



College Planning Checklist – Grade 9

Laying the Groundwork

Academics

- Focus on building study skills, learning time management strategies, and practicing self-advocacy.
- Strive to do your best in all of your classes. You are laying the groundwork for future high school course selection and academic readiness for college.
- If you fall behind in a class, talk to your teacher and counselor. Tutoring information is available through the CLARC and Counseling Center. Practice forming study groups with friends or classmates.
- When forecasting, discuss with your counselor and teachers which classes will be the best fit (including classes that are appropriately challenging) for you during sophomore year.

Standardized Testing

- Reading (both for school and pleasure) will help develop greater vocabulary and reading comprehension. This will prepare you for future standardized tests and advanced coursework.
- Being focused and engaged in your classes, and practicing following directions on quizzes/tests administered in class or during finals week, are great preparation for the SAT and ACT.

Action Items

- Activate your Naviance Student in Fall when your counselor provides a registration code.
 - Complete personality inventories, research careers, review college profiles and admission data in Naviance Student
 - Add 5-10 colleges of interest to your *Colleges I'm Thinking About* list
- Use the *Resume Builder* in Naviance Student to keep track of your activities, service/volunteer work, responsibilities, paid jobs, etc. Include any awards and honors you've received. Be sure to regularly update your résumé!
- Review your report card at the end of each semester. These grades will be listed on your official high school transcript.
- Become involved in at least one JHS activity and, if possible. Don't be afraid to try something new! Now is a great time to explore new interests and develop your gifts and talents.
- Not sure what to do in the summer? Consider:

Enrolling in Jesuit Summer Session classes for personal and academic enrichment

Participating in enrichment programs, camps, research programs, job shadows, or internships to explore academic subjects, activities, or careers

Staying involved with your favorite activities & taking on more responsibilities/leadership

Working a part-time or full-time job and/or engaging in service

Visiting colleges for exploratory purposes – check out a range of types, sizes, and locations to explore your options

Spending time with loved ones & helping out at home

College Planning Events at Jesuit

- College Financial Aid Presentation
- Navigating College Admission Testing Presentation



College Planning Checklist – Grade 10

Exploring and Experiencing College Options

Academics

- Strive to do your best in all of your classes and continue to form study groups with friends and classmates. Keep practicing your study skills, time management, and self-advocacy.
- If you fall behind in a class, talk to your teacher and counselor. Tutoring information is available through the CLARC and Counseling Center.
- When forecasting, discuss with your counselor and teachers which classes will be the best fit (including classes that are appropriately challenging) for you during junior year.

Standardized Testing

- Take the PSAT and Practice ACT at Jesuit.
- Keep reading! It will help you develop greater vocabulary and reading comprehension.
- Stay focused and engaged in your classes, and continue to practice following directions on quizzes/tests administered in class or during finals week. Developing these skills will prepare you for the SAT and ACT.

Action Items

- Update your resume in Naviance Student on a regular basis and review your report card each semester.
- Continue to utilize Naviance Student and update your *Colleges I'm Thinking About* list as you explore college options.
- Stay involved with your activities and try to take on a leadership role, or find other ways to make significant contributions. Especially stay involved with the activities that you enjoy and find meaningful.
- Tour college campuses so you can begin to identify your preferences and ideal characteristics. Compare, evaluate, and reflect on your observations and experiences. Consider starting with visits to local colleges, or check out a college campus during a family trip or vacation. Ask your parent(s)/guardian(s) to help schedule the campus tour and make travel arrangements.
- Join colleges' mailing lists to receive information about on-campus, virtual, and local events for prospective students.
- Not sure what to do in the summer? Consider:

Enrolling in Jesuit Summer Session classes for personal and academic enrichment

Participating in enrichment programs, camps, research programs, job shadows, or internships to explore academic subjects, activities, or careers

Staying involved with your favorite activities & taking on more responsibilities/leadership

Working a part-time or full-time job and/or engaging in service

Visiting colleges for exploratory purposes – check out a range of types, sizes, and locations to explore your options

Spending time with loved ones & helping out at home

College Planning Events at Jesuit

- College Financial Aid Presentation
- Navigating College Admission Testing Presentation



College Planning Checklist – Grade 11

Reflecting on Priorities and Developing a Plan

Academics

- Strive to do your best in all of your classes. Your junior year grades may be the last that a college considers when evaluating your file.
- If you fall behind in a class, talk to your teacher and counselor and form study groups with friend or classmates. Tutoring information is available in the CLARC and Counseling Center.
- When forecasting, discuss with your counselor and teachers which classes will be the best fit (including classes that are appropriately challenging) for you during senior year.

Standardized Testing

- Take the PSAT and Practice ACT at Jesuit.
- Plan to take SAT and/or the ACT unless the colleges you are targeting are test optional/blind. Most students are best prepared to take these tests in spring of junior year through fall of senior year. Compare your practice test results from 10th and 11th grade to determine if you had an affinity for one test, review testing dates to determine if one test better aligns with other commitments, register online for your test(s) of choice, and meaningfully engage in test prep. A list of test prep options is posted in your College Planning course in Canvas.
- Check in with your counselor if you have questions about SAT and ACT or to request a registration fee waiver.

