Ten tips for making the most of December 2025



HS Juniors

1 START PREPARING FOR THE SAT & ACT EXAMS. Even if you don't have a tutor or attend test prep classes, you can still practice for the upcoming exams at www.collegeboard.org for SAT and www.act.org for ACT.. Contact Jan to review your plan. Send us your recent PSAT scores!

2 RESEARCH AND APPLY FOR LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS. You should check your local library and HS guidance office for local scholarships; there is less competition for them. Have your parents check with their employer or any organizations they belong to and see if they award scholarships. Search for national scholarships at Fastweb. There are many organizations that give out money but you must apply early, **even if you are not yet a HS senior**. Visit https://www.raise.me/join/3315363635 and sign up to get micro-scholarships directly from colleges!

3 USE SOCIAL MEDIA WISELY. Check out our tips on using social media

4 VISIT COLLEGES VIRTUALLY. Even if you can't visit in person, you can learn a lot about a college from their presentations. Register for a virtual tour, information session and other online events.

5 SHOW A DEMONSTRATED INTEREST. Contact colleges you are interested in through their website/social media. Request information from them and respond to their emails. Let them know you are interested. (Many colleges keep track of how many times you are in contact with them!)

6 COLLEGE SEARCH - I will be speaking with HS Juniors after the New Year to start you on your college search. Prior to this, Platinum members should log into your College Channel *Naviance* account. Go to the ***colleges*** tab, then ***find your fit***, and then **SuperMatch** to do an advanced college search. This will guide you toward appropriate colleges that meet your criteria.

7 KEEP TRACK OF COLLEGES THAT INTEREST YOU. Use the **College Choices Worksheet** to develop your college list and see what it takes to get accepted.

8 NEXT YEAR COURSES. Plan your courses for next year and make sure you have a plan to take the most challenging courses you can handle. Contact Jan@collegechannel.net to review your plan.

9 MAINTAIN YOUR GRADES & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES. Take on some leadership positions. Go the extra mile…it will pay off!

10 UPDATE YOUR *Naviance* PLAN. Platinum members: Access your College Channel Naviance Account and login with your email and password. Click on the "Self-Discovery" tab and then complete the "Personality" profile. Then take the "Learning and Productivity" assessment. This is also a good time to update your goals in the "Planner" section. You can also click on the "careers" tab and then "Explore Careers" which will help you discover the types of work activities and careers that match your interests and then the colleges that have majors in those areas. Don't forget to "Explore Roadtrip Nation Videos" to learn from people in different careers.

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