



JUNIOR COLLEGE GUIDE

EXPLORE

Junior year is the time to explore, learn and absorb. Consider the following ways to do so:

- Explore the college website; take advantage of virtual info sessions or tours
- Attend College Fairs in person or virtually
- Drive around campuses in the St. Louis area
- Meet with College reps that come to Nerinx during contact time
- Set up campus tours for fall break, Christmas break or Spring break; Juniors are allowed 2 excused absences to take college visits - please refer to the handbook for the college visit procedure

COLLEGE REP VISITS AT NERINX

- Nerinx has several schools coming both this semester and next
- For a list of schools and to register, log into [SCOIR](#) (more on SCOIR below)
- Meeting with reps is a great opportunity to learn about a school and ask questions; use the [College Rep Questions sheet](#) to get an idea of questions to ask the reps

SCOIR

[SCOIR](#) is an online college and career database which Nerinx students will use for college searches, keeping track of applications and most importantly to request transcripts senior year. Juniors were given access to SCOIR at the end of last year. What can students do on SCOIR?

- Search for schools based on criteria, get info, take virtual tours and more
- Use the analysis feature (also called scattergrams) to see how competitive the school is based on GPA and ACT scores of former students
- Create a list of schools you are interested in and eventually a list of schools in which you will apply
- Take a career assessment called “You Science” and have access to a career database
- Once logged in, students can invite parents to join so they can do their own research
- Students will ultimately use [SCOIR](#) to request transcripts

CAREER ASSESSMENT

All students should complete the Career and Aptitude Assessment on SCOIR called “You Science.” **Please have this completed by January (prior to individual Junior meetings):**

- Log into [SCOIR](#)
- Click on “My Profile” at the top
- Click on “Career Profile” on the left side
- Click on “Get Started”

PLEASE NOTE: the assessment can take up to 2 hours, however, students can complete one section at a time as it will save progress. By taking the assessment, students will be matched to various careers/jobs based on their answers. Learning about careers and jobs will assist in narrowing down schools based on majors for these careers. With that said, if students are still undecided, it is OKAY! They do not need to have a major chosen when applying to college.

ACT TESTING

It is a national recommendation that students begin testing midway through junior year and to take the ACT at least 3 times by October of Senior year. Many schools are test optional; we hope this trend continues but cannot guarantee it will. Therefore, we strongly recommend students plan on testing like normal so that they do not limit their options. Things to note:

- Juniors will take an official ACT test at school in March
- Juniors do not need to register for the test at Nerinx (more info to come)
- Taking the ACT 1-2 more times prior to senior year is recommended; students can also test in September and October of senior year
- **Students MUST REGISTER on their own for every ACT except for the one on at Nerinx**
- Start looking at your calendar and planning for possible times to take the ACT later this school year
- For test dates, deadlines and to register, go to: www.act.org

ACT OR SAT

ACT tends to be the more favored test for our students as they have had more success on the ACT vs the SAT. Students can, however, take the SAT as well or in place of the ACT. Counselors will help make recommendations based on the students practice SAT (PSAT) and practice ACT (Pre-ACT). Either test is accepted for admission into college. More information at www.act.org (ACT) or www.collegeboard.org (SAT). For test prep information, click [HERE](#).

COLLEGE MEETINGS

Next semester, we will meet individually with every junior to learn more about her post-secondary goals and plans. Parents are encouraged to attend since college is most certainly a family decision. More details on scheduling a meeting will be provided in January.

COLLEGE ATHLETES

Students who are interested in playing DI, DII or NAIA sports in college should check out the following websites: [NCAA](http://www.ncaa.org) and/or [NAIA](http://www.naia.org). Students are required to be “cleared” to play sports in college. You can start this process junior year by registering with the NCAA or NAIA.

PRE-COLLEGE AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

Colleges offer a variety of experiences for high school students over the summer on their campus. A pre-college program offers high school students the opportunity to take classes and experience college life during the summer while a summer program offers high school students the opportunity to explore various careers and interests. Schools have programs ranging from Acapella to Robotics to Veterinary Studies. Visit the [Nerinx College Counseling](#) page or a college website to learn more.