

High School Action Plan

Freshman and Sophomore Year:

Fall

- ❖ Create a log including all extracurricular activities, awards, community service, and honors. Update it every season.
- ❖ Get involved in extracurricular activities. Colleges are looking for well-rounded students.
- ❖ Start off the year right by making good grades.
- ❖ Make sure you are enrolled in challenging classes.
- ❖ Sophomore year, take the PSAT and the PLAN tests. The PSAT is preparation for the SAT and the PLAN is preparation for the ACT.

Spring

- ❖ Attend college fairs in the area.
- ❖ Sign up for challenging classes for the following year.
- ❖ Colleges look for volunteer hours, so start early with meaningful community service and leadership positions.

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Junior Year:

Fall

- ❖ Take the PSAT.
- ❖ Take a career assessment test to assist your career decisions.
- ❖ Create an account on www.fastweb.com and on www.schoolsoup.com.
Both websites will email you scholarship information.
- ❖ Get an SAT and an ACT preparation booklet from your Guidance Counselor and start preparing for the tests.
- ❖ Register to take the SAT and the ACT.
- ❖ Consider taking the CLEP.

Spring

- ❖ Take the SAT and the ACT.
- ❖ Collect financial aid information, admission requirements, and applications for colleges of interest.
- ❖ Start visiting colleges, and take campus tours.

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Senior Year:

Fall

- ❖ Narrow a list of colleges to around 5, and make sure you have applications and financial aid information from those schools.
- ❖ Get organized!!! Make lists of test dates, deadlines, recommendations needed, transcript requests, and any other necessary materials.
- ❖ Take the SAT and/or the ACT again.
- ❖ Ask for teacher recommendations.
- ❖ Write application essays.
- ❖ Send in college applications. (October is the traditional deadline.)
- ❖ Speak to the same college admissions rep each time, and send all paperwork to that person's attention.

Winter

- ❖ Have your Guidance Counselor send out your midyear transcript to colleges on your list.
- ❖ Contact colleges to make sure they received your application.
- ❖ Submit the FAFSA as soon after January 1 as possible.

- ❖ Boys must register for the Selective Services by their 18th birthdays to receive federal funding.
- ❖ Many financial aid deadlines are in February; make sure to apply before the deadline.
- ❖ Fill out the FFAA for Florida Bright Futures.
- ❖ Be in contact with your financial aid officer.

Spring

- ❖ You should receive acceptance letters and financial aid offers by mid-April.
- ❖ Decline acceptance to undesired colleges by way of a thank you note.
- ❖ Accept entrance to your desired college.

Summer

- ❖ Ask your Guidance Counselor to send your final transcripts to your college.
- ❖ Pack, and get ready for the next phase of your life!