



# junior

## Pre-College Calendar and Checklist

### August

- Review your high school coursework and activity plans.
- Keep in mind that colleges look for the following:
  - challenging coursework
  - a strong GPA
  - involvement in extracurricular activities such as sports, volunteer work, or church.
- Obtain a Social Security Number if you don't already have one. You will need it to apply for college and financial aid.
- Sign up for our **FREE** monthly email for college-bound students at [educaid.com](http://educaid.com).

### September

- Identify sources of college and career information at your school. Start looking through guidance publications, college catalogs, and guidebooks.
- Put together a list of ten colleges that you would like to attend. Plan to apply to at least three to five schools.
- Talk to your parents and your high school counselor about where you want to go to school.
- Study and register for the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT).
- Obtain dates and locations of college fairs and "parent nights" in your local area.

### October

- Take the PSAT and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMQST). Remember to take your calculator.
- Inquire about Advanced Placement (AP) or summer college courses that may be available to you.
- Attend college fairs and financial aid/parent nights.

- Start learning about the colleges you're considering. The Internet is a good resource.

### November

- Start looking into eligibility requirements for federal and private student loans. We are a good source of free, up-to-date information on low-cost student loans. Our helpful customer service representatives can be reached weekdays at 877-318-2368, or visit [educaid.com](http://educaid.com).
- Call (800) 4-FED-AID and ask for free copies of financial aid materials, including the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

### December

- Look for your PSAT/NMQST score report.
- Start planning to take the SAT I and/or SAT II exams, if necessary. You may also need to take the ACT. Check with the colleges you are applying to find out specific testing requirements. Ask your high school counselor about registration deadlines.

### January

- Go through the catalogs of the three to five schools that interest you the most.
- During your college visits, make sure you meet with an admissions representative and a Financial Aid Officer to find out what types of aid are available.
- Attend financial aid nights if you have not already done so.

### February

- Start seriously investigating private scholarships and other student aid programs. Ask your teachers and counselor if any local organizations offer free use of a scholarship search program.
- Search the Internet for scholarships that are available to you.
- Register and study for the SAT (I and II) and/or ACT exams.

### March

- Continue investigating outside funding sources.
- Register and study for the SAT and/or the ACT exams, if you have not already done so.
- For more information about financial aid and answers to your questions, visit our web site at [educaid.com](http://educaid.com).

### April

- Begin scheduling visits to each of the three to five schools that are on your final list. If appropriate, apply for an interview and/or an over-night stay.
- Consider taking AP exams while information is fresh in your mind.
- Take an SAT prep course to help prepare for the upcoming test.
- Begin preparing essays for college admissions and scholarship applications.

### May

- Take the SAT (I and II) and/or the ACT exams.
- In early to mid-May, take AP exams, which are given in high schools nationally.
- Mark a calendar with test dates and registration deadlines for the remaining SAT (I and II) exams. You may take them during your senior year in high school.
- Continue compiling information to find out which organizations award scholarships to graduating seniors (you may have to begin applying the summer after your junior year).

### June

- Take the SAT (I and II) and/or ACT exams if you did not take them last month.
- Read a variety of books and magazines and review your math

skills over the summer. This will help you to prepare for the SAT if you plan to take it in the fall.

- Obtain a summer job that might be related to your career interests.
- If possible, save some money from your summer job to pay for college costs.
- If you travel this summer, consider scheduling a college visit.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions?

If you have questions or would like to find out more about our affordable student loans, call us today!

877-318-2368 | [Educaid.com](http://Educaid.com)



WACHOVIA



# senior

## Pre-College Calendar and Checklist



Enter to win \$5,000 in our Gimme Five Scholarship Sweepstakes at [educaid.com](http://educaid.com)

### August

- Review your career plans and decide which type of school is right for you.
- Visit some college campuses.
- Narrow your college list to 3-5 schools.
- Request catalogs and admissions information.
- Contact your high school counselor for registration materials and test dates for the SAT and/or the ACT.
- Sign up for our **FREE** monthly email for college-bound students at [educaid.com](http://educaid.com).
- Surf the internet to review scholarships available to you.

### September

- Meet with admissions representatives who are visiting your school.
- Make a list of test names, dates, fees, registration deadlines, and deadlines for college admissions and financial aid applications.
- Remember you must take tests like the SAT and ACT at least six weeks before the deadline for scores to be submitted to colleges.
- Begin asking teachers, guidance counselors, and employers for letters of recommendation to include with your admissions and/or scholarship applications.
- Enter to win \$5,000 in our Gimme Five Scholarship Sweepstakes at [educaid.com](http://educaid.com).

### October

- Take the SAT or ACT exam if necessary.
- Work on admissions application essays.
- Visit your top school choices. Interview some students, faculty, and staff.
- Attend special programs such as college fairs and financial aid nights.
- Find out which financial aid applications your college choices require and when the forms are due.
- Some private universities may require that you register for CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE™ at this time. (This determines your qualification for private school aid.)

### November

- Take the SAT or ACT exam if necessary.
- Obtain financial aid applications from your guidance office or college of choice. Read them carefully to determine what information is required and when the applications are due.
- Begin preparing your college applications. Check with the colleges to find out when materials must be postmarked.

### December

- Pick up a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at your high school counseling office or your local library. Begin working on it. **DO NOT SUBMIT IT BEFORE JANUARY 1.**
- Apply for outside funding or scholarships.
- PARENTS:** Save your year-end payroll stub if it shows your earnings for the year. You may need it for financial aid eligibility reviews by schools.

### January

- Submit your completed FAFSA to the processor as soon after January 1 as possible.
- KEEP COPIES OF ALL FORMS YOU SUBMIT.**
- January is Financial Aid Awareness Month (in some states). Look for special programs in your area.
- PARENTS:** It's helpful to get your income tax returns prepared early—schools may request them to prove eligibility for financial aid.

### February

- Check to see if your midyear transcripts have been sent to the schools to which you have applied.
- Mail your FAFSA if you have not already done so.
- Research taking Advanced Placement (AP) or College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams.
- Rank your finalized list of colleges.
- February is Financial Aid Awareness Month (in some states). Look for special programs in your area.

### March

- Look for your Student Aid Report (SAR) in the mail. Your SAR contains federal financial aid information.
- Submit your SAR to the financial aid office and tax forms if requested. Contact each office to make certain that your application is complete. Find out what else you need to do to establish and maintain your eligibility for financial aid.
- Keep copies of everything you submit to the financial aid office.
- If you have not received your SAR four weeks after sending in your FAFSA, contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 800-433-3243.

### April

- Watch the mail for college acceptance and financial aid award letters. Compare the financial aid awards you receive.
- Make your final decision and send in a deposit by the deadline.
- Check with the college you've chosen about the details of signing and returning financial aid award letters.
- Notify the other schools that you will not be attending.
- Watch for important deadlines (housing, financial aid, etc.) at your chosen college.

### May

- Take AP examinations which are given in high schools nationwide.
- If your award package includes a student and/or parent loan, we make applying a snap. Call us today at **877-318-2368** or apply online at [educaid.com](http://educaid.com).
- Important numbers:  
Education Loans: **877-318-2368**  
[Educaid.com](http://Educaid.com)  
FASFA: 1-800-433-3243  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions?

If you have questions or would like to find out more about our affordable student loans, call today!

**877-318-2368** | [Educaid.com](http://Educaid.com)

