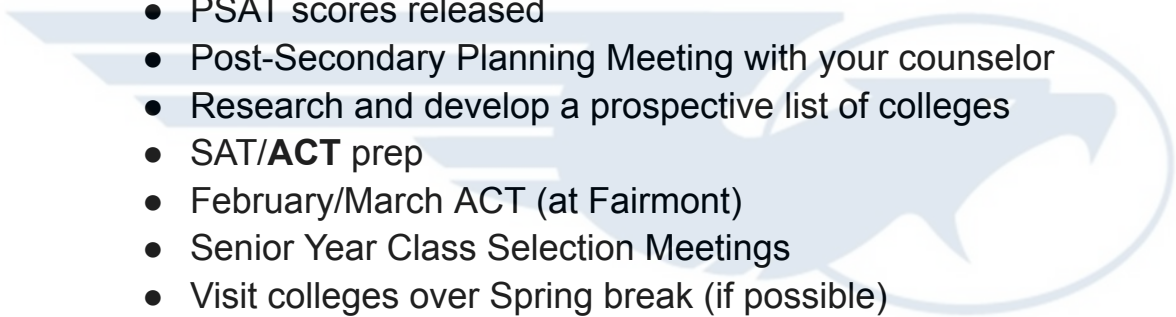


Introduction to the college admissions application timeline

The college application process can be one of the most exciting times in the life of a student, both daunting and inspiring. It can also be one of the most complicated years you will ever manage. Juniors face their most challenging academic years while also trying to earn stellar standardized test scores, pursue high-impact activities, and manage college admissions applications. Given the many moving parts of the college admissions process, it's helpful to have a project plan for what to complete and when. We are sharing a college admissions application timeline to ensure you are ahead of the game on your to do lists.

January through March, Junior Year

- 
- PSAT scores released
 - Post-Secondary Planning Meeting with your counselor
 - Research and develop a prospective list of colleges
 - SAT/**ACT** prep
 - February/March ACT (at Fairmont)
 - Senior Year Class Selection Meetings
 - Visit colleges over Spring break (if possible)
 - Participate in virtual college tours and information sessions

April, Junior Year

- April ACT (if needed)
- Continue to research and/or visit colleges, if necessary

May, Junior Year

- AP Exams
- Begin drafting college essay

- Continue to research and/or visit colleges

June, Junior Year

- June SAT (if needed)
- June ACT (if needed)
- Continue to research and/or visit colleges
- Continue to work on college essay
- Ask teachers to write letters of recommendation

July-August, Junior Year

- Continue work on college essay
- Continue to research and/or visit colleges
- July ACT (if needed)
- Create account and work on Common Application Aug. 1
- Continue to work on essay and begin supplemental essays
- August SAT (if needed)

September, Senior Year

- Meet with your counselor to review your college application plans
- Create Parchment Account, with Counselor instructions
- Consider if you will need Recommendation letters
- September ACT (if needed)
- Continue college applications and begin working on scholarship applications, if you haven't already
- Apply to scholarships reserved for seniors. Many have deadlines between August-November (see your counselor with questions)
- Research school-specific, national, and state scholarship opportunities – many are advertised in the winter. Apply by the deadline for any you are interested in

- Visit colleges if you still need to (if possible)

October, Senior Year

- Continue working on applications and scholarships
- Continue to register for and attend college rep visits
- Begin applying for financial aid on Oct. 1 by completing the FAFSA
- Send standardized test scores to early action, early decision and/or rolling decision colleges that require official score reports
- Request Recommendation letters from teachers/staff (if needed)
- Request transcripts at least 2 weeks before your first application deadline
- October SAT (if needed)
- October ACT (if needed)

November, Senior Year

- Nov. 1 and Nov. 15 are common Early Action/Early Decision deadlines
- Request transcripts at least 2 weeks before your first application deadline
- Send standardized test scores to schools, as part of the application process
- Work on regular decision applications and essays after you submit early applications
- Meet with your counselor as needed
- After applying, follow instructions to join application portals to ensure everything has been received. (Keep in mind that it takes a minimum of 2-3 weeks for colleges to upload files!) Maintain the usernames and passwords to your college application portals in 1 document
- Keep up senior year grades

December, Senior Year

- Early action/early decision notifications typically begin to come out the second week in December
- Withdraw any EA or regular decision applications from other colleges if you are admitted to your ED school
- Submit transcript requests and counselor reports for Regular Decision schools
- Keep up senior year grades
- Notify your counselor of acceptances, deferrals, and rejections

January, Senior Year

- Most regular decision application deadlines
- Notification from some early action colleges
- Apply for scholarships
- Keep up your senior year grades

February, Senior Year

- Mid-year grades/reports sent to colleges
- Sit tight and wait on regular decision notifications
- Continue applying for scholarships
- Notify your counselor of acceptances, deferrals, and rejections

March, Senior Year

- Regular decision notifications and financial aid awards begin to come in



- Be sure to check college portals and financial awards; if necessary, reach out to college financial aid offices with questions
- Notify your counselor of acceptances, waitlists, and rejections

April, Senior Year

- All regular decision notifications should be delivered by early April
- Notify your counselor of acceptances, waitlists, and rejections
- Attend accepted students days
- Deposit (room & board) if you have decided on your school
- Notify colleges you know you will NOT be attending. This can open up waitlist seats for others.

May, Senior Year

- May 1 is National Deposit Day. All students must send in a deposit to the ONE school they plan to attend
- Notify your counselor of the school you plan to attend or other future plans
- Colleges begin to take students off the waitlist in early May
- Send thank-you notes to teachers who wrote letters of recommendation for you

June, Senior Year

- Counselor sends final transcript to your college after graduation

