



Liberty Common High School

College Planning Information for Juniors

START PLANNING

- ☐ Create an email address you will use for colleges and communication.
- ☐ Plan to visit at least 4-6 college campuses this school year.
- ☐ Create your PSAT, ACT, and/or SAT testing timeline.
- ☐ Focus on grades and maintain rigor in courses – Grades matter!
- ☐ Document everything you are involved in: clubs, sports, volunteering, and work. Consider leadership roles, summer programs, or opportunities to help you explore your interests.
- ☐ Explore and learn about various colleges - attend fairs and high school visits.

ACT and SAT TESTING

- ☐ Prepare for and take the **PSAT/NMSQT in October**.
- ☐ Your PSAT score will help you determine if the SAT or ACT is a better-fit test. You may qualify for the [NMSQT scholarship](#).
- ☐ Create your Khan Academy account and practice online at www.khanacademy.org
- ☐ Register for SAT www.collegeboard.org Register for ACT www.act.org
- ☐ All colleges take both test scores. Some colleges are test optional <https://fairtest.org/>

NCAA/MILITARY

- ☐ If you are considering participating in Division I or II athletics, be sure to review [NCAA requirements](#) and register with NCAA <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>
- ☐ If you plan 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/>

COLLEGE RESEARCH RESOURCES

www.collegedata.com
www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org
<https://www.collegexpress.com/college/search/>
www.niche.com
<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>
<https://collegecost.ed.gov/>

YOUR COLLEGE LIST

- During your junior year, you should have 15-20 colleges that you are considering.
- A balanced list of colleges to apply to is 6-12

SENIOR YEAR REGISTRATION

Prepare a challenging schedule for your senior year. When selecting your senior year courses, be sure to challenge yourself academically. Colleges will consider all courses you take during your senior year.

CAMPUS TOURS

- ☐ Visit college campuses. Review this list of [college tour questions](#).
- ☐ Research majors and careers that colleges offer. Ask questions about internship opportunities.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- ☐ Research colleges participating in the [Western Undergraduate Exchange \(WUE\)](#)
- ☐ Understand FAFSA and the financial aid process [FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#)
- ☐ Financial Aid and College Affordability websites:
[Tuition Fit](#)- Review college award letters for cost
[College Affordability Center](#)
[Financial Aid Estimator](#)
- ☐ The most significant scholarships come from looking at the right colleges. Also, consider local and state-wide scholarships that are available for top students.
- ☐ Scholarship websites:
<https://www.goingmerry.com/>
www.bold.org
<https://www.cappex.com/scholarships/>
<https://www.niche.com/colleges/scholarships/>
<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

CAREERS AND MAJORS

Discover interests and explore careers: <https://www.mynextmove.org/>

Explore majors: <https://www.mymajors.com/>

Understand best match majors: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/majors-careers>

Best match majors and careers: <https://yourfuture.asu.edu/me3>

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