

Junior Year - "To-Do List"

September - December

- Map out a testing schedule.** Plan to take tests including: PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests, and/or ACT.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT Test.** Take this test as a practice college admissions assessment. The PSAT/NMSQT also establishes your eligibility for the National Merit Scholarship Program and additional scholarship programs.
- Take the ASVAB Career Exploration Program Test.** Take this test as a free career assessment to help you identify interests and provide information about your verbal skills, math skills, and science and technical skills.
- Meet with your guidance counselor.** Review your course plan for the school year and plan your senior class schedule. After your PSAT/NMSQT or ASVAB scores come in, schedule a meeting and bring your list of entrance requirements. Determine if your list of colleges is reasonable or needs to be adjusted, and if your current and future high school classes are appropriate.
- Make a list of entrance requirements.** Look up the minimum acceptance requirements for entering freshmen at your top colleges, such as grade point average, high school subject credits, and standardized test scores.
- Begin to establish criteria for your college search.** Ask yourself: Are you interested in a small rural college or a large urban campus? Visit some local colleges to learn what you do and don't like.

January - August

- Contact the colleges you are interested in attending.** Find out if they prefer the ACT or the SAT.
- Visit schools that interest you.** Plan travel during spring break or summer vacation. During the school year, college days may be excused with the approval of the parent/guardian and classroom teacher; documentation from the college visit is required.
- Check with the admissions office in advance.** Learn what times they conduct regular tours. Make appointments with the departments of financial aid, admissions, academic advisors, professors, and students. Use these visits to compare campuses, learn more about their programs, and narrow your selection.
- Request information.** Contact the colleges that interest you and request admissions procedures and financial aid information.
- Consider registration.** Register for the May and June SAT and ACT test dates.