Heritage High School – Junior Year Action Plan 2026-2027

- ✓ Check daily announcements for College "to do list" reminders & find out which college representatives will be visiting.
- ✓ Visit the HHS College & Career Center or website – for financial aid, scholarships, college/major search and other resources.
- ✓ Stop by the College & Career Center for Career resource material.
- ✓ Make a file to manage your college search, testing, and application data.
- ✓ Keep track of all awards, community service, jobs, and etc.

FALL

☐ Start with you: Make a list of all your abilities, social/cultural preferences, and personal qualities.

☐ Make a list of college characteristics that are important to you; i.e. regions of the country; cost; school that offers pre-med, etc. This procedure will help in selecting a college. Check the college catalogs available in the Career Center or visit www.collegeboard.com has links. Be sure to research on the computer, most colleges have web sites. (Ex. California State University's: www.calstate.edu/apply, www.californiacolleges.edu & www.collegiatechoice.com) List College features that interest you.

☐ Check college requirements. Make sure you are fulfilling the necessary requirements for the college you plan on attending. Research your major and the admission requirements or "recommendations" (especially for UC 's or Private Universities). https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/

☐ Plan on playing collegiate sports? Check your Core Course Completion.
Athletic Eligibility requirement check lists are available in the College & Career Center & on the HHS website.

☐ Attend District College Night on October 14, 2026 at Liberty High School.

☐ Stay on top of your grades. This is your final year to increase your GPA before College Applications.

WINTER

CSU Bound – Calculate your Eligibility Index Score & research your college requirement.
https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/eligibility-index

☐ Don't delay any longer with your scholarship search: www.fastweb.com, www.scholarships.com and on the Heritage website.

☐ Sign up to take the SAT and/or ACT at least once in the spring. It's ideal to reach your goal score by the end of your **Junior year**. Most schools only take scores up through December of your Senior year.
Test dates & study information is available in the College & Career Center.
You can register online @: ACT: www.act.org and SAT: www.collegeboard.com
College Board has partnered with Khan Academy to provide free SAT test-preparation programs and resources.

☐ Find out if your University requires/recommends SAT Test.

SPRING

☐ Visit some local colleges – large, small, public, and private. Get a feel for what works for you.

☐ Develop a list of 15 or 20 colleges that attract you. Register with these colleges.

☐ Plan to visit colleges over spring break.

☐ Identify your interests, likes and dislikes, not just in academics but in all areas. Discuss career options with others, school counselor, teachers, recent college graduates, professionals in the community, etc. A useful career exploration website is www.Eureka.org Access code X7HR2CM

☐ Take your EAP test in English & Math along with the SBAC testing. Find more info on the CCC website/College Placement Tab.

☐ If you are considering military academies or ROTC scholarships, you should begin the application process this summer.

SUMMER

Do you qualify for Free or Reduce lunch? YES! Stop by the CCC to ask about PSAT, SAT/ACT Fee Waivers.

☐ If you are an athlete planning to continue playing a sport in college, register with the NCAA Clearinghouse.

☐ Find a full-time or part-time job, or participate in a camp or summer college program.

☐ Visit colleges. Take campus tours and, at colleges you're serious about, make appointments to have interviews with admissions counselors.

☐ Begin reviewing your UC Personal Insight Questions or other required College Essays.

☐ Download applications from colleges to which you'll apply. Check applications dates - large universities may have early dates or rolling admissions.

College Entrance Exams

SAT or ACT: College entrance tests are generally taken during the junior and senior year of high school; however, they may be taken at any time. Students may take these tests as often as they like, generally the college or university takes the highest score from each test for college admissions.

ACT Assessment is used to measure a student's readiness and academic achievement for college by assessing their English, Mathematics, Reading and Science skills.

The SAT & ACT are administered at local High Schools. Students register online www.collegeboard.com or www.actstudent.org

Practice Tests

Practice Tests provide information to help students identify academic skills that need improvement while there is still time to make an impact. These practice tests include:

PSAT/NMSQT Focusing on the content students learn in the classroom, they will reflect strong instruction — in math, English language arts, science, history, and social studies — and relate directly to the skills research shows are essential for college and career. It is used by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (must be a junior to qualify). PSAT has partnered with KHAN ACADEMY, to create a free study plan especially for each student: www.khanacademy.org/sat

ASVAB has tests and activities that help students identify their interests and provide information about their Verbal, Math and Science and Technical skills. Students can the College & Career Center for more information.

For more details, visit the College & Career Center or Webpage.

Parents TO DO List:

- ✓ Take another look at your financial situation, and be sure you're on the right track to pay for college.
- ✓ Talk to your child about the schools they are considering. Ask why those schools appeal to them, and help clarify goals and priorities.
- ✓ Attend college fairs with your child, but don't take over the conversation with the college representatives. Just listen, and let your child do the talking.
- ✓ Take your child to visit college campuses, preferably when classes are in session.
- ✓ Ask your employer whether scholarships are available for employees' children.
- ✓ Follow up with your child to make sure they're on task.

Want to go out of state for College & save money? **Go to** http://www.wiche.edu/ca