

JUNIOR CHECKLIST

- ❑ Visit your College and Career Center
Meet with your counselor to discuss colleges, find resources, and ask about upcoming college events and opportunities.
- ❑ Make sure you're on track.
Familiarize yourself with the college entrance standards and make sure you're on track academically with good grades and the right courses to meet your post-secondary goals.
- ❑ Earn college credit.
Start earning credit through AP courses, Dual Credit courses, and/or Tech Prep courses.
- ❑ Narrow your list of colleges.
Develop a list of 5-10 colleges that interest you. Explore each school's website to find information on academics, financial aid and admission requirements.
- ❑ Attend college events.
Go to local college nights, college fairs and other informational events.
- ❑ Visit college campuses.
- ❑ Find out when admissions tours are offered and visit those colleges that interest you. Visiting schools will help you determine whether the size, location, and personality are right for you.
- ❑ Stay involved.
Continue your extracurricular activities and take on leadership roles. And continue updating your brag sheet!
- ❑ Add to your college file.
Add copies of test scores, application forms, draft essays and any other relevant paperwork to your file.
- ❑ Take practice tests.
Use your PSAT score report to create a study plan for improving your scores. Look for SAT/ACT prep materials, prep classes, or other free online resources.
- ❑ Create a professional email.
If you don't have one already, set up a professional email address that can be used for all your online college-related accounts and get in the habit of checking it regularly.
- ❑ Take the PSAT.
Make sure you sign up to take the PSAT in October. This may qualify you for several scholarships including National Merit Scholar. It's also great practice for the SAT.
- ❑ Sign up to take the SAT/ACT.
Register for spring test administrations.
- ❑ Download applications.
Begin downloading and familiarizing yourself with applications from those colleges to which you plan to apply.
- ❑ Start your college essays.
Begin drafting your essays for your college applications and have someone review them.
- ❑ Sign up for summer programs.
Apply to summer enrichment programs, internships, and/or leadership programs.
- ❑ Study up on financial aid and seek out scholarships.
Continue researching the different types of financial aid available and go through it with your parents. Have a conversation with them about it. Fill out as many scholarship applications as possible and submit them by required deadlines.
- ❑ Download a sample Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA.)
Review the FAFSA with your parents to become familiar with the information you will need when you complete it your senior year.
- ❑ Continue saving for college.