



To-do-list



SUGGESTED COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

MAKE YOUR COLLEGE LIST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research colleges based on criteria you and/or your family have discussed. ● Keep in mind your goals, career interests and location. ● Be realistic when building your list. ● Your list should consist of a minimum of 5 schools. 	SUMMER BEFORE 11TH GRADE
SAT AND ACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Do not wait for this and plan to take both! ● Students should take the SAT at least three times and the ACT at least once. If you like ACT better than let that be your test of choice! ● Take your first SAT no later than October of your 11th grade year. ● Be prepared to study, practice and prep for a minimum of 3-4 hours per week. ● You ONLY send the two score reports that have your Highest Reading and Highest Math score! 	SUMMER & FALL OF 11TH GRADE (SPRING IF NEEDED)
COLLEGE ESSAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Essay prompts are usually released in February. ● Be prepared to revise your essay a minimum of 2-3 times. ● Have a teacher, tutor or education professional proofread your essay. 	SUMMER BEFORE 12TH GRADE
COLLEGE APPLICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Common App usually opens in August each year ● Do Not Wait! This can be time consuming. ● The earlier you submit, the greater your chances for acceptance and school scholarship offers! Ideal Deadline: September 15th ● Don't wait for SAT/ACT scores. You can report future test dates on your application. ● Know the difference between Early Action vs Early Decision. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Early Action is non-binding ○ Early Decision=pre-commitment. You are required to attend if accepted. 	AUGUST - OCTOBER OF 12TH GRADE
RECOMMENDATION LETTERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make a list of teachers, coaches, club advisors, community members who can talk about your character. ● Choose people who know you well enough to speak about qualities such as leadership, trustworthiness, commitment, dependability, work ethic, and motivation. ● Be sure to get their full name and email address. Let them know the recommendation will go to their email from Common App. 	AUGUST - OCTOBER OF 12TH GRADE
FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FAFSA opens in October. Submit early —> financial aid is first come first serve. Many colleges will use this to offer scholarships or financial assistance notices with your acceptance package. ● Bright Futures opens October 1st —> make sure you create an account! ● Scholarships take research! Start with big corporations such as Coca Cola, Burger King, McDonalds, Wendy's, Google, Microsoft, GE, Dell etc, ● Regularly check your school's guidance or BRACE department for scholarship opportunities. 	AUGUST - DECEMBER OF 12TH GRADE

Need help?

Contact us so we can make sure the process is smooth and easy!