



# Junior College & Career Resources

In this handbook you will find:

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- Graduation Requirements
- Senior Year Options
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*The South Carroll Counseling Center*

<https://www.carrollk12.org/schools/high/sch/schoolcounseling/>



## Junior Checklist

- ☐ Have college discussion(s) with your parent(s).
- ☐ Review your curriculum plans (ECP) with your counselor. Get to know him/her.
- ☐ Are you taking AP classes? Consider a prep book in the subject to assist you.
- ☐ Read, work on vocabulary and keep up your grades.
- ☐ Prepare list of questions to ask college representatives. What is important to you?
- ☐ Register on college websites to receive their information and attend virtual visits.
- ☐ Sign up for then take any practice tests offered.
- ☐ Make your plan for prepping and actually taking the SAT and/or ACT and set up your account on their sites.
- ☐ Get organized. Set up a file with folders for each college and other materials.
- ☐ Attend college fairs and other meetings offered by your school.
- ☐ Continue searching for scholarships and aid. Research using the internet and Naviance.
- ☐ Learn financial aid basics. Know the types of aid and where they come from.
- ☐ Visit colleges. There is no substitute for experiencing the college in session.
- ☐ Review any test results with your counselor.
- ☐ Consider taking the SAT and/or ACT in March and June.
- ☐ Start to narrow down your college list and fine tune your “must haves” in a school.
- ☐ Evaluate your colleges as “Likely/Safety, Target, or Reach”. You need some of each.
- ☐ Plan a productive summer that will enhance your resume.
- ☐ Discuss finances with your family, but don’t eliminate schools based on finances just yet. There is a great deal of aid available.
- ☐ Take AP and SAT Subject tests in any subjects that you have peaked in.
- ☐ Think about teachers or other people that you might ask for recommendations.
- ☐ Over the summer, research each of your target schools.
- ☐ Download your target schools’ applications and practice filling them out.
- ☐ Brainstorm essay ideas.
- ☐ Talk to people who know about your target schools or went/go there.
- ☐ If you are an athlete, have you registered with the NCAA clearinghouse?
- ☐ Allow time to relax and enjoy your friends and family. It’s all about balance!



## Senior Checklist in Approximate Order

### Fall or Before

- ☐ Continue college discussion(s) with your parent(s).
- ☐ Do you have a file bin organized with folders for each?
- ☐ Have a final list of colleges where you will apply. 6 – 9 of them is plenty.
- ☐ Review your college plans with your counselor. Solidify your relationship.
- ☐ Will you take the SAT or ACT again? If so, register – watch deadlines.
- ☐ Be sure you have all your applications downloaded and essays in progress.
- ☐ Ask for your letters of recommendation and send thank-you's a bit later.
- ☐ Can you obtain any private interviews at your target colleges?
- ☐ Calendar deadlines for applications and financial aid. What forms are required when?
- ☐ Will you consider early decision or early action?
- ☐ File all applications and keep copies of each and certificates of mailing as needed.
- ☐ Be sure all transcripts, test scores and required forms are proofed and sent.
- ☐ Obtain your FAFSA ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/>.
- ☐ File the FAFSA in October.

### Winter

- ☐ Have you filed your FAFSA?
- ☐ Do any colleges require a mid-year report? (first semester senior grades)
- ☐ Keep up your grades. No Senioritis.

### Spring

- ☐ As you obtain acceptances, watch for financial aid letters and housing information.
- ☐ Register and take any AP tests needed.
- ☐ Carefully analyze financial aid offers. Compare and even consider appealing.
- ☐ Notify all colleges of your decision and accept one by May 1. Send applicable deposit.

### Summer

- ☐ Fill out and send housing forms, roommate info and any other required paperwork.
- ☐ Study hard for senior finals. This is not a time to slip.
- ☐ Send final thank you's and notify anyone who helped you of your decision.
- ☐ Register for and attend any orientation programs at your college.
- ☐ Think about what you'll need at college: computer, phone, bike, etc.
- ☐ Consider a summer job to give you some college dollars.
- ☐ Relax and enjoy your summer. Congrats on a job well done!

