

Junior Year Suggested Timeline for College Planning and Preparation

Junior year is probably your most important year for establishing a strong academic record and proving your commitment to extracurricular efforts.

Below are some ways to begin planning and preparing for your post-secondary journey.

WINTER OF JUNIOR YEAR

- Continue to think about what colleges you might be interested in attending
- Continue to challenge yourself academically.
- Prep for the ACT that will be happening in spring.
- Continue participating in college visits

SUMMER OF JUNIOR YEAR

- Narrow down the list of colleges you are interested in attending. If you can, visit school that interest you.
- Decide whether you are going to apply under a college's early decision or early action program. Be sure to learn about the program deadlines and requirements.
- Begin preparing for the application process: draft application essays; put together your portfolio or resume. Determine whom you will use as references.

FALL OF JUNIOR YEAR

- Stay involved or begin to get involved in extracurricular activities that interest you. Work to assume a leadership role this year or next.
- Continue (or begin) volunteering. Remember it is not quality not quantity that counts.
- Begin to think seriously about what you want in a college: big or small campus, urban or rural setting, highly competitive or less so. Exam your long term goals.
- Begin to research colleges: start with Xello. Develop a list of colleges that appear to meet your needs and make a comparison list.
- Meet with college admission representatives either in person or virtually
- Evaluate the classes you want to take for Senior year and make sure they are in line with admission standards.
- Attend college fairs - search www.wefs.org. There is a Wisconsin Education Fair hosted locally every fall.
- Attend a College Goal session www.collegegoalwi.org.

SPRING OF JUNIOR YEAR

- Take the ACT in March
- Maintain your grades and continue to challenge yourself academically
- Being visiting colleges you are interested in and attend open houses

SENIOR YEAR

- Your senior year is where it all finally comes together. All your hard work and involvement will hopefully help you achieve the goals you have set for yourself. Before you know it, you will be preparing for graduation and you will wonder where the last four years went.
- Please use the [Milton Senior College Prep Checklist](#) to help guide you as you prepare for your future. The Milton Senior College Checklist can be found [here](#).

