

11th – College Prep Timeline

Fall Semester:

- Maintaining your grades during your junior year is important! Colleges put a lot of weight on your marks this year.
- Make sure you're challenging yourself academically. Colleges will consider how difficult your courses are.
- Now is the time to really focus your career and college research.
- As you research your education and career options, share your discoveries with your family.
- Stay involved in school and community activities.
- Talk to your guidance counselor about the following:
 - Availability and enrollment in AP classes.
 - The possibility of concurrent enrollment.
 - Testing schedules.
 - Your academic record and ways to improve it.
 - The admission requirements for the colleges you're interested in.
- Narrow your list of colleges to include a few colleges with requirements at your current GPA, a few with requirements about your current GPA, and at least one with requirements below your GPA.

Spring Semester:

- When you choose your senior year classes, look for classes that will give you a strong transcript.
- Continue narrowing down your college choices.
- Continue taking the ACT, SAT, and Compass exams.
- Talk to your teachers about writing letters of recommendation for you.
- Add any new report cards, transcripts, test scores, honors, awards, and community service hours to your college file.

Summer between Junior and Senior Year:

- Work on your application essays and review the application procedures for the colleges you plan to apply to.
- Decide if you are going to apply under any early decision or early action programs. This requires you to submit your applications early, typically between October and December of your senior year.
- Read your college mail and send reply cards/emails to your schools of interest.