## Graduation Requirements

Subject	Required Credits	Required Courses
English	4	English 9, English 10, English 11 or AP Language and Composition, English 12 or AP Literature and Composition
Social Studies	3	-Government or AP United States Government and Politics -United States History or AP United States History -World History or AP World History: Modern
Science	3	-Biology *Conceptual Physics and Chemistry I are Prerequisites
Mathematics	3  All students shall enroll in a mathematics course each year of high school.	-Two credits of Algebra -One credit of Geometry  The fourth course must be 1 credit in duration and may be selected from the Program of Studies Mathematics course offerings.
Physical Education	1	-Physical Education I (½ credit)
Health	½	-Health I
Fine Arts	1	Completed credit in any Fine Arts course may be applied to the Fine Arts Graduation requirements unless otherwise indicated.
Technology Education	1	-Foundations of Technology, Exploring Computer Science, Principles of Engineering (part of Project Lead the Way completer program), AP Computer Science Principles (not part of Project Lead the Way)
World Language	2	-Two credits of the same World Language
<u>Or</u> American Sign Language	2	-Sign Language I, II, III
<u>Or</u> Advanced Technology	2	-See Technology Courses
<u>Or</u> State Approved Career and Technology Completer Program	4-9	-See Completer Programs
Financial Literacy	½	-Financial Literacy or -Managing Personal Finances Using Excel (1credit)
Electives	6-12	
Total Credits Required	25	

NOTE: This chart will be subject to change pending any State action on graduation requirements.

**Credit will be awarded for high school courses completed successfully in middle school.**

**Additional Requirements**

- Four years of approved study beyond the eighth grade
- Four credits must be earned after the completion of grade 11
- State-mandated 75 hours of service-learning may be met by completing the course – related option and/or the exemplary service option. (see Service-Learning guidelines on p. 14)
- Students must meet the High School Assessment requirements for Algebra I, English 10, Biology, and Government. Testing requirements and passing scores vary based on the year of course completion. Details related to each content area are provided below.
- All students shall be assessed no later than 11<sup>th</sup> grade to determine if the student meets the Maryland State Department of Education criteria for College and Career Readiness in English Language Arts and Mathematics.
- Transition courses or other instructional opportunities will be delivered in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade to students who have not achieved College and Career Readiness by the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

[Link to the Program of Studies](#)



## Dual Enrollment

Students are eligible to start Dual Enrollment in the spring of their Junior year!

### Why Dual enrollment?

- Take college courses at a reduced rate
- Earn college and high school credits at the same time
- Receive AP weighted grades toward your GPA

### Requirements:

- Have qualifying test scores (SAT ERBW 480+ and Math 530+); or (ACT, 21+); or have qualifying placement test scores, or a high school GPA that can place you into English 101 directly or, if none of the above talk to the Admissions Office to determine if you have qualifying state test scores
- MUST test into all 100 Level classes or above
- Fill out Dual Enrollment paperwork with your counselor prior to registering for CCC class.
- Must meet all requirements:
  - 3.0 cumulative unweighted GPA, 2.5 for school based Dual courses
  - 94% attendance in the marking period prior to Dual Enrollment registration
  - Completion of all 75 Service Learning Hours
  - Meet all state testing requirements

If interested, see your counselor for a Dual Enrollment application and set up a parent meeting.

# INTERNSHIPS AT SCHS

## ***Who can do an Internship?***

- Senior status with:
  - 94% attendance
  - 2.5+ GPA
  - 75 SLH complete and turned in
  - Enough classes on transcript/schedule in desired career major

## ***What career majors have internships?***

- Almost every career major has an internship. A few examples are:
  - Fine Arts
  - Graphic Communications
  - Business Operations
  - International Business
  - Law & Legal Services
  - Sports and Recreation
  - And more! Ask your counselor or Mrs. Riddle for more information.

## ***Where can I do an internship?***

- Cavaliers have interned in many different places, some examples are:
  - Applied Physics Lab
  - Law firms
  - Human Service Programs of Carroll County
  - Department of Natural Resources
  - Catoctin Zoo/Piney Run
  - Accounting Office
  - Real Estate Agency

## ***Why do an internship?***

- To build experience in your chosen career
- To decide if this is the career field for you
- To network and build connections to help get a job later in life
- To leave SCHS for a mod or two senior year
- To be an adult during your internship
- Possibly receive a scholarship or paying job from your internship!

## Using Naviance

Start by logging in to Naviance! Login using **Clever**.

