



College Planning Timeline

Grade 11

- Individual meetings will occur later in the year to review the courses you've taken, and see what you still need to take.
- Take a long, hard look at what you want to do after high school, what type of post-secondary education you will need, and where it falls on the Future Occupation List.
- Make a list of colleges that meet your most important criteria (size, location, distance from home, majors, academic rigor, housing, and cost). Weigh each of the factors according to their importance to you.
- Begin visiting college fairs. You may be able to narrow your choices or add a college to your list.
- Consider job-shadowing to determine what the occupation's responsibilities are, the environment you would be working in if you would
- If you want to participate in Division I or Division II sports in college, start the certification process. Check with our NCAA representative to make sure you are taking a core curriculum that meets NCAA requirements.
- If you are interested in one of the military branches, talk to me about starting the recruitment process now.
- Register for the ACT Assessment, which can be taken in December, February, or April. You can take it again late in June of your junior year, or in the fall of your senior year, if necessary.
- Consider whom you will ask to write your recommendations. Think about asking teachers who know you well and who will write positive letters about you. Letters from a coach, activity leader, or an adult who knows you well outside of school (e.g., volunteer work contact) are also valuable.

Summer:

- Visit the campuses of your top-five college choices, be sure these schools have the majors you are interested in.
- Talk to people you know who have attended the colleges in which you are interested.
- Practice filling out college applications, and then complete the final application forms online through the Web sites of the colleges in which you're interested.
- Compose rough drafts of your college essays. Have a teacher read and discuss them with you. Proofread them, and prepare final drafts. Proofread your final essays at least three times.