

Class of 2025



Becton Regional H.S. Guidance Dept.
Future Planning Presentation

Junior Year Review

1

Transcript Review

2

Grades

64 or lower means you will fail the course

3

Credits

You need to earn at least 90 credits by the end of your junior year in order to be considered a senior.

4

Attendance

Full year course: 18 absences
½ year course: 9 absences
5 tardies=1 absence

Typical Junior Year Schedule

English requirement	English 11
Math requirement	Mathematics (Algebra 2 or Pre-Calculus)
Science requirement	Physics
Social Studies requirement	U.S. History 2
Physical Education requirement	Phys. Ed./First Aid
	Elective (Academic) *not Culinary or Art courses
	Elective
	Elective

Next Year's Schedule

Dual Enrollment

Earn college credit through Bergen Community College, Ramapo, or St. Thomas Aquinas by taking approved courses at Becton

Internship

Begin career experience during your senior year by visiting a job site during the school day

BCC Prep

Earn up to 18 college credits through Bergen Community College by taking courses on their campus

What should I be doing during my junior year to help me prepare for my future?

- ★ **Academic Achievement**-overall GPA, course rigor, transcript improvement, test scores
- ★ **Extracurricular Involvement**-sports, clubs, Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.
- ★ **Character/Leadership**-captain, president, mentor, etc.
- ★ **Community Service**-soup kitchen, food pantry, religious org., camp, teach, etc.

Prep Help:
Khan Academy
BCC

Follow their Twitter handles!
@OfficialSAT
@ACT & @ACTStudent

SAT or ACT

Comparison of
both tests

collegeboard.org

act.org

SAT vs. ACT

- May be used for a graduation assessment
 - Many students take both- but not recommended
 - The ACT is not easier than the SAT or vice versa
 - ACT tests students' reasoning and logic; questions based on science passages, data & graphs
 - SAT: 400-1600 scoring, 3 hours
 - ACT: 1-36 scoring, 3 hours
-

Upcoming SAT/ACT Dates

SAT

March 9

May 4

June 1

ACT

February 10

April 13

June 8

July 13

Test Optional Schools

About 2,000 schools are currently test optional

To find a list of test-optional schools, visit [fairtest.org](https://www.fairtest.org).

FAQ's

Q: If the school I'm applying to is optional should I take the test?

A: YES! Take the test because the school will be using your scores to make a decision about your acceptance.

Q: Should I send my scores if the school is test optional?

