



4-year College Exploration, Application and Planning Calendar

Every student is a unique individual, and therefore, that is how we approach the college exploration and application process here at The Gregory School. This 4-year timeline should be viewed as a resource guideline, not a step-by-step checklist to be completed by all students.

Every young person has their own post-high school interests and timeline, and through the partnership and encouragement of the College Counseling Center, faculty, staff and parents, each student will most certainly find success.

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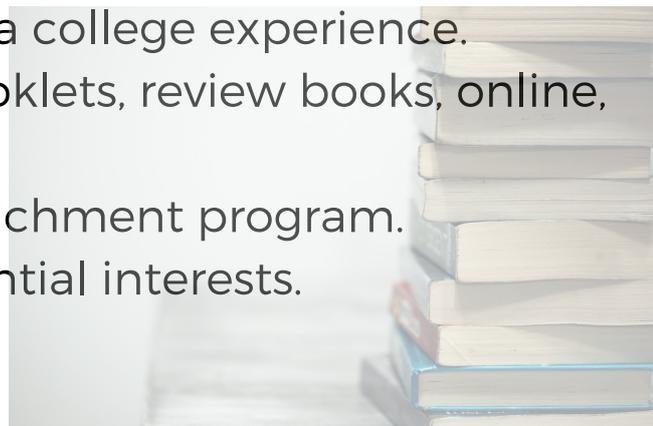
Freshman Year

First Semester:

- Enroll in appropriate and challenging level courses.
- Explore electives as academically appropriate.
- Develop strong academic and time management skills.
Freshman grades are the foundation of your GPA.
- Develop problem solving skills, and learn to communicate effectively with teachers.
- Explore co-curricular clubs, activities, sports and jobs.
- Begin to uncover your passions.
- Take the 9th grade CWRA assessment given at TGS.
- Complete Naviance career inventory during explorations.
Reflect upon careers that seem of interest to you.
- Enjoy being in high school - attend sporting events, musical and theatre events, school dances and time with family.

Second Semester:

- Consult college counselor regarding next year's classes.
- Consider AP courses as appropriate.
- Draft a resume of Sem 1 activities, involvements, honors, awards, etc.
- Get an estimate of your financial aid award at FAFSA4caster
<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/estimate>
- Explore colleges online and inquire with others.
- Note what you may be seeking in a college experience.
- Review ACT or SAT questions - booklets, review books, online, apps, etc.
- Consider attending a summer enrichment program.
- Match community service to potential interests.



Sophomore Year

First Semester:

- Enroll in courses that are appropriately challenging and rigorous.
- Maintain academic success.
- Seek tutoring or support as needed.
- Continue using Naviance exploration/assessment tool during scheduled Explorations.
- Become an active member of a club, student organization, sport or community group.
- Try something new to expand your horizons and perceptions.
- Earn community service hours on a regular basis.
- Pursue roles that support your interests.

Second Semester:

- Consult with school counselor about Junior year classes.
- Consider AP courses as appropriate.
- Continuing exploring colleges online.
- Consider going on college visits to explore various campus environments.
- Take the preACT and PSAT 10 - automatically scheduled for Sophomore class.
- Research PSAT prep programs to begin study for the official testing in fall of junior year.
- Attend a summer enrichment program, shadow a potential career option, seek employment opportunities.



Junior Year

First Semester:

- Enroll in appropriately rigorous courses including AP or advanced classes as appropriate.
- Maintain academic success.
- Junior grades are often the last grades colleges see prior to admissions decisions.
- Attend college rep school visits. Tour college campuses. Attend local college information nights and college fairs.
- Take the official PSAT/NMSQT which determines National Merit qualification and provides insight on the SAT.
- Review dates and deadlines for the ACT or SAT, and for SATII Subject Tests for second semester.
- Attend the “Junior Launch” presentation. Continuing exploring colleges online. Use BigFuture, CommonApp, etc.
- Attend the Financial Aid workshop for insight into the FAFSA/Financial Aid, scholarships and college budgeting.
- Demonstrate leadership within your co-curricular activities, music, sports and community service involvements.
- Earn community service hours on a regular basis.
- Pursue roles that support your interests. Think about internship ideas.
- Explore GAP year programs if you’re not planning to attend college immediately after graduation.



Junior Year

Second Semester:

- Consult about Senior year classes. Consider AP and Advanced courses as appropriate.
- Take the ACT, SAT or SATII tests as needed.
- Create your list of potential colleges/ schools of interest, and consider Early Decision & Early Action options.
- Use the Net Price Calculator to receive an estimate of college costs at <https://collegecost.ed.gov/netpricecenter.aspx>
- Develop a campus visit action plan for spring break and summer vacation.
- Request letters of recommendation from teachers, community members and/or employers.
- Take AP and final exams in May.
- Attend a summer enrichment program, shadow a potential career option, seek employment opportunities.
- Enroll in the Junior College Seminar course. If not, update your resume, attend college essay explorations, etc.



Senior Year

First Semester:

- Request letters of recommendation from teachers, community members and/or employers.
- Complete your college applications for the Nov 1 deadline.
- Work in order of priority of ED, EA or Regular deadlines.
- Take your final ACT, SAT and SAT II tests as needed.
- Ensure official score reports have been sent to colleges.
- Apply for Honors and scholarship programs.
- Inquire about local admissions interview opportunities.
- Complete the FAFSA and CSS/Profile soon after the October 1 launch.
- Attend college rep visits.
- Tour college campuses.
- Attend local college information nights.
- Maintain those relationships! Put final touches on your essays and on your senior resume.
- Update Naviance's "Colleges I'm Interested In" and "Colleges I'm Applying To" sections regularly.
- Consult weekly with your college counselor regarding progress of applications, questions and concerns.
- Maintain academic success.
- Most college will request a midyear transcript/grade report.
- Demonstrate leadership within your co-curricular activities, music, sports and community service involvements.
- Complete your internship, prepare final report and prepare your internship presentation.



Senior Year

Second Semester:

- Submit applications for schools with January and February deadlines.
- Complete outstanding Honors applications.
- Consider offers of acceptance and financial aid/scholarship awards.
- Determine level of interest in postponed/deferred/waitlist decisions.
- Write letter of continued interest.
- Continue researching and applying to scholarships.
- Keep note of deposits and refund deadlines.
- Check your email and college portal accounts frequently.
- **May 1 - national college deadline day. Notify your college by submitting your deposits.**
- Take AP and final exams.
- Graduate!!
- Celebrate with your family and friends! Thank everyone who has encouraged and assisted you.
- Attend your college orientation. Take placement tests and register for your college classes.

