

JUNIOR CALENDAR

TO-DO

Fall

- **Begin exploring options- Suggested resources for your college/career search:**
 - SchoolLinks
 - College Board/Big Future
 - College Confidential
 - Niche
 - Princeton Review
- **Assess your extracurricular involvement**
 - Consider getting involved in a new activity or club
 - Colleges and employers prefer candidates with a “well-rounded” resume

Spring

- **SAT**
 - Take the DHHS School Day SAT (you will automatically be registered)
 - Decide whether or not you want to take the SAT again and register (collegeboard.org). Suggested test dates are May, June, Aug, Sept, & Oct
- **ACT**
 - Register for the ACT (act.org) if you intend to take it. Suggested test dates are April, June, July, Sept, & Oct
- **Attend a college fair**
 - Dates TBD (locations: DHHS, local high schools, CT Convention Center)
- **DHHS Junior Planning Day - May**
 - Variety of workshop topics related to post-secondary planning offered
- **Request your recommendation letters by June, the latest**
 - Visit the person and ask for a recommendation face-to-face
 - Remember the general rule- ask 2 teachers & your school counselor
 - You will follow up with your recommenders in the Fall and invite them to upload the letters to SchoolLinks
 - Send a handwritten “Thank You” note to your recommenders in the fall
- **Sign up for a Common Application Workshop**
 - A school counselor will help you get started with your application
 - Multiple sessions offered throughout the summer
- **Register for NCAA Eligibility Center (<https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>) if you intend to play college athletics**
 - Required by D-I and D-II schools
 - Not required for D-III, club, or intramural

Winter

- **Develop your initial college list**
 - Schedule time with your school counselor or the college & career counselor if you’d like help identifying options
- **Make a plan for standardized testing**
 - All juniors will be automatically scheduled for the SAT at DHHS in the Spring
 - Consider taking the ACT
 - Prepare using free prep materials on College Board and ACT websites or register for a prep course (see your counselor for a suggestion)
- **Attend your JUNIOR MEETING with your parent/guardian and school counselor**
 - This meeting will be scheduled during T2
- **Select your senior year courses carefully**
 - Choose an appropriately challenging course load
 - Pick electives that relate to your potential career interests
- **Schedule college visits**
 - DHHS allows 2 excused absences per year for visits
 - Take advantage of DHHS school breaks- best time to visit is when you don’t have to miss school, but college kids are still on campus
 - See the admissions page of the college website for tour schedules and registration info
- **Start thinking about recommendation letters**
 - Most students will need letters of recommendation for college, job, or scholarship applications
 - General rule: ask 2 teachers and your school counselor
- **Career Expo at DHHS**
 - Meet with professionals in many career areas and explore your options

Summer

- **Finalize your college list**
 - Be sure to have a balanced list (reach, target, & likely schools)
- **Work on your college applications**
 - You can complete the majority of the application before senior year even begins- you will thank yourself later!
- **Begin or revise your college essay**
 - Summer is the perfect time to complete your general essay when you aren’t bogged down with homework assignments
- **Determine if the colleges you intend to apply to require supplemental essays**
 - Supplemental essays topics are often very specific so it is not usually possible to use the same supplemental essays for multiple colleges
 - Writing supplemental essays can be one of the more time consuming application tasks- take advantage of the time you have over the summer to work on the essays!
- **Visit college campuses**
 - Most colleges offer tours in the summer
 - Keep in mind that the majority of college students will not be on campus so you may not get a full sense of what the atmosphere is like, but a visit is still worthwhile
- **Consider writing a resume**
 - Some colleges and scholarship applications and most job applications require a resume
 - Use the resume generator on SchoolLinks or an online template