

Liberty Common High School

College Planning Checklist- Juniors



June/October

- Check your email regularly and read all emails from the LCHS College Center.
- Document your involvement in everything you do- sports, clubs, activities, and community service.
 - You will use this for your college applications
- Attend **college visits** in the college center. We have over 50 colleges that visits LCHS during the fall
- Prepare for and **take the PSAT/NMSQT in October** (The National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test).
 - <http://www.nationalmerit.org> This test may potentially qualify you for college merit money.
- Attend **College Night Programs and College Fairs** to gather information about colleges.
 - Fall:** In-State College Fair at Rocky
Out-Of-State College Fair at Poudre High School
Paying and Planning for College Information Night- LCHS
 - Spring:** College Planning Night for Juniors
College Fair at LCHS
Junior Seminar Series

November/December

- ACT and SAT Testing**
 - All Juniors will take the SAT in April- students do not need to register. Create your Kahn Academy account and practice online at www.khanacademy.org
 - Register for additional SAT if needed www.collegeboard.org
 - Register for your first national ACT www.act.org
 - All colleges take both test scores. Some colleges are test optional <https://fairtest.org/>
- Be sure that your first semester grades reflect your ability. Colleges review your GPA through junior year.
- Utilize **Naviance**:
 - Update your 4-Year “Course Plan” and begin planning your senior year courses.
 - Consider colleges of interest and familiarize yourself with their course admissions requirements.
 - Complete a “college search.”
- Research summer programs and internship opportunities in order to make the most of your upcoming summer. Come to the College Center for ideas and programs.
- Take an aptitude test to help you determine your majors/career interests.
- Schedule your Junior College Planning Meeting with Mrs. Campbell at <https://calendly.com/campbellcollege/libertycommon>.**
 - We will discuss:**
 - **Best fit colleges and how to create a college list**
 - **Merit scholarships and family affordability**
 - **Potential majors and ways to explore options**
 - **Next steps to prepare for College Applications: essays, applications, deadlines, etc.**
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January/February

- Know the admissions requirements at your top choice colleges prior to registering for your senior year courses.
- Register for your senior year courses that fulfill your graduation and college requirements.
- If you are an athlete, artist, musician, etc. and may be looking for a college scholarship or careers in those fields, begin working with teachers, mentors, and coaches to put together a portfolio and/or videos highlighting your specific talents.

- If you are considering participating in Division I or II athletics, meet with Mrs. Campbell to confirm [NCAA requirements](#).
- If you are planning to apply to a military academy, meet with Mr. Schaffer to develop your strategy and get the names of recruiters to help with the appointment process. <https://militarybenefits.info/how-to-apply-to-a-military-service-academy/>

March/April

- Develop a list of 5-15 colleges. Consider factors important to you such as location, size, cost, facilities, available majors, selectivity, financial aid and scholarships, activities, etc
- Also use www.collegedata.com and <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/> to research colleges.
- Take the **State SAT in April**. This is a state mandated test for all juniors.
- Use your PSAT results to prepare and practice for the SAT.

May/June

- Take AP Exams in May
- If you are a prospective college athlete, request your official transcript be sent to the [NCAA Eligibility Center](#).
- Take the ACT and SAT again if needed.
- Attend the Essay Workshop in June. Review the [Common App Essay Prompts](#)
- Attend the LCHS Application Workshop in August.
- Create an organizational system to keep track of college information.
- Create your Common Application account www.commonapp.org
- Create your Self-Reported Academic Record <https://ssar.selfreportedtranscript.com/Login.aspx>
- Make the most of your summer—volunteer work, summer jobs, summer enrichment programs, or internships.
- Visit college campuses. Review this list of [college tour questions](#).

Financial Aid and Scholarships:

- Research scholarship opportunities at your top choice colleges.
- Determine College Affordability with a [net price calculator](#).
- Register with the [Colorado College Opportunity Fund \(COF\)](#) if you might attend college in Colorado.
- Research colleges participating in the [Western Undergraduate Exchange \(WUE\)](#)
- Complete the [FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#). All families are highly encouraged to submit the FAFSA regardless of their financial situation.
- Familiarize yourself with the [CSS: College Scholarship Service](#) profile which is used by [these colleges](#) in their financial aid process.
- Review college costs for schools of interest www.tuitionfit.org

Scholarships

<https://www.goingmerry.com/>

www.bold.org

<https://www.cappex.com/scholarships/>

<https://www.niche.com/colleges/scholarships/>

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

LCHS College Center

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