

High School Timeline for the College Process

Freshmen Year

- Plan classes - plan ahead. AP/IB/honors challenge for you
- Explore extracurricular interests
- Join school club or start a club
- Get to know your teachers - ask for help when needed

Sophomore Year

- Narrow down extracurriculars (quality not quantity!)
- Continue involvement in school club
- Take PSAT in school
- Get best grades in most challenging courses for you
- Consider summer work/volunteer/leadership activities

Junior Year

Fall

- Start ACT/SAT prep - take practice test in both to decide best fit
- Continue extracurricular/club
- Get best grades in most challenging courses for you
- Register for ACT/SAT test - note registration deadlines!
- Take first ACT/SAT test in October/November/December

Winter

- Create your activity resume
- Start to research college majors - look at course modules on college websites, read course/class descriptions
- Start preliminary college list (think of 20-25)
- Research summer jobs/internships/leadership camps
- AP test prep

Spring

- Visit few colleges if possible (spring break)
- AP tests in May

Go College Advising

Alison McCaul, Independent Educational Consultant

www.gocollegeadvising.com

- Plan senior classes
- Ask teacher recommendation (1-2)
- Round 2 ACT/SAT test if necessary

Summer

- Meet with school counselor
- Participate summer program - work/intern/camp
- Visit colleges
- Narrow college list (9-12) - August
- Start essay (personal statement)
- Create activity list on common app (incorporate "brag sheet" from school)
- Create Common App (or whatever application) login ID - complete personal information

Senior Year

- Note application deadlines ED1/ED2/EA/Regular, etc
- Sept-Dec - do college applications
- finalize personal statement
- do supplemental essays
- Transcript requests - plan ahead!!
- Meet with counselor
- confirm recommendation/colleges/etc.
- SUBMIT applications - November - January (February)
- Keep up hard work! - don't slack off in school
- Apply for visa if going abroad