- Look for Important To-Dos and Tasks that have been assigned by the school counselors.
- Look for What's New: We will be using this for all college visits that come to SCHS
- Juniors can explore the many career tools

The screenshot shows the 'Careers Home' page with several sections and callout boxes:

- Careers and Clusters I'm Thinking About:** View the careers and clusters that you have added to your favorites.
- Career Cluster Finder:** Learn what career clusters may be a good match for you based on activities that interest you, personal qualities that you have, and subjects that you enjoy.
- Do What You Are:** This assessment uses personality types to suggest careers and clusters that might be a good match.
- Career Key:** Learn about and view careers associated with your Holland interest codes.
- Career Interest Profiler:** A career interest assessment that will display all your Holland Code matches. Some schools may not have this assessment enabled.
- Careers and Clusters I'm thinking about:** Explore Careers, Explore Career Clusters.
- Roadtrip Nation Interview Archive:** What's in the Archive? Roadtrip Nation has gone on 52 roadtrips and interviewed creating 6,834 videos on struggle, triumph, and self discovery broken into 48 themes and 29 interests. Explore More.
- Explore More:** Use this button to access the Roadtrip Nation Interview Archive. This archive provides videos of experts sharing stories about different career paths. You can search for a video speaker by interests, themes, leaders and playlists.
- Career Assessments:** Career Cluster Finder, Career Key, StrengthsExplorer, Do What You Are, Career Interest Profiler, MI Advantage.
- Career Assessments:** Quickly access and take assessments that can tell you more about yourself and your career interests. Your list may have different assessments as compared to what is shown here. The assessments can also be found on the About Me tab.
- 3 ways to get ready for college, career and life this spring**

- If you are planning to attend college, begin exploring colleges. We will be using Naviance to advertise and sign up for all college visits starting in 2020-21.

### Find Your Fit

**SuperMatch™ College Search:** Receive a list of best-fit schools based on criteria that you deem as important in your college search.

**College Match:** See and quickly favorite the other schools that students are applying to when they have also applied to a school from your favorites list. Additionally, check out other colleges that have accepted students with stats like your own.

**Scattergrams:** A graph used to help you analyze how you fit in with other students from your high school who have been accepted or denied admittance to a school based on GPA and test scores.

**Advanced College Search:** Using multiple categories, answer questions to identify colleges that match your interests and then save the search.

**College Lookup:** Lookup a school by multiple filters including name, country, state, or college group. Easily favorite colleges using the Heart icon found next to a school name.



**SAT****VS****ACT**

<b>Why Take It</b>	Colleges use <b>SAT</b> scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.	Colleges use <b>ACT</b> scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.
<b>Test Structure</b>	Reading Writing & Language Math Essay (Optional)	English Math Reading Science Reasoning Essay (Optional)
<b>Cost</b>	\$55 <i>Fee waivers available, see your counselor</i>	\$60 or \$85 with writing <i>Fee waivers available, see your counselor</i>
<b>Length</b>	3 hours (without essay) 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay)  <b>Reading Test</b> 65 minutes, 52 questions  <b>Writing and Language Test</b> 35 minutes, 44 questions  <b>Math Test</b> 80 minutes, 58 questions	2 hours, 55 minutes (without essay) 3 hours, 40 minutes (with essay)  <b>Reading Test</b> 35 minutes, 40 questions  <b>English Test</b> 45 minutes, 75 questions  <b>Math Test</b> 60 minutes, 60 questions  <b>Science Test</b> 35 minutes, 40 questions
<b>Reading</b>	5 reading passages	4 reading passages
<b>Science</b>	None	1 science section testing your critical thinking skills (not your specific science knowledge)
<b>Math</b>	<i>Covers:</i>  Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis	<i>Covers:</i>  Arithmetic, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Probability & Statistics
<b>Calculator Policy</b>	Some math questions don't allow you to use a calculator.	You can use a calculator on all math questions.
<b>Essays</b>	Optional. The essay will test your comprehension of a source text.	Optional. The essay will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues.
<b>How It's Scored</b>	Scored on a scale of 400–1600	Scored on a scale of 1–36
<b>How to Prepare</b>	SAT Prep on Khan Academy, Daily Practice App <a href="https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice">https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice</a>	ACT Academy, Question of the Day <a href="https://academy.act.org/">https://academy.act.org/</a>

**U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS**[OOH HOME](#) | [OCCUPATION FINDER](#) | [OOH FAQ](#) | [OOH GLOSSARY](#) | [A-Z INDEX](#) | [OOH SITE MAP](#)

# OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK

Search Handbook

Go

[Occupational Outlook Handbook >](#)

PRINTER-FRIENDLY

## Fastest Growing Occupations

**Fastest growing occupations:** 20 occupations with the highest percent change of employment between 2019-29.*Click on an occupation name to see the full occupational profile.*

OCCUPATION	GROWTH RATE, 2019-29	2019 MEDIAN PAY
<a href="#">Wind turbine service technicians</a>	61%	\$52,910 per year
<a href="#">Nurse practitioners</a>	52%	\$109,820 per year
<a href="#">Solar photovoltaic installers</a>	51%	\$44,890 per year
<a href="#">Occupational therapy assistants</a>	35%	\$61,510 per year
<a href="#">Statisticians</a>	35%	\$91,160 per year
<a href="#">Home health and personal care aides</a>	34%	\$25,280 per year
<a href="#">Physical therapist assistants</a>	33%	\$58,790 per year
<a href="#">Medical and health services managers</a>	32%	\$100,980 per year
<a href="#">Physician assistants</a>	31%	\$112,260 per year
<a href="#">Information security analysts</a>	31%	\$99,730 per year
<a href="#">Data scientists and mathematical science occupations, all other</a>	31%	\$94,280 per year
<a href="#">Derrick operators, oil and gas</a>	31%	\$46,990 per year
<a href="#">Rotary drill operators, oil and gas</a>	27%	\$54,980 per year
<a href="#">Roustabouts, oil and gas</a>	25%	\$38,910 per year
<a href="#">Speech-language pathologists</a>	25%	\$79,120 per year
<a href="#">Operations research analysts</a>	25%	\$84,810 per year
<a href="#">Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors</a>	25%	\$46,240 per year
<a href="#">Forest fire inspectors and prevention specialists</a>	24%	\$45,270 per year
<a href="#">Cooks, restaurant</a>	23%	\$27,790 per year
<a href="#">Animal caretakers</a>	23%	\$24,780 per year

**Last Modified Date:** Tuesday, September 1, 2020

## FACTORS IN THE ADMISSION DECISION

Your high school grades are the #1 factor in the college admission decision. Other factors count, but the body of work you develop in high school is what matters the most- as it should.

Colleges do not choose students by the numbers only- they don't simply take the students with the highest grades and test scores. Colleges use many other factors to add depth to the numbers and to compare applications with each other to build a class that fits the college's mission. Students who meet or exceed the threshold for admission are, at selective colleges, evaluated based on all of the attributes they bring to campus, including special talents, academic interests, and personal characteristics. Here's a breakdown of what colleges take into account:

TABLE 7. PERCENTAGE OF COLLEGES ATTRIBUTING DIFFERENT LEVELS OF IMPORTANCE TO FACTORS IN ADMISSION DECISIONS: FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN, FALL 2017

Factor	N	Considerable Importance	Moderate Importance	Limited Importance	No Importance
Grades in All Courses	220	74.5	15.0	5.5	5.0
Grades in College Prep Courses	220	73.2	16.8	5.9	4.1
Strength of Curriculum	219	62.1	21.9	8.7	7.3
Admission Test Scores (SAT, ACT)	221	45.7	37.1	12.2	5.0
Essay or Writing Sample	220	23.2	33.2	24.1	19.5
Student's Demonstrated Interest	218	16.1	23.9	28.0	32.1
Counselor Recommendation	218	15.1	40.4	26.6	17.9
Teacher Recommendation	219	14.2	40.2	26.5	19.2
Class Rank	220	9.1	29.1	34.1	27.7
Extracurricular Activities	219	6.4	42.9	32.0	18.7
Portfolio	219	6.4	11.9	26.9	54.8
Subject Test Scores (AP, IB)	219	5.5	18.3	35.2	41.1
Interview	219	5.5	16.4	28.3	49.8
Work	217	4.1	28.6	36.9	30.4
State Graduation Exam Scores	218	2.3	8.7	18.8	70.2
SAT II Scores	216	1.9	5.6	14.8	77.8

SOURCE: NACAC Admission Trends Survey, 2018-19.

# Making the most of the campus visit

From [www.ecampustours.com](http://www.ecampustours.com)



When visiting a college campus, you probably already know that you should take a campus tour, meet with campus faculty, ask questions, etc. These tasks are pretty common when it comes to the [campus visit](#). However, if you really want to get the most out of your campus visit, you should also perform the following:

**Spend the night on campus.** During the campus tour, your tour guide will more than likely show you the dorm facilities. But if you really want to get a feel for the dorms, you should stay there overnight. By spending the night in a dorm, you would get to experience the communal showers, observe how floormates/suitemates/roommates interact with each other, get advice from the residential advisor, etc.

