

Post-Secondary Planning Timeline

FRESHMAN YEAR

Fall:

- Meet your guidance counselor. Freshman year is a year of transition and your counselor can help you get adjusted to the school
- Get involved. Extracurricular activities are an important part of high school. Get involved with clubs or teams that interest you.
- Pick the right courses. Make sure you are enrolled in the appropriate course. Be sure you are taking the core requirements of English, math, science, history, and a foreign language.

Winter/Spring:

- Keep your grades up. Your grades will impact your GPA. Although college seems a long way off, grades count toward college admissions.
- Explore your interests. Freshman will be introduced to **Naviance** to complete the **Career Cluster Survey** to explore careers and interests.
- Keep track of academic and extracurricular awards, community service and anything you have participated in. You will be highlighting your accomplishments when you fill out college applications and college resumes.
- Summers count!! Explore internships and apprenticeships. Enroll in a summer enrichment program. Keep track of credentials during the summer.
- Monitor your digital footprint. Digit footprint is a record or trail left by things you do online.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Meet your new counselor. Each sophomore will be assigned a counselor for the rest of their high school career at Hendrick Hudson High School.
- Optional PSAT in October
- Stay on track with your courses. Work with your counselor and make sure you are enrolled in the courses you will need to be a viable applicant to the college of your choice.
- Take on new roles. Stay involved with your extracurricular activities and take on leadership positions in the activities you like best. Mentor others and have a mentor yourself. Become involved in community services and other volunteer activities.
- Continue exploring potential careers. Attend BOCES TECH presentation and attend the BOCES TECH trip.
- Students will begin the **Naviance Career Interest Profiler** to link careers choices to potential college majors.
- Start your college search using and begin to identify a list of colleges that match your criteria. Attend local college fairs and be in contact with colleges that interest you.
- Summers count!! Explore internships and apprenticeships. Enroll in a summer enrichment program. Keep track of credentials during the summer.
- Monitor your digital footprint. Digit footprint is a record or trail left by things you do online.

JUNIOR YEAR

Fall:

- PSAT/NMSQT examination in October
- Financial Aid Night for parents of juniors and seniors
- Attend a college fair- Opportunity to meet with college admissions counselors-NACAC is holding virtual fairs and the information is posted on the Guidance Google Classroom
- Meet with college admissions representatives virtually during the school day that are meeting with only Hen Hud students
- Check-in with your Guidance Counselor to review your courses and transcript
- Stay on track with your courses. Work with your counselor and make sure you are enrolled in the courses you will need to be a viable applicant to the college of your choice.

Winter/Spring:

- Meet with counselor to review PSAT results and begin college planning
- Create a testing calendar with your counselor – take college admissions tests: ACT, SATI, and SAT Subject Tests (SATI and Subject Tests cannot be taken on the same day)
- Attend Junior Information night
- Make a college list. Search schools that you might want to learn more about. College fairs, Internet searches, Naviance. Follow colleges on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook
- Attend virtual college fairs
- Create a professional email address. i.e. henry.hudson@yahoo.com
- Start college visits: schedule a virtual tour/informational session. Meet with college reps, professor in your field of interest. Talk with coaches, music faculty, other students, etc.
- Attend scheduled meeting with counselor and parent/guardian in January/February. Discuss where you are in the college process.
- Discuss obtaining a letter of recommendation from two teachers with the help of your counselor
- Meet with counselor to discuss and register for senior year classes
- Create your high school resume
- Begin scholarship search on Naviance
- Summers count!! Explore internships and apprenticeships. Enroll in a summer enrichment program. Keep track of credentials during the summer.
- Monitor your digital footprint. Digit footprint is a record or trail left by things you do online.

Summer Before Senior Year:

- Continue College visits
- **Athletes:** Register with NCAA Clearinghouse by June at www.ncaaclearinghouse.org. Be aware of NCAA rules/procedures.
- Create a common Application Account and begin working on college applications (Seniors will receive an invite to attend a common applications workshop in August).
- Begin to develop college essays and resume (Seniors will receive an invite to attend a resume workshop in August).

SENIOR YEAR

Fall:

- Check-in with your Guidance Counselor to review your courses and transcript.
- Attend the mandatory senior meeting with your Counselor on the college application process in September/October.
- Refine list of colleges to include those in which you are seriously interested. Choices should reflect varying degrees of acceptance possibilities. Avoid selecting only “reach” schools.
- Schedule a senior conference appointment with your counselor to review your list of colleges. Students are required to fill out a COLLEGE APPLICATION CHECKLIST.
- Enter the colleges you are applying to in Family Connection (Naviance).
- Register for ACT, SAT, and SAT Subject Tests. Check with your counselor if you have any questions.
- Request recommendations from your teachers and inform them of your college application deadlines. Be courteous and always ask your teachers in person for a letter at least a couple of weeks prior to your first application deadline. If you are eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch- speak with your Counselor about testing and application Fee Waivers.
- Meet with teachers/counselors to refine and revise college essay
- Visit virtually with college representatives at the high school. Full visitation schedule is available in Naviance or on the Guidance website. (Note: colleges call daily to schedule appointments, so check frequently for the most up to date listing).
- Be aware of deadlines, especially if you are applying Early Decision or Early Action.
- Apply to colleges. Follow application directions carefully. If you like, schedule an appointment with your counselor to review your common application, resume and your essay
- Check with your colleges to see if they offer interviews as part of the application process.
- Make sure to send SAT and ACT Scores – request these online from testing companies a few weeks in advance.
- Attend Financial Aid Night at HHHS. File applications for financial aid (FAFSA and CSS profile, if required) as soon as possible after October 1st. Please note- the CSS Profile may have a different deadline depending on your college. Colleges have their own forms as well. (Note: This process will change for the 2016/2017 school year).
- First quarter as well as semester grades will only be sent at the request of the student (Student needs to indicate on the College Application Checklist).

Winter/Spring:

- All college applications should be submitted on or before college deadline.
- Around December 15 – students hear back from Early Decision/Early Action.
- Review scholarship opportunities with your guidance counselor.
- March/April – Regular Decision notification date.
- Understand how the “waitlist” works. Speak to your counselor if you have questions.
- Notify your counselor of your admission status as soon as you are notified from the college.
- Make your college selection by May 1st, make only one deposit.
- When you have reached a final decision regarding the college you will attend, carefully follow the indicated procedure for accepting the school’s offer of admission. Inform your counselor of your decision. If you applied for aid, wait until your financial aid package arrives before making a decision.

- Remember – all acceptances are contingent upon successful completion of senior year. Colleges can revoke your admission.
- **A final transcript will be sent to the college you plan to attend.**