

Calendar for College Planning

Freshman Year

- Get **involved** with as many clubs and organizations as you can.
- Get to know your teachers, dorm parents, advisers, work crew leaders and coaches.
- Try everything (sports, art, drama, and clubs).
- Develop good study skills and organizational habits.
- Introduce yourself to the college counselors.

Sophomore Year

- Attend the College Fair.
- Take the PSAT in October.
- Think about which activities, subjects and sports you find most fulfilling.
- Use the internet to look at colleges and take the virtual tours.
- Use Naviance: Identify some colleges that might be of interest, begin listing your involvement on the resume.
- Speak with your college counselor about the possibility of taking any of the SAT Subject Tests in June.
- Begin to make summer plans to take part in a job, service project, travel, or activity that reflects a genuine interest of yours.

Junior Year

Fall

- Visit the college counseling office
- Attend the College Fair.
- Take the PSAT in October
- Register for the January SAT Reasoning Test.
- Register for the February ACT Test.
- Develop good working relationships with your teachers.
- Work on achieving the best possible academic record in the most challenging courses.
- Continue involvement in activities; choose a couple you can pursue in depth.
- Attend information sessions with college representatives visiting CRMS.

Winter

- Take the SAT Reasoning Test in January.
- Take the ACT in February
- Register for the June SAT Subject Tests (if applicable).
- Visit colleges during spring break.

- Begin to make summer plans to take part in a job, service project, travel, or activity that reflects a genuine interest of yours.

Spring

- Research the colleges on your Prospective Colleges list (using the internet, guidebooks etc. Add to, and delete from, the list as you refine your criteria.
- Write to colleges requesting brochures and information.
- Begin working on college essays.
- Register for the June SAT Subject Tests. If you will have a conflict with the June test date, see your college counselor to make other arrangements.
- Take AP tests in May (if applicable).
- Schedule a one-on-one- meeting with your college counselor in April to discuss
- Plan any summer college visits and, if possible, make appointments for interviews before leaving for the summer.
- Ask teachers to write recommendations (two recommendations should be sufficient).

Summer Between Junior and Senior Year

- Visit colleges.
- Refine your college list to reflect serious options (6-10 colleges).
- Set up your online applications and begin working on them.
- Be involved in activities that reflect your interests and passions.

Senior Year

Fall

- Register for the SAT and ACT Tests.
- Register for November SAT Subject Tests.
- Request financial aid forms from the colleges.
- Continue individual conferences as needed.
- Make note of deadlines!
- Touch base with the teachers you asked to write recommendations to let them know your plans (such as where you are applying and if you are applying “early” anywhere).
- If you are applying for financial aid, begin the forms (CSS Profile or FAFSA) online.
- **Be aware of deadlines!**

Early Winter

- Make sure that all of the necessary materials are in to the college counseling office before your application goes out (application, essays, application fee, etc.).
- Be sure that all scores have been sent to the colleges from the testing agency.
- File the necessary financial aid forms.

- Check with each college to make sure your application has been received and is complete.
- Keep your grades up (DO NOT SLACK OFF!).
- Early Decision candidates should notify the college counseling office of the decision immediately — no matter what that decision is!

Spring

- Keep your grades up (DO NOT SLACK OFF!).
- As decisions are received, notify the college counseling office immediately — no matter what the decision is!
- Deposit to the college you will attend by May 1st
- Notify additional colleges that accepted you that you don't plan to attend
- Celebrate!