

College Planning Timeline

12th Grade

August - January

- ❑ **Be aware of deadlines!** Deadlines are important & Early Action or Early Decision can come up quickly (usually around 11/1)
- ❑ **Finalize your College List** Be sure to include “reach”, “good fit,” and “likely” schools!
- ❑ **Register for a final SAT or ACT.** If you have not taken standardized tests yet or you still want to improve your scores, register to take these exams again.
- ❑ **Work on Common Application & other applications**
- ❑ **Meet with your School Counselor** Review senior courses, final college list & application procedures to make sure you are on track.
- ❑ **Keep up your grades!** Mid-year reports will be sent at the end of January so colleges will see your grades senior year.
- ❑ **Attend College Fairs.** Meet the college admissions representatives and create relationships with the colleges you are interested in. Remember that these individuals are likely to be the one reading your applications!
- ❑ **Meet with College Reps** The Counseling Center will be hosting reps from various colleges throughout the fall so check out the website or Naviance for more information.
- ❑ **Tour college campuses.** Visit colleges that you are interested in by attending Open Houses and tours. Be sure to meet the admissions counselors while you are there, since they will likely be reading your applications.
- ❑ **Ask about fee waivers** Fee waivers are available for those who qualify for AP exams costs, SATs, ACTs & college applications so ask your counselor if you qualify.
- ❑ **Complete the FAFSA** The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is available online after October 1 and should be completed before January 1 for most aid available. Go to www.fafsa.gov to complete the form.
- ❑ **Finalize your college essay** Most schools require an essay & it can be an important part of your application.
- ❑ **Check in with teachers about Recommendation Letters.** Letters need to be uploaded by your teachers into Naviance. Make sure they are aware of your deadlines!
- ❑ **Research scholarships.** Check out the Scholarship Bulletin which is posted on Naviance & the Counseling Center website.
- ❑ **Finalize & submit applications**
- ❑ **Send SAT &/or ACT scores to colleges** These must be sent directly to colleges from the testing agencies for a fee.
- ❑ **Fill out a Golden Ticket Form.** This form is used to let your counselor know that you have applied & that your records need to be sent to colleges. Submit it 2 weeks prior to deadlines!

College Planning Timeline

12th Grade ***February - June***

- ❑ **Track Application Results.** Let your counselor know the outcome of the schools you applied to so they can update Naviance and help you with your final decision.
- ❑ **Tour college campuses.** Visiting a campus is best way to help you determine the school that is right for you.
- ❑ **Thank your teachers** for writing your letters of recommendation. A nice note is always appreciated.
- ❑ **Research scholarships.** Check out the Scholarship Bulletin which is posted on Naviance & the Counseling Center website.
- ❑ **Follow up if “Waitlisted”** Let the admissions office know what you have been accomplishing senior year and make sure they know how strongly you want to attend their school.
- ❑ **Commit to a school!** May 1 is National Decision Day which means that is when you have to commit to a school, if you have not already done so.
- ❑ **Have Final Transcripts sent to your college** Let your counselor know where you are attending next year so that they can send your transcript after graduation. This will be required before you can enroll in courses at your college.
- ❑ **Enjoy your senior year!**