**Read the campus newspaper.** Get a copy of the student newspaper so you can know the current events of campus life. Reading the various articles and editorials will give you an idea of the campus atmosphere. Is the campus safe? Is the student body more liberal or conservative? Does the atmosphere seem positive?

**Sit in on a class.** To get a feel for college academia, arrange to sit in on a class or two. This will give you an idea of how college professors differ from high school teachers. It will also give you an idea of what kind of work is assigned at the school.

**Eat in the dining hall.** Since nourishment is essential for survival, you need to eat in the campus dining hall so you will know if you like the food or not. If you don't like the food served on campus, then it can get really expensive (not to mention unhealthy) eating at fast food restaurants every day. Campus cafeterias usually serve a variety of foods, so sample a few items to ensure that you will have a good array from which to choose.

**Explore the surrounding area.** It's crucial to explore the area surrounding the college when you make a campus visit. Can you quickly walk to restaurants, drug stores, grocery stores, etc.? Or is the surrounding area pretty rural, offering more places to go hiking, boating, skiing, etc.? Is it a community where you could easily find part-time work? Does the surrounding area feel safe? Can you see yourself living in this area for the next four or more years?

**Check out campus bulletin boards.** Be sure to check the campus bulletin boards to find out what events are going on in the surrounding area and on campus. These boards usually have postings about area concerts, sporting events, lectures, plays, club meetings, religious services, job openings, etc. Does the campus have a lot

going on? Does it have too much going on for your taste? Do you see any advertised activities that interest you? What kinds of job openings are publicized?

**Investigate the athletic facilities.** Find out if the athletic facilities are just reserved for teams and physical education classes or if any student is welcome to use the facilities. If you love to swim, make sure there is a pool available for you to use. If you're a tennis junkie, try out the tennis courts. Does the school have work-out equipment? What about an ice skating rink? If you're an athletic person, these amenities are probably very important to you (even if you don't want to participate in a team setting).

**Take part in leisure activities.** What kinds of relaxation activities does the college offer? Some schools have game rooms, bowling alleys, movie theaters, golf courses, etc. right there on campus! Find out what the school offers and join in!

There's more to the campus visit than just a tour and interviews. In order to make the most of your visit, you need to find out as much as you can about the school and experience campus activities. If you can't [visit a campus in person](#), be sure to take a [virtual tour](#) of the school.

# Campus Visit Checklist

Visiting a college campus helps you get a sense of what a college — and life at that college — is like. This can help you decide whether the college is right for you.

## GATHER INFORMATION

Find out what you need to do to apply, and see if the college's class and major offerings are what you want:

- ☐ Take part in a group information session at the admission office.
- ☐ Interview with an admission officer.
- ☐ Pick up financial aid forms.
- ☐ Sit in on a class that interests you. If classes aren't in session, just see what the classrooms are like.
- ☐ Meet a professor who teaches a subject that interests you.
- ☐ Talk to students about what they think of their classes and professors.
- ☐ Get the names and business cards of the people you meet so you can contact them later if you have questions.

## EXPLORE THE CAMPUS

Get a feel for student life, and see if this college is a place where you will do well:

- ☐ Take a campus tour.
- ☐ Talk to current students about the college and life on campus.
- ☐ Check out the freshman dorms, and stay overnight on campus if possible.
- ☐ Visit the dining hall, fitness center, library, career center, bookstore, and other campus facilities.
- ☐ Talk to the coaches of sports that you may want to play.
- ☐ Walk or drive around the community surrounding the campus.

## CHECK OUT CAMPUS MEDIA

Tune in to learn what's happening on campus and what's on students' minds:

- ☐ Listen to the college radio station.
- ☐ Read the student newspaper.
- ☐ Scan bulletin boards to see what daily student life is like.
- ☐ Go to the career center and learn what services it offers.
- ☐ Browse the school's website and any campus blogs.
- ☐ Read other student publications, such as department newsletters, and literary reviews.

# GET THE MOST OUT OF A CAMPUS VISIT IN 6 STEPS

## 1 DECIDE WHERE AND HOW

See if your school arranges group trips to colleges or if you could get a group of friends together and visit the campus. A family trip is another option and allows you to involve your family in the process.

