

College Counseling Calendar
JUNIOR YEAR

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August

- Continue to update the list of activities you began as a freshman. Don't forget the resume-building activities you did during the summer.
- Begin the year with a commitment to make the best grades possible, and stick to your commitment. Your grades this year tell universities a great deal about you. In particular, performances in AP and honors classes are a good indication of how you will do in college.
- Honor your commitments to extracurricular activities. If your resumé still needs material, join clubs and get involved.
- Make plans to attend sessions with visiting college representatives. Sign up early and follow through. Collect admission materials and sign the information cards provided so that you will be added to college mailing lists.

September

- *Tuesday, Sept. 13:* Attend "Junior Journeys" with your parents (6:30 p.m. Upper School Library) to hear about the junior class college trip, advice and resources about selecting schools, and tips for school visits.
- *Friday, Sept. 16:* Deadline to register for Oct. 22 ACT.
- *Sunday, Sept. 25:* New Orleans Performing and Visual Arts College Fair 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in Exhibit Hall C.
- *Tuesday, Sept. 27:* All juniors attend NACAC College Fair in Baton Rouge.
- Prepare for the PSAT (Oct. 12). While this is still a practice test for the SAT, juniors who score exceptionally well on the PSAT may be considered for participation in the National Merit Scholars competition. Visit www.collegeboard.com for more information.
- Start researching colleges and take advantages of resources in the Counseling Office and online. Websites like www.collegeboard.com and www.petersons.com have helpful college-search information.

October

- *Wednesday, Oct. 12:* Take the PSAT.
- Evaluate your first quarter grades and determine what you are doing well and what must improve to meet your academic goals for the year.

November

- *Friday, Nov. 5:* Deadline to register for the Dec. 11 ACT.
- Begin to establish criteria for the type of college that you would like to attend. Use college guides to find schools that meet your criteria. Talk to family, friends, and teachers about their college choices and experiences.
- *Tuesday, Nov. 15 – Friday, Nov. 18:* Juniors go on the college tour of schools in Louisiana and Texas.

December

- PSAT reports are distributed. Read the information carefully to interpret your performance. Make an appointment with Ms. Fournet if you need clarification or advice.
- *Dec. 1 – 15:* Study thoroughly for midterm exams and attend any extra help sessions that your teachers offer.
- *Over Christmas Break:* Take a realistic look with your parents at the costs associated with each of the schools you are considering. Research financial aid options and scholarship programs at each school if you will need financial assistance to attend college.
- Depending on your performance on the PSAT and your possible list of colleges, register to take your first SAT in January or March. It may also be necessary for you to take SAT Subject Tests, depending on the schools you are considering. Go to www.collegeboard.com to register online.

January

- *Friday, Jan. 13:* Deadline to register for Feb. 11 ACT.

- *Jan. 9 – 20:* Individual meetings with Ms. Fournet to discuss your list possibilities, to plan for next year, and to address concerns. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend.
- Prepare for the spring SATs and ACTs.
- Talk to your parents about planning your own college tour during the week of Mardi Gras. It is always best to visit a campus when classes are in session. Plan your visit through the admissions office at each institution.

February

- *Feb. 20 - 24:* Go on a college tour with your family. Consider revisiting schools that appealed to you in the fall. Determine whether the schools on your list meet all of your needs. When you visit, be sure to ask questions, talk to college students, and keep a notebook of what you liked and disliked about each campus visited.

March

- *Friday, March 9:* Deadline to register for April 14 ACT.
- Continue researching and talking informally with Ms. Fournet.
- Continue to work diligently on your studies. Avoid the temptation to succumb to spring fever.

April

- Download or request the admission and financial aid applications and other information for all of the colleges on your list. There is no charge and no obligation to apply after you receive this information.
- Begin to consider which teacher(s) could best prepare a college recommendation letter for you. Make a formal request in May if possible.
- Prepare for any AP exams to be held in early May.

May

- *Friday, May 4:* Deadline to register for June 9 ACT.

- If you are enrolled in AP classes, take the AP exams given in early May.
- Give serious time to preparing for your final exams.

June - July

- If you plan to apply to LSU, consider submitting your application now so that you may apply for student housing early.
- Spend your summer productively. Get a summer job or internship, volunteer, or sign up for a college or enrichment program.
- Continue to visit colleges and work on narrowing your list to approximately three to eight schools that you will apply to in the fall.
- Visit www.commonapp.org or individual college websites to preview application and essay questions.
- Begin to consider essay topics. Look for opportunities to use an essay for more than one application. Do rough drafts of essay topics and all applications. Save, save, save all of your work.