

Remember: You should be talking with your parents throughout this entire process! You should also be actively researching various college options on an ongoing basis. This calendar is designed to give you general direction regarding what happens, and when.

WINTER (JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH)

- Make an appointment to meet with your school counselor.
- [Register](#) for spring [testing dates](#) for SAT I, ACT, and/or SAT II Subject Tests (see section on testing).
- Involve yourself intelligently in [extracurricular](#) activities, emphasizing quality, depth of commitment, and initiative in activities that are important to you.
- Plan early for [summer](#) employment or other activities to explore interests, pursue challenges, and find ways to grow and achieve success. Travel, study, and jobs or [volunteering](#) help you learn more about yourself and the kinds of college communities and programs of study that might suit you.
- Study hard! Junior year grades may be the most important.
- Start researching scholarships you can apply for as a junior or senior.
- Check to see how you are progressing towards your [graduation requirements](#) and your four-year plan. Make adjustments accordingly with your counselor.

SPRING (APRIL, MAY)

- Visit colleges during spring break if you can.
- [Register](#) if you wish to take the June SAT I, SAT II Subject Tests, or ACT.
- Make an appointment for you and your parents to meet with your school counselor or college advisor to talk about your [research](#) on the colleges and suggested universities, discuss likelihood of admission, and consider what steps to take next.
- Pre-register for challenging senior year classes. Course [curriculum](#) can be VERY important!
- Attend the [Coast to Coast College Fair](#), usually held the last Monday in April, or other [college](#) fairs. Check with your school counselor for more information.
- Keep researching scholarships.

SUMMER (JUNE, JULY, AUGUST)

- Expand your horizons and gain experience. Admission committees in highly selective institutions increasingly believe that how you use vacations reveals your priorities and resourcefulness; what you do shows people what you value.
- If you're not involved with a summer program, check into taking a college class at [UTC](#) or [Chattanooga State](#).
- If possible, [visit colleges](#), taking campus tours and attending information sessions wherever you can.
- Gather catalogs and application materials, keeping track of what materials you have or need.
- Gather ideas for college-application [essays](#) by keeping a journal about significant books, issues, experiences, and thoughts. Go online to a college's website to get an idea of what essay questions might be asked.
- Don't stop looking for scholarships! Summer is a great time to spend researching hundreds of scholarships. The money is out there!