASS 12</b>	
<b>May 4-8, 11-15, 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take AP exam(s) in school if enrolled in an AP course(s).</li> </ul>
<b>May 1, 2020</b>	<b>By 5/1/19, deposit at one college.</b>
<b>May-June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend College Transition meetings at school to learn and discuss valuable, real-life skills and challenges you may encounter in college (i.e. managing money, staying safe and healthy, dating and consent, being smart about drugs and alcohol, social life, finding and using campus resources, etc.)</li> <li>• If waitlisted by any college, respond to the college to confirm or deny your wish to remain on the waitlist. Work with your counselor to communicate your strong interest in colleges where you are waitlisted.</li> </ul>

**Practice Life Skills**

- Learn how to do your own laundry.
- Learn how to cook a few simple meals.
- Write thank you notes to the teachers who wrote your recommendation letters.

**Important College Paperwork**

- Promptly complete and return all information you receive from college regarding dorm choice, roommates, class registration, payment, etc.