# Ten tips for making the most of June 2026




1 BEGIN EXPLORING A CAREER. Log into your College Channel Naviance and the "Careers" tab to start exploring. Check out the Roadtrip Nation Videos.

2 CONTINUE TO UPDATE YOUR ACTIVITIES LIST. Log into your College Channel Naviance. Navigate to the "about me" tab, then use the resume builder. This is an excellent way to organize and keep track of all of your activities.

3 REVIEW YOUR COURSES FOR NEXT YEAR. Make sure you will be taking the required high school courses to be on track for graduation. Try to take the most challenging courses you can handle, as it will show colleges that you are a superior, motivated student.

4 PLAN YOUR SUMMER ACTIVITIES. Consider summer courses online, community service or volunteer work. Register for virtual/in-person college tours and information sessions. As always, contact us if you need any help.

5 STUDENT ATHLETES: If you plan to play a sport in college, then visit the NCAA website to see what the academic requirements are to play sports in college. Be sure that you are taking the approved courses you will need. You must register with the NCAA to play sports in college. You should also start contacting college coaches to let them know you are interested.

6 CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR COLLEGES THAT INTEREST YOU. Log into College Channel Naviance, go to the "colleges" tab and do a college search. Then save the colleges you like in *Colleges I'm Thinking About*. Contact Jan for your personalized college search.

7 PREPARE FOR THE SAT/ACT. Although many colleges are choosing to go test optional, you should still prepare to take the upcoming PSAT, SAT or ACT tests, and use the summer to practice. Contact Jan if you have any questions about which tests to take!

**HS JUNIORS**:

8 COLLEGE APPLICATIONS. Go to www.commonapp.org to create your account. Use the same email address as you use for Collegechannel and all college related things. Platinum members: Send your email address and password to Jan@collegechannel.net . The official 2026 application will be released on August 1, but you can set up your account in advance.

9 REQUEST TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS. Carefully consider which **two academic** teachers you want to write college recommendations for you and then ask them if they are willing to do so. Get their summer email address and let them know that you will be sending helpful information about yourself to them over the summer to assist them in writing the letter. See the enclosed **Recommender Form** to complete and then send to your recommender(s) which will be an excellent guideline for them to write a recommendation letter for you.

10 START PLANNING YOUR COLLEGE ESSAY. Review the enclosed sheet **The Common Application: Writing Your Essay/Personal Statement** which includes the essay topics for the 2026 admissions cycle and tips for writing a great essay. Then, brainstorm ideas so you can work on your essay over the summer. Platinum members, send your essay draft to jan@collegechannel.net for review or request a brainstorming session with Jan.

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