## 2 PREPARE FOR YOUR VISIT

Before you set out, get a map of the college campus and pick out places of interest. Call the college's admission office to schedule a guided tour of the campus.

## 3 TAKE YOUR OWN TOUR

Just wandering around the campus on your own or with friends can be the best way to get a feel for what a college is like.

## 4 EXPLORE THE FACILITIES

Finding the spots on campus where students gather or asking a student where the best place to eat is can give you a feel for the character of the college. Visit the library and check out the gym or theater. Ask an admission officer if you can tour a dorm and a classroom.

## 5 MAKE CONNECTIONS

Talk to current students. Ask the students at the next table or sitting nearby what they like best about the college.

## 6 TAKE NOTES

During your visit, write down some notes about your experience. What did you see that excited you? Are there aspects of the college that you don't like? If so, what are they?

## Questions to Ask During Your Visit:

### ASK TOUR GUIDES/STUDENTS

- What are the best reasons to go to this college?
- What's it like to go from high school to college?
- What do you do in your free time? On the weekends?
- What do you love about this college?
- What do you wish you could change about this college?
- Why did you choose this college?
- What is it like to live here?
- What does the college do to promote student involvement in campus groups, extracurricular activities, or volunteerism?

### ASK PROFESSORS

- What are the best reasons to go to this college?
- Can a student be mentored by professors, graduate students, or upperclassmen?
- How are professors rated by the college? Does the college think mentoring and meetings for project guidance are important?
- How does the college help students have access to professors outside class? Do professors join students for lunch, help with community service groups, or guide student organizations?
- How many students do research or other kinds of projects for a semester or more?

### ASK FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

- How much has your total college cost for each student risen in the past year?
- How much do your students usually owe in loans when they graduate?
- What is the average income of graduates who had the same major that interests me?
- Will my costs go up when your tuition goes up, or can we use the same tuition rate I started with so I'll know the costs for four years? What should I expect in terms of increases in living expenses?
- How many students usually graduate in the major that interests me? How long do these students usually take to get their degrees? In what ways does the college help students graduate in four years?



# NCAA Eligibility Center

The NCAA Eligibility Center is responsible for certifying the academic and amateur status of all Division I and II incoming student-athletes. College-bound student-athletes can create an account with the Eligibility Center by visiting [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org). We recommend that students register during their sophomore year of high school to ensure they have adequate time to confirm they are on track for meeting initial eligibility requirements.

Academic requirements for each college-bound student-athlete are based on the student's core-course grade point average and their ACT or SAT score.

## WHAT IS A CORE COURSE?

Core courses are those that are academic in nature, taught at or above your high school's regular academic level, receive credit toward high school graduation, and are four-year college preparatory courses. To be used in an academic certification, the courses need to be listed on the student's transcript with their grades and credits. Core courses must be in one of the following academic areas:

- English
- Math (Algebra 1 or higher)
- Natural/physical science
- Social science
- Foreign language
- Comparative religion or philosophy

## DIVISION I ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate from high school.
- Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:
  - ◆ English—four years
  - ◆ Math (Algebra 1 or higher)—three years
  - ◆ Natural/physical science (one year of lab if offered)—two years
  - ◆ Additional English, math, or natural/physical science—one year
  - ◆ Social science—two years
  - ◆ Additional courses (in any of the above subject areas or comparative religion or philosophy)—four years
- Complete 10 of the 16 core courses prior to the start of the seventh semester, including seven in English, math, or natural/physical science.
- Complete the 16 NCAA-approved core courses in eight academic semesters or four consecutive academic years from the beginning of ninth grade. If students graduate from high school early, they must still meet core-course requirements.
- Earn an SAT® combined score or ACT sum score that matches their core-course GPA (minimum 2.300) on the Division I sliding scale.



## DIVISION II ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Complete 16 core courses in the following areas:
  - ◆ English—three years
  - ◆ Math (Algebra 1 or higher)—two years
  - ◆ Natural/physical science (one year of lab if offered)—two years
  - ◆ Social science—two years
  - ◆ Additional English, math, or natural/physical science—three years
  - ◆ Additional courses (in any of the above subject areas or comparative religion or philosophy)—four years
- Graduate from high school.
- Earn an SAT combined score or ACT sum score matching your core-course GPA on the Division II sliding scale.

## COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT-ATHLETES TIMELINE

### GRADE 9: PLAN

- Start planning now! Take the right courses and earn the best grades you can.
- Ask your counselor for a list of your high school's NCAA core courses to make sure you take the right classes. Or, find your high school's list of NCAA core courses at [eligibilitycenter.org/courselist](https://eligibilitycenter.org/courselist).

### GRADE 10: REGISTER

- Register for a Certification Account or Profile Page with the NCAA Eligibility Center at [eligibilitycenter.org](https://eligibilitycenter.org).
- If you fall behind on courses, don't take shortcuts to catch up. Ask your counselor for help with finding approved courses or programs you can take.

### GRADE 11: STUDY

- Check with your counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate on time.
- Take the ACT or SAT, and make sure NCAA gets your scores by using code 9999.
- At the end of the year, ask your counselor to upload your official transcript.

### GRADE 12: GRADUATE

- Take the SAT or ACT again, if necessary, and make sure NCAA gets your scores by using code 9999.
- Request your final amateurism certification after April 1.
- After you graduate, ask your counselor to upload your final official transcript with proof of graduation.



# College Comparison Worksheet

[illegible]

[illegible]

	College Number 1	College Number 2	College Number 3	College Number 4	College Number 5	College Number 6	College Number 7	College Number 8	College Number 9
<b>Activities</b>	Offers the sports I want								
	Offers activities I want								
	Sororities/Fraternities								
	Other								
Social Atmosphere	Other								
	Diversity Level								
	Religious Factor								
	Party Factor								
Do Students Leave on Weekends?									
	Other								
Facilities	Other								
	Housing - On Campus								
	Housing - Off Campus								
	Cafeteria and Food Quality								
	Other								
	Other								
Annual Cost	Tuition								
	Room and Board								
	Other								
	TOTAL								
Can I afford this School?									





# College Application Worksheet

[illegible]

# Financial Aid Preparation

From <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/prepare-for-college/checklists/11th-grade#students-to-do>

- Explore careers and their earning potential with the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* search tool. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>
- Go to college fairs and college-preparation presentations hosted by college representatives.
- Take the **PSAT/NMSQT**. You must take the test in 11th grade to qualify for scholarships and programs associated with the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Register for and take exams for college admission. The **standardized tests** that many colleges require are the SAT, the SAT Subject Tests, and the ACT. Check with the colleges you are interested in to see what tests they require.
- **Use a free scholarship search** to find scholarships for which you might want to apply. Some deadlines fall as early as the summer between 11th and 12th grades, so prepare now to submit applications soon.

## Summer before 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Create a username and password called an **FSA ID** that you'll use to confirm your identity when accessing your government financial aid information and electronically signing your **federal student aid** documents. **Learn about the FSA ID, and create yours.** **Note: You must create your own FSA ID; if your parent creates it for you, that'll cause confusion later and will slow down the financial aid application process.**
- **Use the FAFSA4caster financial aid estimator**, and compare the results to the actual costs at the colleges to which you will apply. To supplement any aid *FAFSA4caster* estimates you might receive, be sure to **apply for scholarships**. Your goal is to minimize the amount of loan funds you borrow so you have less to pay back later.
- Find out what government financial aid you can apply for, and how, in *Federal Student Aid at a Glance*. <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/aid-glance-2017-18.pdf>
- **Utilize Naviance for local and national scholarship opportunities.**
- **Additional Scholarship websites:**
  - Fastweb [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  - FinAid [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)
  - Scholarships.com [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)
  - School Soup [www.schoolsoup.com](http://www.schoolsoup.com)
  - I'm First (for first generation college bound students) [www.imfirst.org](http://www.imfirst.org)

## Student Credential Sheet – Senior Self-Assessment

**This form will be needed to request Letter(s) of Recommendation.**

**Please complete this survey in Naviance along with your resume.**

*The more detailed information you provide, the more helpful it will be to your recommenders.*

1. What three words best describe you?
2. What are your personal strengths?
3. What are the qualities that set you apart from others?
4. What are your present career goals? What made you decide on this path?
5. What two things would you want a college admission's committee to know about you they would not learn from your application? Give specific examples.
6. What would you describe as your most personally rewarding experience during high school and why?
7. Describe the rigor of your academic studies (how did you challenge yourself?)
8. Among the activities in which you have been involved, which has been the most significant or important to you and why?
9. How do you spend your leisure time?
10. Is there anything about the Covid-19 period that particularly impacted you and that you would like to share? *Colleges care about the effects on your health and well-being, safety, family circumstances, future plans, and education, including access to reliable technology and quiet study spaces.*

