



COLLEGE PLANNING GUIDE FOR JUNIORS

- ☐ **Explore the [Post Secondary Website](#).**
- ☐ **Meet with your [counselor](#).** Discuss your academic plan and goals for life after high school.
- ☐ **Prepare for the SAT/ACT.** The SAT is administered at HRHS during the spring of your junior year. See our list of [practice resources](#), or register for official tests. Try to complete testing before Senior year begins.
- ☐ **Think about Career & Major choices.** Take the career interest survey in [Naviance](#) & explore [RoadTrip Nation](#).
- ☐ **Inquire about Letters of Recommendation.** Ask ONE teacher from junior year how they are handling letters of rec requests for next fall. If the teacher is accepting requests now, verify that your potential colleges require LORs and what the deadlines are.
- ☐ **Begin building a list of possible colleges**
 - **Decide what's important to you.** Research college profiles in [Naviance](#) to learn about their academic programs, location, size, cost, activities, athletics, etc., and compare your top choices.
 - **Search for matching schools in Naviance.** Use filters to find colleges that fit your goals. View Scattergrams to see our students' results from years past. Click the college name to view individual websites, understand their course requirements, take virtual tours, etc.
 - **Visit colleges you're interested in.** Go in person if you can! If it's not feasible, sign up for rep visits here at HRHS (Naviance), go to college fairs, and look for on-line tours!
- ☐ **Have the "Money" talk.** Discuss what your budget is and how you'll pay.
 - **Search for [scholarships](#).** Most scholarships come directly from colleges, but there are some local/regional opportunities available for juniors. See our list & start applying!
 - **Apply for COF ([College Opportunity Fund](#))** if you plan to attend college in Colorado. If you have taken CE courses at Arapahoe, you already have a COF account.
 - **Explore WUE ([Western Undergraduate Exchange](#))** to see if any colleges you're interested in are part of the reduced-tuition program.
- ☐ **Maintain a good GPA.** Upward trends matter, so don't give up if you didn't do well early on!
- ☐ **Stay involved.** Whether you're interested in sports, clubs, working, etc., put in enough time to show that you are a contributing member of your community. Find a way to volunteer on a regular basis if you can!

LOOKING AHEAD

Summer:

- Re-take the ACT or SAT, if needed
- Refine your college list. Try to identify colleges to add to your "Colleges I'm Thinking About" in Naviance.
- Research application requirements
- Optional: After August 1st (summer going into Senior year) Begin the [Common App](#)

Senior Year:

- In Naviance, move colleges from "Colleges I'm Thinking About" and "Colleges I'm Applying To"
- Request test scores from [College Board](#) and/or [ACT](#) if you're applying with scores.
- Ask a teacher for a letter of recommendation if you need one by requesting it in Naviance.
- Request transcripts & other supporting documents in Naviance at least 10 school days before deadline
- Attend College Application Boot Camp in October
- Visit with Admissions Officers at HRHS beginning in September.