



ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

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Counseling Office
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Junior Year College Bound Calendar

FALL

- Evaluate your grades. Even if your grades have not been all that good so far, it is never too late to improve. Colleges and institutions like to see an upward trend.
- Attend College Day on September 21st.
- Take the PSAT on October 12th. Register and pay \$14 in the guidance office.
- Talk with your parents about your ideas for post-secondary training.
- Begin researching colleges on the internet.
- Make a list of colleges that interest you.
- Visit with college representatives who visit RCHS. They are listed in the guidance office. Sign up in the book on the secretary's desk if you want to visit with a particular rep. The guidance office will send a pass for you to attend.
- If you want to participate in Division I or Division II sports in college, check with your counselor to make sure you are taking a core curriculum that meets NCAA requirements.
- If you are interested in one of the military academies, talk to your guidance counselor about starting the application process.
- Stay involved with extracurricular activities. Colleges look for consistency and depth in activities.

WINTER

- Collect information about entrance requirements, tuition and fees, room and board costs, student activities, course offerings, faculty composition, accreditation, and financial aid.
- Evaluate PSAT scores and make corrections to the test.
- Begin to narrow down your college choices. Find out if the colleges you are interested in require the SAT, ACT, or SAT Subject tests for admission.
- Register for the spring ACT, SAT, or both.
- Prepare for the tests you have decided to take.
- Have a discussion with your parents about the colleges in which you are interested. You will need to discuss financial resources and gather information about financial aid.
- Begin to attend the open house opportunities at colleges in which you are interested. These are usually held on weekends and involve a tour and an information session. Students of the college give the tours and are usually available for a question and answer session. The tour guides have great information.
- Set up a filing system with individual folders for each college's correspondence and printed materials.

SPRING

- Set up appointments with the admissions office to visit colleges during Spring Break. It is not a good idea to attend a college without visiting once or maybe even twice. That would be like buying a car without taking it for a test drive.
- Meet with your guidance counselor to review senior year course selection and graduation requirements.
- Discuss ACT and SAT scores with your counselor about how they relate to college admission requirements.
- Register for the ACT and/ or SAT or take the SAT subject tests as required by the colleges in which you are interested.
- Consider whom you will ask to write your recommendations.

SUMMER

- Visit colleges if you have not done so.
- If you need to interview, now is the time to do so. Send a thank you note to your interviewer.
- Most college applications are filled out online. Begin looking at the applications and working on essays that are required in the application. Some applications could require two to three essays.

Year-Long Activities

- Visit with college reps in the guidance office
- Study and read to keep your grades up
- Research colleges
- Ask your guidance counselor for help with your college search