

Junior Checklist

August

- Review your high school coursework and activity plans
- Keep in mind that colleges look for the following:
 - i. A challenging coursework
 - ii. A strong GPA
 - iii. Involvement in extracurricular activities such as sports, volunteer work, or church.
- Obtain a Social Security Number if you don't already have one. You will need it to apply for college and financial aid.

September

- Identify sources of college and career information at your school. Start looking through guidance publications, college catalogs, and guidebooks.
- Put together a list of ten colleges that you would like to attend. Plan to apply to at least three to five schools.
- Talk to your parents and guidance advisor about where you want to go.
- Study and register for the PSAT
- Obtain dates and locations of college fairs and "parent nights" in your local area

October

- Take the PSAT
- Attend college fairs and financial aid/parent nights
- Continue learning about the colleges that you're considering

November

December

- Start planning to take the SAT I and SAT II exams, if necessary. You may also need to take the ACT. Check with the colleges you are applying to and find out specific testing requirements

January

- Continue your college search. Check the Internet or go through catalogs.
- Visit colleges

February

- Start investigating private scholarships. Check out www.fastweb.com or www.finaid.org
- Register and study for the SAT (I and II) and/or ACT exams

March

- Continue investigating outside funding sources
- Register and study for the SAT and/or the ACT exams, if you have not already done so

April

- Begin scheduling visits to each of the three to five schools that are on your final list
- Study for AP exams
- Take an SAT prep course to help prepare for the upcoming test

- Begin preparing essays for college admissions and scholarship applications

May

- Take the SAT (I and II) and/or the ACT exams
- Take the AP exams
- Mark a calendar with test dates and registration deadlines for the remaining SAT (I and II) exams. You may take them during your senior year in high school.
- Continue compiling information for scholarships

June

- Take the SAT (I and II) and/or ACT exams if you did not take them last month
- If you travel this summer, consider scheduling a college visit.
- If possible, save some money from your summer job to pay for college
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