

May Planning Guide for High School Seniors/Juniors

ACT/SAT Deadlines

▲ ACT Registration Deadlines.

The registration deadline for the June 13 ACT is May 8. The late registration deadline is May 22. For more information, visit www.act.org.

▲ SAT Registration Deadlines.

The registration deadline for the June 6 SAT & Subject Tests is May 5 (the late registration deadline is May 15). For more information, visit www.collegeboard.com.

Seniors

▲ Avoid Senioritis

Stay focused on your studies. End your high school career by continuing to give top effort in your classes and extracurricular activities.

▲ Financial Aid

Evaluate your financial aid award letters from colleges. Talk to your parents or guardians about financing strategies. Continue to apply for scholarships. Check pages 11 and 12 of each issue of *College Spotlight* for new listings, and visit the websites of other scholarship sources, such as www.scholarships.com, www.fastweb.com, and www.collegeanswer.com.

▲ Summer Opportunities

If you haven't found one, continue looking for a summer job, internship, or volunteer activity—especially one that will prepare you in some way for college majors in which you are interested. Ask your parents or guidance counselor for help with possible leads.

▲ Keep Track of Deadlines

Now that you've picked a college, don't forget to keep up with due dates for college payments (tuition, room, board, etc.). Watch the mail for info about housing, orientation, roommates, etc.

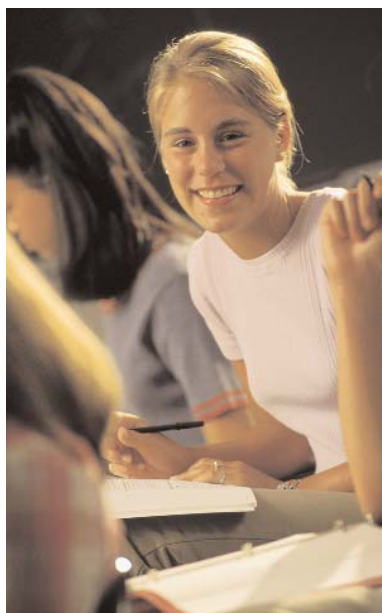


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Juniors

▲ Make a List

Make a list of the qualities that you are looking for in a college. These include type of school (public or private), size, cost, financial aid options, extracurricular activities, and majors offered. Attend college fairs in your area and use this list to help you narrow your choices. Begin to visit colleges that you have selected. Visit www.campustours.com for virtual campus tours of more than 1,000 colleges and universities.

▲ ACT/SAT

It's a good idea to check with schools that you are interested in to see which test they prefer—most schools accept both. It might be a good idea to take both tests since you are likely to score better on one depending on your abilities and aptitudes.

▲ Financial Aid

Begin researching financial aid such as scholarships, grants, and loans. Talk to your parents about how you will finance your college education.

▲ Extracurricular Activities

Continue participating in extracurricular activities such as school clubs, newspapers, year-book, speech teams, or athletics. Start thinking about the activities you will participate in during your senior year. These activities look great on your application and tell college administrators that you're a well-rounded individual.