

The background is a solid orange color with various leaf shapes in a slightly darker shade of orange scattered around the edges, creating a decorative border.

College Planning Presentation

Junior Year

- Overall high school performance is the key to college admission, but the colleges look specifically at the junior year because it is the best predictor of how you will perform in college.
- After looking at your cumulative GPA, many colleges will immediately focus on two things on your transcript:
 - * junior and senior year grades
 - * the degree of difficulty of your courses
- College and career exploration is in full swing. College visits should be planned.
- Students should take college admissions tests (SAT, ACT) by May or June. It is recommended to take the PSAT in October.
- Stay involved in school activities.

Senior Year

- The senior year is extremely busy with the college admissions process, financial aid, and scholarship applications.
- Deadlines are crucial. There will be many this year, so make a list.
- The senior year courses should be challenging, and it is critical to maintain good grades.
- Stay involved with school activities
- Attend Open Houses

College Visits



- Go now while the weather is still nice!!!!
- Look online for the Open House dates and register for your visit.

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

- Complete all parts
- Proof-read your essays
- Have someone else proof your essays
- Allow 2-3 weeks for someone to write you a letter of recommendation
- Request an Official Transcript
- Copy everything that you mail
- Request a Final Transcript at the end of the year

Understand the different types of admissions and the timelines

- Rolling Admissions
 - You are accepted a few weeks after your application has been submitted
- Regular Decision
 - Submit application anytime (usually by Feb. 1st)
- Early Decision
 - Deadline is usually in Oct. or Nov
 - Cannot apply anywhere else (unless rejected) and you are committed to that school
- Early Action
 - Deadline is usually in Oct., Nov., or Dec.
 - No commitment to the school
 - You can still apply to other schools

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

- A good rule is that when you think turkey you should be completing your college applications. I highly recommend finishing applications by Dec. 1st.



The PSAT/NMSQT

Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test
Junior Year

Wednesday, October 11th

\$16.00

*Fee waivers available for Juniors who receive free or reduced lunches

Why take the PSAT?

- Practice for the SAT
- Student will receive scores in reading and writing, and math
- Student will receive a question by question review of answers
- Students receive a personalized statement of specific academic skills that need attention and how to improve those skills
- Qualify for national scholarship

College Entrance Exams

ACT

VS.

SAT

- Science reasoning section
- Math includes Trigonometry
- Vocabulary less important
- Entirely multiple-choice
- Math accounts for 25% of your score
- Easy and difficult questions mixed within sections
- Essay optional

- No science section
- No Trigonometry questions
- Vocabulary emphasized
- Non multiple-choice questions included
- Math accounts for 50% of your score and basic formulas are given
- Questions go from easy to difficult in most sections
- Essay optional

Test Scores

The ACT

Top score of 36

Average score is around 20

English

Math

Reading

Science

Final score is average of all
four sections

The SAT

Reading & Writing
200-800

Math
200-800

*optional essay score of 2-8

Average score of 1000

For a top score of 1600

SAT/ACT

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Juniors: When should you take the SAT or ACT?

**Spring of your
Junior Year**

Fees

- SAT - \$46.00 without writing
- SAT - \$60.00 with writing
- ACT without writing - \$46.00
- ACT with writing - \$62.50

