

High School Junior Year

Timeline



September

Confirm that your courses will put you on the right track for college admission.

Be sure to look up test dates for the PSAT/NMSQT, ACT, and/or SAT. You'll need to register up to six weeks ahead of time.

Start developing a résumé—a record of your accomplishments, activities and work experiences. This will be an important part of your college application.

October

If you haven't participated in many activities outside of class, now is the time to get involved. Consider clubs at school, sports, leadership roles, or involvement in your religious or civic community group.

Take the PSAT/NMSQT. Taking the test as a junior will qualify you for some scholarship consideration and identify you to colleges as a potential applicant. Review results to learn more about your strengths and weaknesses.

Watch college admissions updates check counseling newsletter.

November

Begin to prepare for the ACT or SAT. Free test preparation may be available at your school, your local community colleges, and community-based programs; in addition, there are many free resources online.

You should plan to take at least one of these tests in the spring and again next fall during your senior year.

Make a plan in classes and stay on top of coursework, reach out early if you have concerns.

Enjoy Thanksgiving Break!

December

Begin thinking about developing your senior schedule. Make sure that you will be enrolled in the most challenging courses for which you are qualified.

Register for a spring offering of the SAT and/or ACT. Discuss whether to take SAT Subject Tests this spring.

Enjoy Winter Break!

January

Happy New Year!

Make sure you are meeting goals in year long classes and reset goals on new semester classes.

Think about planning college visits for the spring.

February

Focus on mental health and continue working hard in classes.

Start looking into scholarships you might be interested in and plan to prepare yourself to be an ideal candidate.

If you haven't already form an idea of what you might want to do after high school. Try these: college resource or skills matcher.

March

Research summer opportunities on college campuses.

Begin taking a more serious look at colleges and universities. Make a file for each college and gather information about academics, financial aid, and campus life.

Begin planning college visits. Spring break is a good time to visit. Try to visit colleges near you and include a large, medium size, and small campus.

April

Go to college fairs and open houses and learn as much as you can about the colleges online.

Develop a preliminary list of colleges that interest you. Send emails and request information from these programs.

Think about a summer job, internship or co-op.

May

Take a look at some college applications. Look at information you will need to compile.

Make a list of teachers, counselors, employers, and other adults you might ask to write letters of recommendation for your college applications.

Visit college websites to review application essay requirements.