



JUNIORS....I'M GOING TO COLLEGE! NOW WHAT?!

Decide what type of college you are looking for (two-year/four-year).
Determine what factors are important to you (location, setting, size, etc.)

Explore/research colleges on SchoolLink Search and add to
"Colleges I'm Thinking About"

[Click here to see a step-by-step video on how to use SchoolLinks](#)

Attend College Fairs

Schedule a couple college visits with family. You can contact the admissions office to sign up for an official tour. *As per the state of NJ, students are allowed 3 excused absences in both their junior and senior year for college visitations. Just make sure to submit documentation to our attendance office, so it is excused!*

Review your testing plan for SAT or ACT. See if the school/programs you are applying to require testing or are test-optional. Schools will list this on their website! If you are only applying to two-year colleges, SAT/ACT is NOT necessary. This is necessary for a lot of 4-year colleges!

Take the SAT or ACT if fully prepared. Guidance suggests taking this test for the class of 2027 in the Spring/Summer/Fall 2026-2027. You can take both tests multiple times! Go to www.collegeboard.org for the SAT and www.act.org for the ACT. (If your child receives free or reduced lunch, contact your school counselor, as you are eligible for a Fee Waiver) It is

your responsibility to create a college board/act account and register for these tests! Our school code is **311211**.

Start thinking about which teachers you may request letters of recommendations next year. (Most schools will ask/allow for 2-3, some only allow for 1-2!)

Keep your grades strong. Your final junior GPA/Rank will be the GPA/Rank you will report to colleges when filling out your applications!

Summer Between Junior and Senior Year To-Do List:

If your Spring SAT or ACT scores have revealed any weaknesses, plan a program of self-improvement. If appropriate, register for another test date for summer or fall.

Continue to refine your potential college list and visit colleges.

Preview college application essay questions (on college websites/common app). Begin working on your college essay. *Bonus points if it is ready for your English teacher to review in September!*