

Junior College Planner / Month by Month

AUGUST

- Talk to your parents about your desire to attend college. Discuss issues such as living on campus, living at home, paying for tuition, etc.
- Set realistic goals for the upcoming school year.
- Deal with any and all problems you encounter in a timely manner.

SEPTEMBER

- Make sure the classes you are taking now, and those for second semester will put you on course for graduation AND will prepare you best for college... AP courses anyone?
- Register/pay for the PSAT/NMSQT. The test is in October, but the deadline to register is the **end of September**...talk to your counselor.
- Study, do all of your homework, work with your teachers to be successful in your classes.

OCTOBER

- Take the PSAT/NMSQT test. It is the Wednesday BEFORE the third Saturday at school. You **MUST** pre-register!!!
- Attend college fairs to find out more about the schools you are interested in and talk to admissions counselors directly.
- Become involved in extra-curricular activities, school activities, volunteerism, etc. Colleges want well-rounded students!

NOVEMBER

- Talk to the college representatives that visit the school. You must sign-up ahead of time with the guidance secretary.
- Start learning about financial aid. MHSA has a financial aid seminar each year. Get an early start and attend.

DECEMBER

- Keep working hard in your classes. Remember, colleges accept you based on the grades you receive through your junior year.
- Research colleges on the internet. Websites are one of the best ways to learn more about the schools you are interested in.
- Request information from the schools that you are interested in.
- Go over your PSAT/NMSQT results with your counselor. Use these results to find your strengths and weaknesses and better prepare yourself for other testing.

JANUARY

- Compile a list of colleges that appeal to you. See how your GPA ranks in comparison to the college admissions information.
- Continue to challenge yourself academically.
- Prepare for final exams...your final grade is what is on your transcript.
- Begin registering for the ACT or SAT. The ACT measures Reading, Math, English, and Science skills. The SAT measures your reasoning, Reading and Math skills.
- Make sure you check with the colleges you are interested in to see which test it requires.

FEBRUARY

- Continue researching colleges and possible majors.
- Keep working hard in your classes...these grades are important!!!!

MARCH

- Continue preparing for the ACT/SAT
- Go on college visits
- Meet with students attending colleges your are interested in.
- Involve yourself in school, community, and extracurricular groups.

APRIL

- Keep a strong focus on your classes.
- Talk to your counselor about the schools you are interested in and the majors you are looking into.
- Start looking into summer jobs, internships, volunteerism, etc.

MAY

- Take the ACT or SAT if you haven't already.
- Continue to work hard in your classes
- AP exams are this month!
- Prepare to choose your senior class coursework...you may be accepted for your grades through your junior year, BUT all colleges require a final transcript of the courses and grades you received through your senior year!

JUNE / JULY / AUGUST (prior to your senior year)

- Go on as many campus visits as you can...that is really the only way to know where you want to go to school.
- Find out the final admissions requirements for the schools you are most interested in and MAKE sure you have met those requirements.
- Get a job to help curb the cost of school and get valuable work experience.