

# Junior Year

**Check off each item as you complete.**

## **SEPTEMBER**

- This year the PSAT counts; taking it may qualify you to receive a National Merit Scholarship. **Make sure you sign up to take it in October.**
- Pick up a copy of the PSAT/NMSQT Student Bulletin at the guidance counseling office and take the enclosed practice test.
- Meet with your guidance counselor and compare the academic requirement for each target school. If necessary adjust your schedule.
- Register online for the SAT and SAT Subject Tests, which are offered several times during the year. Many colleges require or recommend 1-3 Subject Tests for admission or placement. Be sure to complete required tests by the end of junior year.

## **OCTOBER**

- Take the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test). Check “Yes” for student search services to hear from additional colleges and potential scholarships.
- Start preparing for the SAT. Click on the Test Prep button above to take a practice test. Use those results to focus on the areas where you need the most improvement.
- Go to college fairs in you area.

## **NOVEMBER**

- Fall is a good time to start the college search! Begin to narrow down the schools you want to consider. Utilize the US News website to begin your college search.
- Identify test requirements for target schools, including scores for the SAT, SAT Subject Tests, ACT, and others. PSAT/NMSQT scores can give you an idea of what you would score on the SAT and help you focus your practice for it.

## **DECEMBER**

- Meet with your guidance counselor and compare the academic requirements for some of the schools you are interested in and the classes available during the spring.

## **JANUARY**

- Organize a file for your college brochures and information. Before you know it, they'll start pouring in.
- Talk to the school counselor about local scholarship opportunities.

## **FEBRUARY**

- Plan to visit college campuses this spring while classes are in session. Be sure to schedule interviews with admissions officers.
- Practice for upcoming SAT in the Test Prep section of [TheCollegeStore.net](http://TheCollegeStore.net)

## **MARCH**

- Most students take the SAT in spring of junior year and/or fall of senior year. Register online for spring or summer SAT tests.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss AP courses to take senior year. You may want to consider taking a course at a local college, especially if you are interested in a subject for which your school doesn't offer AP courses.
- Now is a great time for you to start looking for a summer job, internship or volunteer opportunity that may be a positive addition to your applications / resume.
- Meet with your school counselor to discuss summer learning programs at local colleges that might be of interest to you

## **APRIL**

- AP Exams are in May. Visit the Test Prep section of [TheCollegeStore.net](http://TheCollegeStore.net) for tips and prep materials.
- Attend local college fairs.

## **MAY**

- Take the SAT Subject Test after you have successfully completed the corresponding high school course (B+ average or better).

- Begin to compile a folder of materials and documents necessary for applications. In addition to copies of your transcripts, a resume and income documents, this might include things such as writing samples, portfolios, audition tapes, and other materials that individual schools may require.

## **SUMMER**

- Call ahead for tour and open house schedules at colleges you are interested in.
- If you are planning to take the SAT in the fall, register online now.
- Narrow your college list to 6-8 schools. The list should include "safe" schools as well as "reach" and "realistic" schools.