

## JUNIOR YEAR

### SEPTEMBER–JANUARY

- Begin test prep and take the PSAT to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program
- Attend college fairs
- Build your college list on Niche by adding 5-10 schools
- Find out which colleges on your list are test-optional and create a testing plan
- Register for SAT/ACT (if necessary)

### FEBRUARY–JUNE

- Sign up for campus visits and/or virtual tours
- Meet with your school counselor to review your college list and senior year schedule
- Research majors and related careers
- Take the SAT/ACT and retest (if necessary)
- Keep your grades up!
- Request recommendation letters

### JULY

- Continue scholarship search
- Read student/alumni reviews on Niche to see what colleges are really like
- Narrow down your college list

- Get summer experience through volunteer work, job shadowing, etc.
- Make an activities/honors list
- Brainstorm personal essay ideas
- Start planning out your finances

### AUGUST

- Many application portals open Aug. 1!
- Finalize your college list
- Create application account(s)
- Review applications to note requirements, essays, deadlines, etc.
- Get your materials together (resume, unofficial transcript, etc.)
- Draft your personal essay

*KEEP GOING!*

## SENIOR YEAR

### SEPTEMBER

- Follow up with your recommenders
- Begin online portion of applications
- Retake SAT/ACT (if necessary)
- Complete CSS profile for non-federal financial aid

### OCTOBER–NOVEMBER

- Tell your school counselor you'll need your transcript and/or a recommendation letter for EA/ED/Priority deadlines (if necessary)
- Review all application materials for errors or missing pieces
- Submit EA/ED/Priority applications and send any supplemental documents (transcripts, letters, test scores) required
- Set up your account for each college's portal to ensure your materials have been received
- Create an FSA ID

### DECEMBER

- Tell your school counselor you'll need your transcript and/or a recommendation letter for regular deadlines (if necessary)
- Complete and submit FAFSA
- Review EA/ED acceptances
- Submit regular deadline applications and send any supplemental documents (transcripts, letters, test scores) required
- Set up your account for each college's portal to ensure your materials have been received

### JANUARY–FEBRUARY

- Submit mid-year grade reports (if necessary)
- Apply for scholarships

- Prep for any interviews you may have
- Review EA/ED/Priority acceptances

### MARCH–APRIL

- Review acceptance letters and financial aid packages
- Decide on your top schools
- Keep applying for scholarships

### MAY

- Make your final decision by May 1 — and celebrate!
- Submit your deposit and housing application
- Sign up for orientation
- Send in your final transcript
- Thank your supporters for all of their help

*YOU DID IT!*

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