

# Calendar and Checklist for Juniors

## AUGUST

- ☑ Due to recent rule changes, be mindful of NCAA requirements if you want to play Division I or II sports in college. Go to <https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common/> for more information and to register for with the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- ☑ **Students can register for SAT exams online by this time. Given the increased volume of test takers, register now for any of the tests during the upcoming school year. High ability students should take the January SAT Reasoning exam and select the Question and Answer Service.**
- ☑ Check on Counseling Website for news and updates: [www.WestRanchHighSchool.com/Counseling](http://www.WestRanchHighSchool.com/Counseling) (Click on College Page)

## SEPTEMBER

- ☑ Keep in mind that colleges look for a challenging curriculum, strong grades and depth (i.e., quality) in co-curricular activities.
- ☑ Visit [www.collegeboard.com/psat](http://www.collegeboard.com/psat). Preparation tips, sample test questions, and information on what test scores really mean are included on this web site.
- ☑ Identify sources of college and career information at your school. Start looking through various publications, college catalogs, and guidebooks in the College Room.
- ☑ Obtain dates and locations of college fairs, hotel receptions and “parent nights” in your local area. Go to these programs!
- ☑ “Visit” and “tour” a college online.
- ☑ Get to know your regular counselor at school. The more frequent your contact with your counselor, the more assistance they can give you.
- ☑ Start a file for ALL of your writing assignments. Some colleges require graded papers as a part of the application process.
- ☑ Start planning to take the SAT-I at some point in time. **It is expected that each student take the SAT-I at least once during their junior year.** If necessary, take SAT II exams toward the end of the year. Students should also take the ACT toward the end of their junior year. Check with the colleges you are applying to and find out specific testing requirements. Check [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) and [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) for registration deadlines.
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## **OCTOBER**

- Take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT).
- Attend college fairs and financial aid/parent nights.
- Check on Counseling Website for news and updates:  
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## **NOVEMBER**

- Start looking into eligibility requirements for federal and alternative student loans.
- If high school alumni visit during the holidays, be sure to talk with them about their college experiences.
- Check on Counseling Website for news and updates:  
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## **DECEMBER**

- PSAT/NMSQT score reports arrive. Thoroughly review your results and identify the test skills you need to develop before taking the SAT-I.
- Check on Counseling Website for news and updates:  
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## **JANUARY**

- Through regular mail or via email, request to be placed on the mailing list of colleges and universities. More importantly, visit the college website and conduct research on the institution.
- If you have not done so already, register and study for the SAT (I and II)
- Check on Counseling Website for news and updates:  
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## **FEBRUARY**

- Start seriously investigating private scholarships and other student aid programs.
- Begin to research summer opportunities now. Colleges pay attention to enrichment programs, internships or jobs that mirror a student's interests.
- Check on Counseling Website for news and updates:  
[www.WestRanchHighSchool.com/Counseling](http://www.WestRanchHighSchool.com/Counseling) (Click on College Page)

## **MARCH**

- Begin visiting as many of the 3-5 schools that are on your interest list.
- Take an SAT preparation course to help prepare for the upcoming test.

- Continue investigating outside funding sources.
- Check on Counseling Website for news and updates:  
[www.WestRanchHighSchool.com/Counseling](http://www.WestRanchHighSchool.com/Counseling) (Click on College Page)
- Attend College Workshop for Juniors and Parents

### **APRIL**

- Take the ACT exam.
- Spring break? Be sure to visit some colleges!
- Continue to refine your college search list. Discuss choices with parents/guardians and your college counselor.
- Check on Counseling Website for news and updates:  
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### **MAY**

- If you travel this summer, consider scheduling a number of college visits.
- Begin preparing essays for college admissions and scholarship applications.
- Take Advanced Placement (AP) exams which are given in high schools nationally in early to mid-May.
- Be aware of the test dates and registration deadlines for the remaining SAT-I, SAT-II and ACT exams. More than likely, you will take them again during your senior year in high school. If registered, take the SAT I or II exams held this month.
- Review material received from colleges.
- Check on Counseling Website for news and updates:  
[www.WestRanchHighSchool.com/Counseling](http://www.WestRanchHighSchool.com/Counseling) (Click on College Page)

### **JUNE**

- Take the SAT (I or II) and/or ACT exams if you did not take them last month.
- If you are a prospective student-athlete, request your official transcript to be sent to the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- Read a variety of books and magazines and review your math skills over the summer. This will help you to prepare for the SAT, if you plan to take it in the fall.

- ☑ Brainstorm for college essay topics. Read college websites for essay questions. Start on rough draft.
- ☑ If possible, save some money from your summer job to pay for college costs.
- ☑ If you haven't done so already, request to be placed on the mailing list of colleges and universities through regular mail or via email. Note: Colleges prefer the latter option.
- ☑ Students can register for senior year SAT exams online. Given the increased volume of test takers, register now for any of the tests during upcoming school year
- ☑ Check on Counseling Website for news and updates:  
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**SUMMER – Stay involved!**

- ☑ Work to help pay for college.
- ☑ Attend a summer program on a college.
- ☑ Get involved in an internship relevant to your career interest.
- ☑ Read! Read!! Read some more!!!