

# Junior Checklist

## Test Dates/Registration Deadlines/Test Type

**MARCH IS TOO LATE! DON'T WAIT FOR THE SCHOOL DAY SAT TO START YOUR TESTING JOURNEY!**

Test Dates	Registration Deadlines	Test Type
October 22, 2025	SCHOOLWIDE No registration	Digital PSAT
March 3, 2026	SCHOOLWIDE No registration	Digital SAT
August 23, 2025	August 8, 2025	Digital SAT
September 13, 2025	August 29, 2025	Digital SAT
October 4, 2025	September 19, 2025	Digital SAT
November 8, 2025	October 24, 2025	Digital SAT
December 6, 2025	November 21, 2025	Digital SAT
March 14, 2026	February 27, 2026	Digital SAT
May 2, 2025	April 17, 2026	Digital SAT
June 6, 2026	May 22, 2026	Digital SAT

This information is provided as **INFORMATIONAL** and to drive you to the source, please check [CollegeBoard.com](https://collegeboard.org) for registration and additional information.

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en-texas.html>

### Fall Semester

- Attend a college fair in person or virtually and compare your options. You should enter the “Colleges I’m Interested In” in Naviance as soon as possible. Over 120 colleges/universities visit Austin High each year, you will receive an email notifying you if you have the college/university selected in Naviance that they are coming to campus. The local/regional recruiter that visits campus is the first person to read and rank your application. **DO NOT MISS THESE VISITS.**
  - Updating your “colleges I’m Thinking about” in Naviance ensures that if the College/University is visiting Austin High you get an invitation to the meeting!
- Make a list of colleges you wish to research. Research requirements regarding admissions requirements, application steps and deadlines, fields of study, etc. Naviance is a good first look, but the college/university website is the only trusted source.

- Narrow your college list to 10-12 schools. After you enter these colleges/universities into Naviance, you can use the scattergram charts to compare your GPA and SAT/ACT scores to those of other Austin High students who applied to that college/university.
- Meet with your counselor to be sure you are on track to graduate and that you meet college admission requirements.
- Find out your class position, GPA, and how many credits you've earned. Austin High is a non-ranking High School. To obtain your class position, your parent/guardian must contact the registrar and provide a copy of their ID along with a request for class position. [Registrar's Page](#)
- Review your schedule to make sure you are enrolled in classes that are rigorous and challenging for YOU. A wide variety of advanced courses are available to you including AP, Dual Credit, Dual Enrollment, etc. Most colleges prefer three years of foreign language and four years (not credits) of core courses.
- Get more involved in extracurricular activities. Take on leadership roles if you can.
- Hone and update your resume of your extracurricular activities and honors. This will be of great use to you when you apply to colleges, but also when you apply for jobs. You can review the [Common Application](#) format and questions now to become familiar.
- Keep your grade point average up!
- Start the certification process if you want to play Division I or II sports. You will do this in the NCAA Clearinghouse. Provide Ms. Cleaver with your NCAA number to ensure transcripts are successfully submitted.
- If you are thinking about enlisting in the military, be sure to speak with a military representative and take the ASVAB test. The ASVAB is given twice each year at AHS. To participate, email Ms. Cleaver.
- Volunteer and complete community service at places of which you have interest.

### **Take the PSAT**

- The PSAT is administered here on our campus in October and top scores qualify for National Merit Scholarship. There is money and scholarship opportunities tied to doing well on this test.
  - Parents: Results from the PSAT test will be a great indication of college readiness! If you've not already done so, take a look at scores from 10th grade and get a plan for closing the gaps!
- Visit Ms. Cleaver after you get your scores back to discuss next steps for testing!

### **Winter Months**

- Study to take the ACT or SAT in the spring or summer
  - Register for the ACT at [actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org)
  - Register for the SAT at [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org)
- Continue to stay involved in activities in and out of school
- Refine your college choices by comparing and contrasting schools by cost, field of study, diversity choices, etc.

## **Spring Semester**

### **Prepare for tests**

- Take the SAT and/or ACT (School-wide SAT is March 3, 2026)
- Educate yourself of admissions requirements
- **Finalize your resume so that you are prepared to use it for college applications**
- Do your best on End-of-Course exams (EOCs).
- Prepare for your semester exams and FINISH STRONG!
- Complete a draft of your college essay
- Check your progress towards earning graduation credits and maintaining a strong grade
- Visit college campuses if you can
- Identify potential teachers to provide Letters of Recommendation. Review the "Teacher Brag Sheet" and "Counselor Recommendation Form". These forms are updated annually, DO NOT USE THE PRIOR YEAR FORMS.

## **Summer Months**

- Get a summer job and/or continue with community service that is valuable to you
- **Work on your college essays!**
- College applications open on August 1 - begin working on them! Naviance updates each summer, DO NOT enter information prior to August 1. There are many reasons, most related to how Naviance operates and the school year "rolling" on August 1. You will be a junior in Naviance until at least August 1, 2027.
- Visit college campuses if you can