<b>Update your resume in Naviance to include all activities:</b>
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- **Extracurricular/ sports, include grades involved and offices/ leadership positions held.**
- **Community and civic activities (other than those in school). Include part-time jobs, summer employment, and volunteer work.**

## Helpful Websites for Juniors



Resource	On-Line Address	Description
ACT, Inc.	<a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>	ACT registration, information. PLAN help. College Search. Financial Aid Estimator.
College Board	<a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a>	SAT registration, information, and practice questions. PSAT help. College planning and search. Scholarship Search
CareerOneStop	<a href="http://www.careeronestop.org">www.careeronestop.org</a>	Career searches. Career Planning. Salary info. Education and Training. Job search. Resume help.
Campus Tours	<a href="http://www.campustours.com">www.campustours.com</a>	If you can't get there in person. On-line video tours, maps, and links to colleges.
College Confidential	<a href="http://www.collegeconfidential.com">www.collegeconfidential.com</a>	College search engine. Searchable reviews, videos, photos from college students
College Majors 101	<a href="http://www.collegemajors101.com">www.collegemajors101.com</a>	Explore college majors. Get a list of colleges. View career videos. Link to professional publications.
Colleges that Change Lives	<a href="http://www.ctcl.org">www.ctcl.org</a>	college searches and planning
College Prowler	<a href="http://www.collegeprowler.com">www.collegeprowler.com</a>	College search. Scholarship search. Find a major. Student reviews
eCampusTours	<a href="http://www.eCampusTours.com">www.eCampusTours.com</a>	Virtual campus tours. College planning. Financial aid. Scholarship search. Career exploration.
FinAid	<a href="http://www.finaid.org">www.finaid.org</a>	Free guide to Federal financial aid, scholarships, student loans, and military aid
GoCollege	<a href="http://www.gocollege.com">www.gocollege.com</a>	College search. Scholarship search. Financial Aid. Distance learning opportunities. SAT & ACT help. College planning.
I'm First	<a href="http://www.imfirst.org">www.imfirst.org</a>	College planning and help for first generation college students
MD Higher Education Commission	<a href="http://www.mhec.state.md.us">www.mhec.state.md.us</a>	MD college/university search. Scholarship search. College planning. Financial Aid. Online applications. Career Center. Career schools.
My Future	<a href="http://www.myfuture.com">www.myfuture.com</a>	College planning. College searches. Career information. Military information.
My Next Move	<a href="http://www.mynextmove.org">www.mynextmove.org</a>	Take an interest inventory to find your career. Explore jobs by industries.
NCAA Clearinghouse	<a href="http://www.eligibilitycenter.org">www.eligibilitycenter.org</a>	Division I & II college athletic eligibility rules. Registration for potential college student-athletes
NextStep U	<a href="http://www.nextstepU.com">www.nextstepU.com</a>	College planning. Find a college. Career information. Discussion boards.
Princeton Review	<a href="http://www.princetonreview.com">www.princetonreview.com</a>	College rankings. Majors and career info. Admission tests. Scholarship search. Financial Aid.



Raise.me	<a href="http://www.raise.me">www.raise.me</a>	Discover colleges and earn scholarships for academic and extracurricular achievements throughout high school. These bitesized scholarships are called "Micro-Scholarships".
South Carroll High School	<a href="https://www.carrollk12.org/schools/high/sch/schoolcounseling/">https://www.carrollk12.org/schools/high/sch/schoolcounseling/</a>	College, Career, and other helpful information for all students
Stem Jobs	<a href="http://www.stemjobs.com">www.stemjobs.com</a>	Find your STEM type, search STEM careers, and find colleges that offer your STEM major
Today's Military	<a href="http://www.todaysmilitary.com">www.todaysmilitary.com</a>	Military Careers. ASVAB info. Military life.
Universities, Colleges & Trade Schools	<a href="http://www.trade-schools.net">www.trade-schools.net</a>	Search for Technical Schools, Trade Schools, Colleges, and Distance Learning
Unigo	<a href="http://www.unigo.com">www.unigo.com</a>	Searchable reviews, videos, photos from college students

ready. set.  
go!