Action Items: During Junior Year

- Regularly update your resume in Naviance Student and be sure to review your report card each semester.
- Review the information and resources in your College Planning course in Canvas and complete any assignments by the deadline.
- Continue to utilize Naviance Student and update your *Colleges I'm Thinking About* list as you explore college options.
- Activate your College Kickstart account when you receive log-in credentials in winter and regularly run College Kickstart to assess your college list and plan for the application process.
- Stay committed to your activities. Find new ways to demonstrate leadership, persistence, thoughtfulness, creativity or some other special trait through your activities. Work on improving your favorite skills or talents, and seek opportunities to take on further responsibilities & leadership in activities. Consider where & how your contributions can make measurable & meaningful impact.
- Join colleges' mailing lists to receive information about on-campus, virtual, and local events for prospective students.
- Student-athletes considering competing in college should register with the NCAA Eligibility Center and/or NAIA Eligibility Center.
- Complete the *College Planning Questionnaire* and the *Career Cluster Finder* in Naviance Student.
- Meet with your JHS college counselor to develop a list of prospective colleges based on your strengths, interests, and priorities, and to discuss anything related to college planning. Your initial college counseling appointment is scheduled upon the submission of the *College Planning Questionnaire* and subsequent appointments are available upon request.
- In spring, request a primary teacher recommendation and set up admission application accounts after instructions are presented in class.
- Visit and research colleges so you can begin to narrow down preferences and ideal characteristics. Compare, evaluate, and reflect on your observations and experiences. Update and refine your *Colleges I'm Thinking About* list in Naviance Student so that it reflects 10-15 colleges that range in selectivity and you are genuinely interested in.

Action Items: Summer after Junior Year

- Complete the *Counselor Statement Questionnaire* in Naviance Student. This questionnaire gathers information that will help your college counselor include insights about your personal & academic experiences in their counselor recommendation.
- Keep updating your resume in Naviance Student! It can be used for a variety of applications (job, internship, admission, scholarship, etc.).
- Finalize any audition plans, portfolios or special materials required for admission to design, fine art, and performing art programs.
- During summer, draft a college essay (personal statement) by completing the self-paced online College Essay Program or by taking the College Essay Class through Jesuit summer session. In August, finalize your college essay, draft your supplemental essays, work on your admission applications.
- Not sure what to do in the summer? Consider:

Enrolling in Jesuit Summer Session classes for personal and academic enrichment

Participating in enrichment programs, camps, research programs, job shadows, or internships to explore academic subjects, activities, or careers

Staying involved with your favorite activities & taking on more responsibilities/leadership

Working a part-time or full-time job and/or engaging in service

Visiting colleges that you are interested in and scheduling tours at additional colleges for the fall

Spending time with loved ones & helping out at home

College Planning Events at Jesuit

- College Planning Presentations for Junior Families
- College Visits at Jesuit (juniors are allowed to attend College Visits at Flex, during a Prep Period, or before/after school)
- College Application Kick-off Workshops
- College Financial Aid Presentation
- Navigating College Admission Testing Presentation



College Planning Checklist – Grade 12

Taking Action: Applications, Discernment, and Decisions

Academics

- Strive to do your best in all of your classes. Some colleges will review your Semester 1 grades for admission or scholarship consideration.
- If you fall behind in a class, talk to your teacher and counselor and form study groups with friend or classmates. Tutoring information is available in the CLARC and Counseling Center.

Standardized Testing

- If necessary, continue to engage in test prep and take the SAT and/or the ACT. A list of test prep options is posted in your College Planning course in Canvas.
- Check in with your college counselor if you have questions about SAT and ACT or to request a registration fee waiver.
- You are responsible for self-reporting and submitting official score reports to colleges. Jesuit does not report test scores on transcripts or send official score reports.

Action Items: Year-Round

- Review the information and resources in your College Planning course in Canvas and complete any assignments by the deadline.
- Meet regularly with your college counselor to review your college list, application plans and deadlines, financial aid procedures, etc. and to discuss anything related to college planning. Appointments are available upon request.
- Stay involved with your activities. Find new ways to demonstrate leadership, persistence, thoughtfulness, creativity or some other unique trait through your activities.
- Continue to learn as much as possible about your prospective colleges by attending College Visits at Jesuit, scheduling an interview with your colleges, attending receptions & info sessions held in Portland, and visiting college campuses.
- Read all communications sent by colleges you apply to! Be sure to promptly complete any tasks and follow instructions presented to you.

Action Items: Semester 1

- Run College Kickstart to assess your college list and finalize your application plans and financial aid plans.
- Colleges schedule on-campus presentations (“college visits”) at Jesuit High School to meet with prospective students. View the schedule and register for college visits via Naviance Student.
- Apply to college! Focus on applying to a manageable number of colleges (around 5-10) that range in selectivity and you’ve thoroughly researched (and ideally visited). Be discerning! Pay close attention to each college’s application requirements, deadlines, and policies.
- Finalize any requests for teacher recommendations, following Jesuit’s policies & procedures. Requests must be made at least 1 month before your earliest application deadline.
- Complete the Common Application FERPA Release, select an application plan for each college, and assign your recommenders to each college in your Common App at least 1 month before the college’s application deadline.
- For non-Common App colleges, submit a Transcript Request Form for each college at least 1 month before the college’s application deadline to ensure timely submission of materials.
- Apply for Financial Aid:
 - FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid, accepted by most colleges
 - CSS Profile: supplemental financial aid application, accepted by some colleges
 - ORSAA: Oregon Student Aid Application, only for DACA, TPS, and undocumented students in Oregon
 - Oregon Promise: statewide grant that covers community college tuition in Oregon

Action Items: Semester 2

- Thank your teachers and other mentors for supporting you and writing letters of recommendation.
- May 1: Deadline to choose the college you will attend. Submit deposit and/or commitment to one college. Notify all other colleges of your decision and withdraw applications.
- June: If applicable, AP scores and/or official college transcript(s) to your college.
- Submit the *Senior Graduation Survey* in Naviance Student to designate your college choice and request an official final high school transcript. You must notify your JHS college counselor if your plan changes.

College Planning Events at Jesuit

- College Application Workshops
- College Planning Presentation for Senior Parents/Guardians
- College Visits at Jesuit
- College Financial Aid Night