

JUNIOR YEAR

Junior checklist

Junior year is all about setting yourself up for success during your senior year, when things really start to come together for college.

As a junior, here's what to focus on:

☐ Challenging coursework

Be sure you're taking challenging classes that will prepare you for college. Consider taking advanced placement or even college courses if you have the opportunity.

☐ Scholarship possibilities

Consider opportunities that will help position you well for scholarships. This includes not only getting good grades or performing well in extracurricular activities, but also community involvement or other demonstrations of leadership. Figure out where you can shine — it may translate into a scholarship down the road.

☐ College choices

Consider which colleges you want to attend. Spend some time narrowing down your list of potential schools, and try to end up with a list of 3 – 6 that you'd like to visit.

☐ College visits

In the spring you'll want to start visiting the campuses you're interested in. Try to visit when classes are still in session, if possible. Before you take a campus tour, check out the campus tour information you received when you signed up for the **CollegeSTEPS** program.

☐ ACT/SAT preparation

Look into preparatory classes you can take through your school or check out the test prep materials that are offered online (for more details, see the article on page 11 on the ACT/SAT tests). Plan to take these tests in the spring of your junior year.