**fee waivers available if you receive free or reduced lunches

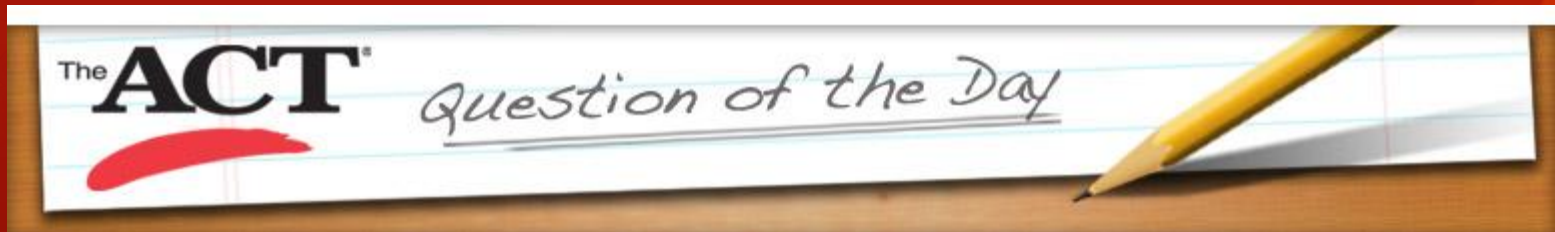


Preparing for the SAT

- Take practice tests
 - Guidance office books
 - Online tests and daily questions-
sat.collegeboard.org/practice or
satpractice.org (from Khan Academy)
 - khanacademy.org
- The Official SAT Study Guide
 - Affordable printed practice materials
available at bookstores

Preparing for the ACT

- Online Prep – actstudent.org/onlineprep
- Practice tests with real ACT test questions
- Practice essays for the new optional ACT Writing Test, with real-time scoring
- Comprehensive content review for each of the ACT's four required tests—English, Math, Reading, and Science
- Diagnostic test and personalized Study Path
- Anywhere, anytime access via the Internet



- Website: actstudent.org/testprep
- Each day they post a new question

Financial Check List

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- Cost of attending college
 - Grants (do not need to be paid back)
 - Loans (have to be paid back)
 - Employment (work-study)
 - Academic and need-based scholarships
 - Deadlines
 - FAFSA (ASAP on or after Oct. 1st)
 - FINANCIAL AID NIGHT
SPONSORED BY SUNY FREDONIA
Sept. 2018



Financial Aid cont.

EFC is determined by

- Student's income and assets
 - Parent's income and assets
 - Size of family
 - Number of children in college
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- *Annual Cost **minus** EFC = **Need***



Questions for families to ask and not assume!!

- How do outside awards affect the aid package?
- What is the average student debt?
- Are the scholarships/grants renewable each year?
- What happens if financial circumstances change?

Financial Aid Facts of Life for Families

- Don't rule out a school just because of its cost! You won't know what your financial aid package will look like until the spring of your senior year.
- Apply to one or two financially "safe" schools.
- Meet deadlines.
- Keep copies of all forms filed.
- Almost all students have loans, but try keeping it to a minimum.
- Families should save as much as they can. No amount is too small!
- Plan ahead! Think about how you will pay for each year of the student's program.
- Appeal if circumstances change.
- Look at all financing options—start with those offered by the college at which the student enrolls.
- Don't assume—ask!
- Early application is critical

Scholarship Checklist

- Check with Counseling Office
- Organizations your parents belong to
- Places of employment
- Search the web

www.fastweb.com

www.goodcall.com/scholarships

- Colleges you are applying to
- Announcements at school



Career Searching

- ASVAB/Career Interest Inventory (November 13th)
- www.onetonline.org - O*NET OnLine has detailed descriptions of the world of work for use by job seekers, workforce development and HR professionals, students, researchers, and more!
- www.careercruising.com - Career Cruising is a global leader in career development software for people of all ages. No other program offers the fun, intuitive, engaging experience that brings potential to life.

11th Grade Checklist

- Understand the college admissions process
- Find a range of schools that interest you
- Know the admissions statistics for the schools to which you intend to apply (GPA, average SAT score or ACT score)
- Take the PSAT test in October
- Take the ASVAB test in November
- Take the SAT or ACT test in the spring
- Think about who might write you letters of recommendation
- Visit colleges
- Research scholarships

12th Grade Checklist

- Apply to 3-5 colleges (have a back-up plan)
- Take or re-take SAT or ACT in the fall
- Complete FAFSA in October
- Keep grades up and stay involved in activities
- Research and apply for scholarships
- Choose a college and send in all paperwork

THANK YOU!

