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"Going -to-College" Calendar

Use this checklist to make your "going-to-college" planning easier. It offers helpful reminders for tasks to complete during the college planning process.

As you review this checklist, keep in mind your calendar may differ depending on the type of *education you pursue.*

Freshmen/Sophomores

- Get to know your high school guidance counselor.
- Plan a family college discussion.
- Develop good study skills.
- Explore careers you find interesting.
- Get a Social Security Number (visit www.ssa.gov)
- Evaluate your personality, interests, and skills.
- Take challenging courses.
- Participate in extracurricular activities.

Juniors

September

- Plan a family college discussion.
- Review your courses with your guidance counselor.
- Prepare a list of questions to ask college reps.
- Make a list of schools you might want to attend. Use College Answer's School Search Tool.
- Collect college catalogs.
- Register for the PSAT.
- Create files to keep copies of applications and correspondence.
- Set up a calendar to track important dates and deadlines.

October - November

- Print College Answer's College Fair Checklist.
- Attend college fairs and financial aid nights.
- Take the PSAT.
- Search for scholarships and student financial aid.
- Learn the basics about federal and private loans.
- Print College Answer's Campus Visit Checklist.
- Schedule and make college visits.

December

- Review your PSAT results with your counselor.
- Talk with friends who are home for college.
- Take both the SAT and ACT at least once.

January - February

- Identify characteristics you want in a college.
- Attend college fairs and financial aid nights.
- Run College Answer's **FREE** Scholarship Search.
- Register and study for the SAT and/or ACT.

March

- Schedule and make campus visits.
- Narrow your college list to a reasonable number.
- Discuss ways to pay with each college on your list.
- Visit College Answer's College Advice section.
- Estimate how much each college will cost.

April

- Compare college requirements to your course load.
- Select senior year courses.
- Visit colleges.
- Register and take the SAT, if necessary.
- Planning to attend a military academy or enrolling in an ROTC program? Meet with your high school counselor before leaving for summer vacation.

May

- Register and take the ACT and/or AP tests.
- Ask about college prep programs and workshops offered during the summer.
- Search for scholarships and ways to pay for college.
- Get a summer job to save money for college.

June - July

- Talk with friends who are home from college.
- Create a list of schools you would like to attend.
- Schedule college visits and interviews.
- Talk to people in career fields you find interesting.
- Search for scholarships.

August

- Request college applications.
- Give thought to essay topics.
- Consider whom to ask for letters of recommendations.
- Schedule a family meeting to discuss your college plans.