

College and Career Preparation

Grade 12

Getting Started

- Finalize your resume in Xello.
- Discuss college/career options with your counselor, career advisor, and parent(s).
- Research admissions standards and know what testing/courses are required.
- Personally visit college campuses.
- Take advantage of SAT Prep courses before repeating the SAT.

Summer before 12th Grade/Fall

- Take SAT and/or ACT if you haven't already, or if you need to improve your score. Check if the SAT Subject Tests are also required. <https://www.collegeboard.org>
- Begin preparing college applications and essays; have someone proofread this work.
- Attend college fairs and talk with college representatives visiting your school.
- Learn about all deadline dates for colleges and scholarships.
- Talk with your school counselor about the process for requesting high school transcripts.
- Complete the NCAA Clearinghouse Initial Eligibility Form if you plan to play college sports (Division I or II).
- Talk with teachers and school counselors who will be writing letters of recommendation. Provide them with copies of your resume or recommendation request form.
- Have your English teacher or other trusted adult review your essay.
- Set up a file for each college and/or scholarship application or use the College Application Tracker in Xello.
- Investigate all potential sources of financial aid. Check the guidance office and Xello regularly for scholarship information.
- On or after October 1st, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application online at FAFSA.ed.gov
- Apply for Senatorial and Delegate scholarships.
- Apply for scholarships.
- Attend a financial aid night and explore all options for assistance; ask questions.
- Submit your applications!

Spring

- Reply to colleges to notify them of your final choice.
- Make a final visit to the college of your choice.
- Reply promptly to all financial aid awards. A missed deadline could mean lost aid!
- Send in room deposits, if necessary.
- Take college placement exams, if necessary.
- Request high school guidance office to send transcripts and proof of graduation to the college of your choice.