A: It depends on your score vs. the average score of students accepted

Helpful Resources for Future Planning

Bectonhs

- Counseling tab
- College, Career, Military Planning tab

Naviance

- Inventories
- Needed for College Application Process

College Board Big Future

- Inventories & College Planning
- Scholarships

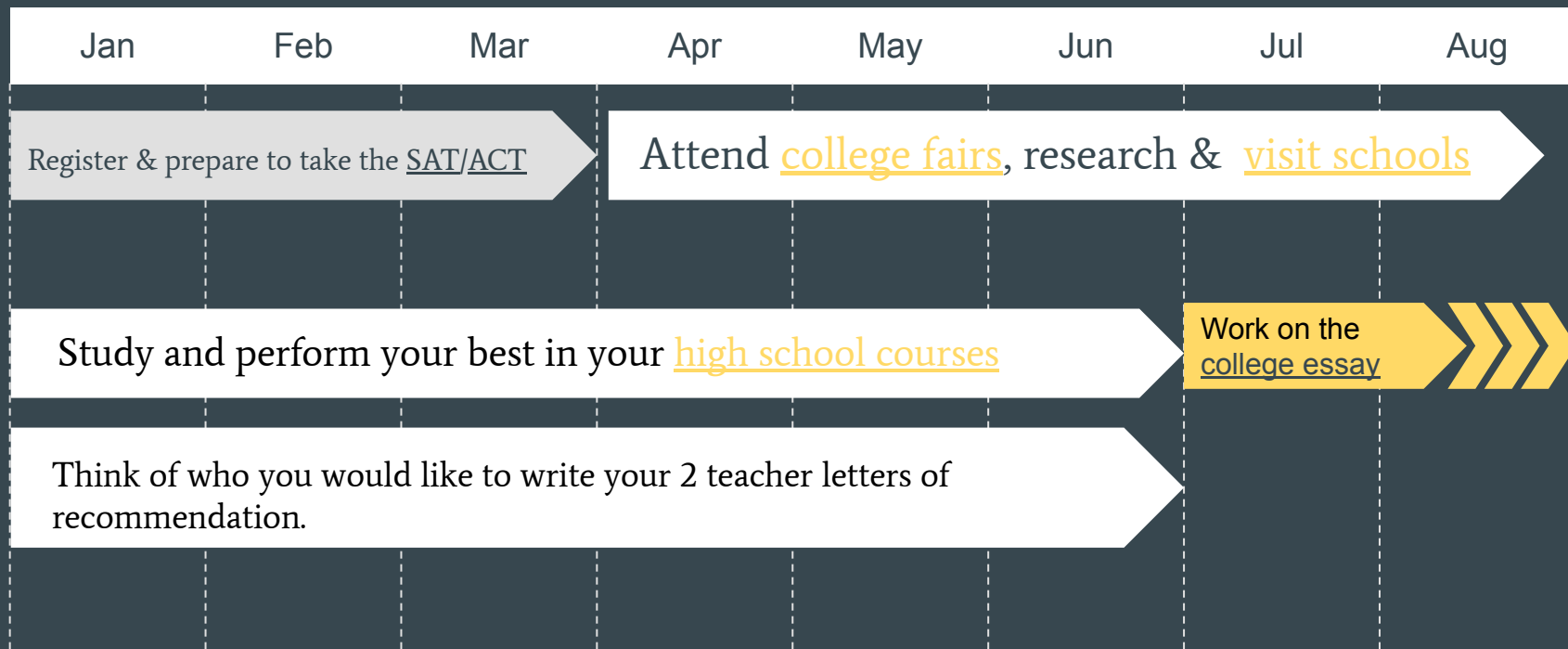
Guidance Class of 2025 GC Page

- Code: **p2gxttf**
- Important Announcements & Resources

Trade School or the Military

Trade School Resources	Military Planning
Eastwick College	Army, Navy, Airforce, Marines, Spaceforce Coast Guard, Merchant Marine
Berkeley College	<u>West Point</u>
Universal Technical Institute (UTI)	<u>United States Naval Academy</u>
Lincoln Tech	<u>Norwich, Valley Forge</u>
<u>List of Local Trade Schools</u>	<u>Today's Military</u>

Junior Year Timeline



College Process Timeline

**Please access the Google Doc above for our Guidance Department's College Process Timeline to help keep you on track.

When do I begin applying to college?

Every school is different in terms of college applications, but the short answer is to check the school's website for deadlines and how to apply. If they participate in the Common App, then that will open on Aug. 1 for you to begin the application process. However, some schools (i.e. Rutgers) do not participate in the Common App, and you must apply through their website. Again, it is important for you to please check the school's website for all application requirements and deadlines.

2-3 **Reach** Schools

2-3 **Target** Schools

2-3 **Safety** Schools

How do I find the best fit college for me?

Academics

Does the college you're considering offer classes and learning opportunities that interest you? Assessing your chances of admission can be a good way to identify a strong academic match.

Campus Culture

You can start narrowing down your list by making some decisions about the size of the student body and geographical location, quality of life, etc.

Financial Aid

It is important to be realistic about the cost of college and avoid taking on an unreasonable amount of debt. Be sure to have this conversation with your parents/guardians.

Career Development

Visit or contact the career development center at each prospective school to find out how the school supports students in preparing for the professional world.

Several Factors in College Admission

→ Grades in All Courses	→ Demonstrated Interest
→ Academic Rigor	→ Counselor Recommendation
→ Admission Test Scores	→ Teachers Recommendation
→ Positive Character Attributes	→ Class Rank
→ Essay Writing	→ Extracurricular Activities

When should I begin working on my college application essay?

A suggested time to begin gathering and organizing your thoughts for this essay is your summer going into senior year. If you are looking for a sample list of college essay topics, please visit <https://www.commonapp.org/apply/essay-prompts>. The college essay will also be addressed at the beginning of your senior English class and is a topic that is covered in our College & Career Writing & Readiness elective.

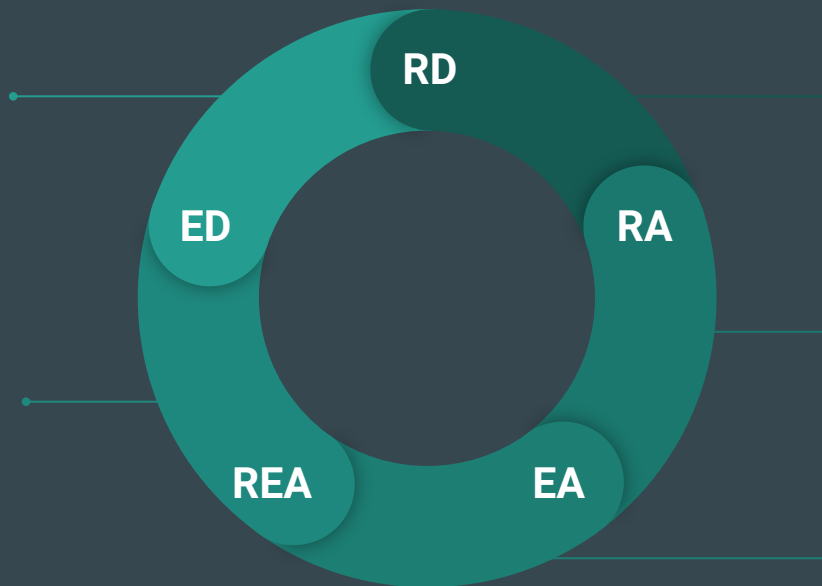
What are the admission options in higher ed?

