Ten tips for making the most of March 2026



HS JUNIORS AND YOUNGER:

1 MEET WITH YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR TO DISCUSS NEXT YEAR'S SCHEDULE. Be sure you will fulfill all of your graduation requirements on time. Plan to take AP classes or the most challenging classes you can handle successfully. Use your Admissions Requirements Worksheet to plan.

2 PREPARE TO TAKE STANDARDIZED TESTS. Check out the SAT and ACT test dates for Spring and Summer 2026. We recommend that you take the SAT in May. Then you can re-take in June, to benefit from super scoring. We also recommend taking the ACT exam in April or June. It's worth taking both exams to compare your scores. Colleges will accept either one.

3 GET MORE INVOLVED IN YOUR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES. Colleges are impressed if you show a passion for something by getting involved in your interests on many different levels. Try to take on a leadership role.

4 IN NAVIANCE SELF DISCOVERY TAB: TAKE THE "PERSONALITY" AND "LEARNING & PRODUCTIVITY" ASSESSMENTS. If you haven't already, sign in to *Naviance* and click on **Self-Discovery,** then **complete these assessments.**

5 START YOUR COLLEGE SEARCH BY COMPLETING THE **SUPERMATCH COLLEGE SEARCH** ON *NAVIANCE*. Sign into *Naviance*, go to **Colleges**, **Find Your Fit**, then **SuperMatch**. Follow the instructions to find colleges you might be interested in. Save them in your plan and then visit their websites and register for online events. Contact Jan@collegechannel.net for your personalized college search.

6 START MAKING A LIST OF COLLEGES YOU WOULD LIKE TO VISIT. After completing your **Supermatch College Search**, choose some schools to visit online or in person and register for their campus tour and information session.

7 START THINKING ABOUT THE SUMMER. What would you like to do? Work, volunteer, internships, summer camp? Check out these summer ideas, discuss options with your parents and contact us to brainstorm ideas.

HS SENIORS:

8 CONTINUE TO RESEARCH COLLEGES THAT ACCEPTED YOU! Use your **College Questionnaire Worksheet** to ask those important questions that will help you make your final decision on the college that is right for you. Find out if you can visit when their classes are in session or on Admitted Students Day.

9 REVIEW YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARDS. Check your student portal and as your financial aid award letters come in from each college, compare your awards. Send us a copy of your Financial Aid Awards so that we can help you evaluate your final cost at each school.

10 CONTACT THE COLLEGES THAT HAVE PUT YOU ON THEIR WAIT-LIST. Write a **Letter of Continued Interest**. Let them know any additional awards you have received, any new grades that have improved or anything special you have done that might prompt them to reconsider your application. Remember, they want to hear from *you*, not your parents.

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