

Timeline for 9th and 10th Grade:

- *Meet with your guidance counselor- map out coursework for college prep
- *Try a variety of extracurricular activities
- *Learn how to type and use a personal computer-essential
- *Start a filing system-store important documents for college like transcripts, awards, articles, summer programs, and jobs, scholarships, art/writing portfolios, resume and other important papers.
- *Create a college journal- keep track of contact info for colleges, record thoughts and feelings about the college process.
- *Think about your college major and career- see Mrs. Balaban for career interest survey!
- *Talk to parents about paying for college
websites: www.finaid.org
www.allaboutcollege.com
www.collegeboard.com
www.scholarship.com
- *Make a list of colleges
- *Check out college web sites
- *Create a resume
- *Attend college fairs
- *Take PSAT or PLAN in 10th grade
- *Take AP Exams
- *Plan for the summer- participate in college sponsored summer programs. (So many to choose from.)
- *Visit college campuses
- *Volunteer

Timeline for 11th Grade:

September:

- Register for the PSAT
- Talk to guidance counselor about SAT and ACT test
- Plan for standardized tests
- Form a study group for tests
- Make a list of your top ten colleges
- Attend college fairs

October:

Take PSAT
Request information packets from colleges
Research scholarships and note deadlines

November:

Talk to your parents about funding college
Research financial aid

December:

Talk to your coach about college-level sports and scholarships
Discuss your PSAT scores with your guidance counselor
Research summer programs and jobs

January:

Update your filing system
Meet with your guidance counselor to discuss goals for the spring.

February:

Apply to summer programs
Request recommendations for summer programs

March:

Take practice tests
Get ready for test dates
Register for ACT test – if taking

April:

Study for AP Exams
Visit Colleges during Spring Break
Register for SAT test- if taking
Sign up for summer courses

May:

Ask teachers to write college recommendations for senior year
Take AP exams
SAT/ACT tests

June:

Take SAT Subject Tests
SAT/ACT tests
Begin drafting essays for college application

August:

Decide whether to retake any tests
Update resume

Timeline for 12th grade:

September:

Narrow list of colleges

Meet with your guidance counselor

Decide on applying early to schools

Make list of deadlines for applications, financial aid, scholarship and tests

Ask teachers for recommendations

Make copies of all your applications and file them

Start submitting applications

Know deadline of your school's applications due date

October:

Ask teachers to review your application essays

Start interviewing

Register for and file the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE form

Note college application due dates-check schools' dates

SAT/ACT tests

November:

Get the FAFSA form through www.fafsa.ed.gov

Note college application due dates

SAT/ACT tests

December:

Write thank-you notes

Study for finals

Note college application deadlines

SAT/ACT tests

January (Scholarship Season):

File tax returns

File FAFSA

Make sure your 7th semester grades are sent to colleges

Note college application deadlines

Search scholarships

February:

Call admissions offices to make sure applications are complete

Make sure financial aid applications are complete

Note college application deadlines

Search scholarships

March:

Review acceptance letters

Ask the Financial Aid Officer of your college to reconsider your financial aid package if necessary

Work on getting into waitlist schools

Search scholarships

April:

Make a final decision and notify your college of choice

Decline your other offers

Send in deposits and all necessary forms to your college

Complete loan applications

Search scholarships

May:

Set up a financial plan for next year

Take AP Exams

Graduation!!!