Early Decision

Binding: Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted, they definitely will enroll and withdraw all other applications. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.

Restrictive Early Action

Non-binding: Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.



Regular Decision

Non-binding: Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.

Rolling Admission

Non-binding: Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.

Early Action

Non-binding: Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.

What is NJ Stars?

NJ residents who rank in the top 15% of their class at the end of either their junior or senior year of high school may be eligible to receive an [NJ STARS](#) award for attendance at their home county college. Students may enter another NJ county college only if their desired program of study is not offered at the county college where they reside or is oversubscribed for at least one year. Students identified as NJ STARS must achieve the required score on a college placement test to demonstrate readiness for college-level coursework prior to receiving a scholarship.

[Youtube Advertisement](#)

[All About NJ Stars](#)

What are some helpful resources for future planning?

<u>College SuperMatch through Naviance</u>	<u>My Major</u>
<u>Peterson's College Search</u>	<u>What Can I Do With A Major In...?</u>
<u>FISKE Guide to Colleges</u>	<u>College Data</u>
<u>National Center for Education Statistics</u>	<u>YouVisit</u>
<u>RaiseMe</u>	<u>NACAC College Fairs</u>
<u>NJ College Open Houses</u>	<u>NCAA for Athletes</u>
<u>Occupational Outlook Handbook</u>	

Financial Aid/Scholarship Resources

<u>FAFSA</u> (opens October of senior year)	<u>Fastweb</u>
<u>CSS Profile</u> (opens October of senior year)	<u>Going Merry</u>
<u>Bectonhs</u>	<u>Scholly</u>
<u>Net Price Calculator</u>	<u>Local Scholarships</u>
<u>HESAA</u>	Parent/Guardian workplace
<u>CSS Profile Participating Schools</u>	
My Intuition	

Financial Aid Terms

<u>FAFSA</u>	<u>FSA ID</u>
<u>Federal Pell Grant</u>	<u>The Complete Guide to Financial Aid</u>
<u>Federal Work-Study Program</u>	<u>Federal Student Aid at a Glance</u>
<u>NJ Tuition Aid Grant (TAG)</u>	<u>Net Price Calculator</u>
<u>Federal Direct Subsidized & Unsubsidized Loans</u>	
<u>Federal Direct PLUS Loan</u>	
<u>Educational Opportunity Fund</u>	

Proper Steps When Requesting a Letter of Recommendation

Think of WHO

Which teachers have you developed the best relationships with? Which teachers have taught you more than one class? Which class(es) is most memorable for you, not necessarily because you earned the highest grade, but because you learned the most?

Choose EARLY

Approach these teachers by the end of your junior year to ask if they would write you a letter of recommendation. Giving your teachers the courtesy of asking early on will reflect how serious you are about your future.

SUPPLY the Information

At the start of your senior year, fill out the Teacher Survey in Naviance so your teacher has all of the information needed to construct the best letter about you. We will review this process with you at the start of your senior year. You must give your teacher at least 2 weeks time.

Follow up on DEADLINES

Remember, just like you are busy, so are others. If you have not received your teacher's letter and the deadline is approaching, write him/her an email or approach him/her in person. Kindly ask if he/she is working on the letter and politely remind him/her of the deadline.

Be APPRECIATIVE

Be grateful that your instructor took the time to write you a letter because he/she is not mandated to do so. Most likely, the letters are being written during after school hours. Always follow up with a thank-you note or a thank-you email.

4.0 Scale

Letter Grade	Percent Grade	4.0 Scale
A+	97-100	4.0
A	93-96	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	65-66	1.0
F	Below 65	0

Source: College Board

Types of College Degrees

Associate Degree	2 year
Bachelor of Arts Degree	4 year (Ex: Communications, History, Political Science, Music, Languages, Journalism, etc.)
Bachelor of Science Degree	4 year (Ex: Biology, Geography, Accounting, Computer Science, Engineering, etc.)
Masters Degree	6 year degree
PHD +	8+ year degree

Advice

Communicate with others who have went to college, trade school, or enlisted in the military.

Observe deadlines.



1 Your future is your responsibility, not your parent's/guardian's or educator's.

3 Check your email on a regular basis.

Parent Resource

[College Planning 101: A Guide to Help Your Child Find the Right School With Minimal Stress](#)

Have any questions?



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