

# College Planning Calendars

# Junior Year

## SEPTEMBER

- Explore your interests, values, goals and academic record. What does this tell you about your college major, career goals and type of college that may be right for you?
- Students can register for the optional Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).
- Participate in career-related experiences this fall including Career Nights, Career Days and Career Treks to explore future careers.
- Consider *Directions College/Career Night*, a fair emphasizing post-secondary options for students with special needs.
- Native Spanish speakers can visit the *D211 First Generation Symposium with Spanish translation*.
- Visit the NACAC College Fair at McCormick Place in Chicago

## OCTOBER

- If interested in the arts, visit Chicago's *NACAC Performing And Visual Arts College Fair AND the National Portfolio Day*
- Attend the District 211 College Fair
- Participate in junior classroom counseling sessions to learn what to look for in a college and how to use Naviance in your college search.

## NOVEMBER

- Parents are invited to the *JHHS Parent University on College Planning* to receive an overview of the college planning process.
- Attend the *International College Options Fair* to learn why earning a degree at an international university is growing in popularity
- If interested in playing collegiate athletics, go to the *D214 Student Athlete Night*.

## DECEMBER

- Finalize senior year classes with your counselor, keeping in mind your college or career requirements.
- Register for JHHS SAT test prep class.

## JANUARY

- Familiarize yourself with the SAT, and SAT Subject tests. Determine if and when you should take each test.
- Register for any winter or spring ACT, SAT and/or SAT Subject Tests in addition to the State funded SAT taken in April.
- Begin the college search in earnest. Identify the factors that are important to you in choosing a college. Two year or four year? Location? Cost? Public or private? Programs? Social environment? Consult your college counselor, Naviance, school websites, video, and materials in the CCC to make a tentative list of schools.
- If interested in the highly selective colleges, attend the D214 Highly Selective Admissions Night

## FEBRUARY

- Regularly check Naviance for a list of college representatives visiting the JHHS College/Career Center. Use these visits to add to your college list.
- Participate in junior classroom sessions to learn about the college admissions process.
- Attend the D214 *"Ask the College"* Night to learn about different types of colleges.
- Plan college visits on days off.

## MARCH

- Attend the *D214 Financial Aid Seminar* for juniors.
- Register for the SAT Subject Test(s) if required by your college choices.
- Visit colleges over spring break.

## APRIL

- Attend the *District 214 College Fair*.
- Set an appointment with the college counselor to develop a list of college matches.
- Visit college campuses on days off.
- Use CCC resources and Naviance to research summer alternatives, including courses, internships, jobs, travel, and activities.

## MAY

- Take AP exams if appropriate.
- Decide which colleges you can visit this summer. Ask colleges about summer open house programs, tours, and interviews.
- Finish the year out strong! For some schools, this will be your most important semester.

## JUNE

- Analyze and understand your test results. Register and prepare for ACT or SAT tests in August or September if needed.
- If you are a college-bound athlete, register with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

## JULY/AUGUST

- Participate in summer opportunities; travel, school, and work - Try to do something meaningful.
- Answer the Counselor Rec Survey in Naviance.
- Finalize your Activities Resume.
- Work on rough drafts of college essays.

# Senior Year

## AUGUST

<input type="checkbox"/> Finish college research, compare schools, and finalize your college application list.
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend Senior Forum with the college counselor to learn about the application process.
<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your counselor to discuss college planning in small groups.
<input type="checkbox"/> Create a system to monitor college deadlines and required application pieces.
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the <i>JHHS Parent University</i> with your parents for an overview of the college application and financial aid process.

## SEPTEMBER

<input type="checkbox"/> Have test scores sent to colleges from the testing agencies.
<input type="checkbox"/> Request transcripts for college applications
<input type="checkbox"/> Begin college applications and finalize college essays.
<input type="checkbox"/> Make requests for teacher and counselor recommendations, ONLY if needed.
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Naviance or listen to morning announcements for a list of college representatives visiting JHHS this fall, so you can meet with schools of interest.
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the <i>D214 Senior Financial Aid Night</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the <i>Directions College/Career Fair</i> for postsecondary options for students with special needs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Spanish speakers can visit the <i>D211 First Generation Symposium with Spanish Translation</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit the <i>NACAC College Fair</i> at McCormick Place in Chicago

## OCTOBER

<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the <i>District 214 FAFSA Completion Nights offered in Spanish &amp; English</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Apply for Financial Aid through FAFSA.gov
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the <i>District 211 College Fair</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Participate in career-related experiences (Career Nights, Career Days and Career Treks to explore future careers).
<input type="checkbox"/> If interested in the arts, visit the <i>NACAC Performing And Visual Arts College Fair</i> and <i>National Portfolio Day</i> , both held in Chicago.
<input type="checkbox"/> Send in early decision, early action, and priority applications.
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit colleges while they're in session. Send thank you notes after any interviews.

## NOVEMBER

<input type="checkbox"/> Finish all essays and aim to submit all applications by November 1 but no later than Thanksgiving. Observe all deadlines.
<input type="checkbox"/> If interested in International Universities, attend the International College Fair
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend senior classroom sessions on financial aid and scholarships.
<input type="checkbox"/> Start your scholarship search and watch for early deadlines.
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend the Skills Trade Fair if interested
<input type="checkbox"/> Participate in the <i>D214 Student Athlete Night</i> if interested in college athletics.

## DECEMBER

<input type="checkbox"/> Keep your grades up; colleges do look at semester grades.
<input type="checkbox"/> Contact colleges to arrange interviews at schools that offer this option.

## JANUARY

<input type="checkbox"/> Request seventh semester transcripts to be sent to schools requiring them.
<input type="checkbox"/> If accepted under a binding early decision plan, withdraw all other applications.
<input type="checkbox"/> Check all your colleges to check they have received all your application materials.
<input type="checkbox"/> If you are thinking of a GAP year after high school, attend the GAP Year Fair at New Trier High School.

## FEBRUARY

- Continue to pursue scholarship options; watch due dates.
- Keep your second semester program strong. Colleges will be looking!

## MARCH

- Submit tax verification to the Financial Aid Office of colleges that request them.
- Start looking for a summer job.

## APRIL

- All colleges should respond with an admission decision by the first week of April. If you filed your FAFSA early in the year, you should also receive financial aid award letters from each school. If not, reach out to the college directly.
- Decide which college you wish to attend. Revisit if necessary; participate in “admitted student visit days”. Go to any local info meeting to which you are invited.
- Waitlisted? Write a letter to colleges if you wish to remain on their wait list or write the college that you’ve made another choice.

## MAY

- Mail in a deposit to ONE college by May 1. Sign and return financial aid award letter to acknowledge that you accept the aid offer.
- Inform other colleges to which you were admitted of your decision to go elsewhere.
- Send in your housing contract.
- Meet with your counselor in classroom sessions to complete the Naviance survey indicating where you want your final transcript sent.
- Send a thank you to teachers, counselor, or anyone who helped you with your applications.
- Take AP Exams if appropriate.
- Study for final exams. These grades still count!!!

## JUNE

- Celebrate your high school graduation!
- Attend all first-year student advising days, open houses, orientation programs, and registration days offered by your college.
- Spend time with your parents and siblings! You’ll miss them next year!

***BEST WISHES AS YOU BEGIN  
YOUR COLLEGE YEARS  
COME BACK AND VISIT...  
WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU!***