

College Planning Checklist



FRESHMAN YEAR

- Take challenging courses
- Attend college fairs
- Join clubs and volunteer for activities related to your interests
- Visit college websites; talk to classmates, parents, teachers, and recent graduates to learn about colleges
- Take the PSAT in October to practice for the SAT
- Keep your grades up
- Talk with your parents about colleges that interest you
- Start a resume highlighting your academic achievements, special skills, and talents
- Review PSAT Score results to target areas for improvement.
- Explore summer activities related to your career goals

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Continue to take challenging courses
- Attend college fairs
- Join clubs and volunteer for activities related to your interests
- Visit college websites; talk to classmates, parents, teachers, and recent graduates to learn about colleges
- Take the PSAT in October to practice for the SAT
- Keep your grades up
- Talk with your parents about colleges that interest you
- Start or update a resume highlighting your academic achievements, special skills, and talents
- Review PSAT Score results to target areas for improvement.
- Register for elective courses that meet admission requirements
- Explore summer activities related to your career goals

JUNIOR YEAR

- Continue to take challenging courses
- Attend college fairs
- Join clubs and volunteer for activities related to your interests
- Visit college websites; talk to classmates, parents, teachers, and recent graduates to learn about colleges
- Take the PSAT in October to qualify for National Merit Scholarship competition
- Register for the ACT/SAT
- Keep your grades up
- Talk with your parents about colleges that interest you
- Sign up to meet with college representatives visiting WHS
- List, compare, and visit colleges

- Start or update a resume highlighting your academic achievements, special skills, and talents
- Review PSAT Score results to target areas for improvement.
- Spring semester meet with your counselor for your Junior Conference
- Register for elective courses that meet admission requirements
- Take the SAT/ACT in the spring. Check with colleges to determine which tests are required for admission.
- Investigate scholarship opportunities
- Explore summer activities related to your career goals
- Clarify your goals. Develop a preliminary list of ten colleges.
- Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center if pursuing an athletic scholarship for a Division I or II institution

SENIOR YEAR

Fall

- Register to retake the SAT/ACT to improve scores if necessary
- Make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements. Register for any make-up courses if needed.
- Attend Senior Parent Night
- Continue your scholarship search and apply well before the deadline
- Check the Scholarship Bulletin often to learn about local scholarship opportunities
- Keep working hard all year; senior grades can affect admissions and scholarship eligibility.
- Ask for recommendations from teachers, school counselors, or employers at least two weeks before application deadlines. Don't forget to say, "Thank You."
- Visit with college admissions representatives who come to CHS
- Attend college fairs
- Apply for admission at the colleges you've chosen
- Find out if you qualify for scholarships at each college you have applied to
- Attend Financial Aid/Scholarship Workshop (November/December)

SPRING

- Complete the FAFSA after January 1st
- Continue to apply for scholarship opportunities
- Keep track of important financial aid and scholarship deadlines
- Watch the mail for your Student Aid Report (SAR)—it should arrive four weeks after the FAFSA is filed
- Compare financial aid packages from different schools
- Decide which college to attend, and notify the school of your decision
- All students must submit a final transcript to the college they decide to attend. Prospective Division I or II athletes must also send final transcripts to the NCAA Eligibility Center (May)