

College PLANNING CALENDAR

JUNIOR YEAR • FALL

- Discuss plans with parents
- Prepare a list of questions to ask college reps
- Sign up for and take the PSAT
- Attend college fairs and financial aid nights
- Begin to learn about ways to pay for college
- Take a career survey online to discover possible careers

JUNIOR YEAR • DECEMBER/JANUARY

- Review your PSAT results with counselor
- Talk with your friends who are home from college on break

JUNIOR YEAR • FEBRUARY/MARCH

- Determine college criteria (characteristics you want in a college)
- Review college web sites - See a complete list of colleges in Georgia and surrounding states on pages 15-20
- Discuss plans with parents
- Visit testing web sites:
www.collegeboard.com
www.act.org
- Begin studying for the SAT & ACT

JUNIOR YEAR • MARCH - MAY

- Make a preliminary list of around 25 colleges
- Contact the financial aid office for each college on your list
- Meet with your high school counselor to discuss plans
- Attend spring college fairs
- Attend local college nights
- Compare colleges
- Between now and November of your senior year, visit several colleges to get a feel for college in session and campus styles
- Do a financial aid calculator online to determine your expected Family Contribution (EFC) - a great site for this is www.finaid.org
- March, May & June SAT I Tests; register online and practice test at www.collegeboard.com
- Select a rigorous course program for senior year, consider courses required for your intended college major
- Take April or June ACT - register online and take practice tests at www.act.org

JUNIOR YEAR • SUMMER

- List Colleges to visit
- Request information from colleges
Viewbook (course catalog)
Applications (usually not available before June)
Freshman profile of GPA and test scores
Costs & financial aid
Department or activities of interest to you
- Take June ACT - register online and take practice tests at www.act.org
- June SAT I test
- June SAT II subject tests - these are necessary for early decision and early action at private colleges
- Review college viewbooks and catalogs
- Incorporate a few college visits into summer vacation plans
- List serious college options - around 10
- READ, READ, READ!

- Review any test booklets to practice, spot weaknesses; use your PSAT results and test booklet to help on SAT I
- Receive Applications - note deadlines and requirements; familiarize yourself with essays and forms, consider application essay topics
- Do one or two trial interviews
- Do volunteer work to earn community service hours for your resume
- Talk to people in interesting careers
- Get letters of recommendation
- Talk with college friends home from summer

SENIOR YEAR • SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

- Discuss your classes, college plans and test scores with your high school counselor
- Review your transcripts to be sure the information is correct
- Request applications from colleges you are interested in
- Look for health/shot records - you will need them when you enroll
- Attend fall college nights and fairs
- Visit with college representatives when they visit your high school
- Do thorough college visits (2-3 day maximum)
- Campus interviews
- Start working on application essays
- Attend campus open houses
- Do final list of college applications: including review worksheets; review selectivity; consult parents; consult counselor
- October SAT I/ACT Tests
- Begin to apply for scholarships - search on the internet at www.fastweb.com
- November SAT I and II/ACT Tests
- Review transcript with counselor

SENIOR YEAR • DECEMBER - JANUARY

- Final college visits before semester ends
- Deadlines for early action and early decision applications
- Give school forms to counselor
- Give recommendation forms to teachers and others
- End of campus visit program
- Local college receptions for applicants
- Alumni contact with applicants
- Request housing forms and send deposits
- FAFSA forms available for financial aid - **do not mail** until after Jan 1 - complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- December SAT I and II/ACT Tests
- January SAT I/SAT II Tests

SENIOR YEAR • JANUARY - MARCH

- Deadlines for most college applications
- Colleges review applications
- Notification of decisions on college applications
- March SAT Tests

SENIOR YEAR • APRIL - JUNE

- May 1 - common response date acceptance of admission; withdraw other applications and write thank you notes
- Finalize plans for housing, financial aid, and scholarships
- Compare financial aid packages
- Visit colleges offering admission
- Make your final choice