

JUNIOR & SENIOR YEAR ACADEMIC TIMELINES

JUNIOR YEAR

Building list of colleges that have all the preferences you are looking for

- Geographic area
- Size of school/classroom size
- Major of interest
- Proximity to home

Visit colleges on list

- Initial general tours are always available
- Preferably while classes are in session to get feel for how campus is
- Sit in on the financial aid meetings they offer
- Eat in the dining halls
- Take a drive around campus and surrounding campus town

Refine the list of colleges after initial visits

Send letters/email communication with department professors at schools that make cut letting them know of your high interest of attending and would like to set meeting in near future

Building your academic resume and volunteer activities

Searching for scholarships via Scholarshipmonkey.com & fastweb.com as well as local scholarships (school, community organizations like Rotary, Eagles, VFW..)

Test prep for ACT/SAT

Taking ACT/SAT texts (2-3 times overall from Jr to very beginning of SR year)

Nearing end of JR year be thinking of what teachers & non-teachers you'd ask for LOR (Letter of Recommendation)

Start taking 2nd visits to colleges that have made the final list (end of May – Sept)

- This visit is going to be a personal visit that you schedule to meet with professor/dept head of major
- The visit will be a little more formal and interview like (but still low key – no pressure)
- Purpose is to ask detailed questions about the major and program at that college and expectations of the course load, any kind of internships, job search help post-grad, expectations of income/job placement with that major from that college.

SENIOR YEAR

Continue finishing up with any 2nd visits

Follow up with those people you were going to ask for LOR last spring & ask for LOR

Start completing college applications (Sept-Nov 1)

Likely take last ACT/SAT in October/November

Start prepping to gather all financial info for FAFSA

FAFSA in October

End of November through January/February you'll start getting acceptance letters

End of January – February you'll start getting financial awards

February – March colleges will start asking intentions of attending their school and asking for deposits for housing/admissions (they start asking early but most all deadlines are in May)

April – May review/negotiate awards

May/June choose college and give deposit

Continue searching/applying for scholarships