



JUNIOR YEAR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TIMELINE

Fall – 1st Semester

- Get **serious about your schoolwork**. Your junior year grades are extremely important in the college admissions process as is the **rigor** of your coursework.
- **Assess your inner self**. Log into your Family Connection (Naviance) account at <http://connection.naviance.com/clintonschool>. If you can't access your account see your counselor. Take the additional career interest inventories (look under the "Careers" Tab) to match yourself with a possible college major or future career interest. Also, use "Super Match" (look under the "Colleges" Tab) to help with your college search.
- **Get involved**. Commitment to community service, the arts and physical activity (on a sports team or on your own) are an essential part of the college admissions process. They are also part of your CAS requirement as an IB Diploma Program student and ideally will be a fun part of your day/week. Colleges are also looking for students who pursue things outside of academics and dedicate their spare time to meaningful activities within school and in the community.
- **Open dialogue** with your parents/guardians about the college application and financial aid process. Where you attend and how you pay for college is a family decision.
- **Check and read your email**. The Counseling Office will email you regularly with important information and opportunities.
- **Attend** presentations by college admissions officers who visit Clinton during the school day. You can also meet admissions officers and hear more about colleges through evening and weekend presentations throughout NYC and at college fairs. If you are able to, visit colleges with your family and take official tours through the admissions office when on campus.

Spring – 2nd Semester

- **Schedule a family meeting with your counselor** in February through April to discuss your college search, college application, and financial aid process. Together you will come up with a list to enter into the "Colleges I'm Thinking About" section of your Family Connection (Naviance).
- **Prepare for SAT School Day** (March test date) with Kaplan test prep here at Clinton or through other test prep opportunities. See your counselor for help if you can't find test prep that fits for you and your family's needs.
- Students eligible for free and reduced lunch or with financial needs should bring in their family's most **recent income tax form** to check eligibility for fee waivers for the SAT, SAT Subject Tests, ACT, college applications and special programs such as SEEK/EOP/HEOP.
- **Register** for the ACT (April test date) and/or SAT Subject Tests (May test date) if you are considering applying to colleges that require them.



Spring - 2nd Semester/Continued

- **Before school ends request two letters of recommendation** from academic subject teachers through your Family Connection account.
- **Apply for summer internships, volunteer programs and employment opportunities.**

Summer

- **Get organized.** Aim to narrow down and categorize your college choices so that you have a set college list for the first day of school your senior year. Strive for no more than a total of 10 schools on your list with at least (3) *probable choices*, (2) *match choices*, and (2) *reach choices*. Update your list in your Family Connection account.
- **Continue visiting colleges.** This will help you finalize your list and a demonstrated interest is important in letting colleges know your enthusiasm for attending.
- **Retake the SAT** on the August test date. If you cannot take it that date then register for the October or November test date.
- **In August, start your Common Application** (www.commonapp.org). It is an application with many parts that should go through multiple drafts so what you send out is your best work. You will use it to apply to SUNY colleges and private colleges. It's best to start your senior year with at least a partial draft of this. Be sure the version you start is for your graduation year as old information will be erased when they post the updated application for each new graduating class.
- **Work on your personal statement.** Be prepared to come to school in September with a draft that you can share with your counselor for feedback.