

JUNIOR YEAR COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

SEPTEMBER:

Register and prepare for the October 14 PSAT. Use *PSAT Student Guide* materials provided by the Guidance office.

OCTOBER:

Take the PSAT (short version of the SAT).

Attend local college fairs to gather information and talk with college admissions personnel. Use the "College Interest Questions" from the Guidance office to help with your exploration.

October 5 Oak Ridge High School Wildcat Arena 6:00-8:00 pm

October 6 Farragut High School 7:30-8:30 pm

Be on the lookout for other special high school weekend/preview/open house opportunities at colleges of interest to you. Be sure and make pre-arrangements for excused absences from school. Juniors and seniors are allowed 2 college visit days per semester.

Take Hollands Self-Directed Search and use results to investigate and select a Winterim experience in line with your career interests.

NOVEMBER:

Finalize plans for Winterim (job shadowing, community service, missions).

DECEMBER:

Receive results of PSAT and use to plan for senior year studies, test prep courses, and ACT/SAT in the spring. Check out *My College QuickStart* college/career helps.

Begin researching private sources of scholarships. Do free scholarship search through internet resources and Guidance office directories and write for scholarship applications. Also ask Guidance Counselor about local private industry and organization scholarships, scholarship contests, etc.

JANUARY-MARCH

Develop preliminary list of at least five colleges that interest you and gather information on these (Guidance office, internet, parents, friends, college visits, etc.). Consider an informal spring break or summer visit to some of these schools. Investigate each college's program of study in your interest area as well as the scholarship and financial aid opportunities available. Always schedule appointments with admissions and financial aid officers during college visits and make an effort to attend a class while on campus.

APRIL-JUNE:

Register to take both ACT and SAT. Test dates for 2009-2010 are as follows:

ACT – April 10, June 12

SAT – May 1, June 5

Determine which colleges require SAT Subject Tests and plan to take these in the fall of your senior year.

SUMMER:

Gather data for senior resume to be used for fall college applications.

Continue researching and writing for scholarship applications.

Consider a job related to your career interests or summer/study travel opportunities to gain focus for the future.