

Undergraduate School Timeline

JUNIOR YEAR

March to June

- Research colleges that interest you. Be sure to look at admissions requirements.
- Register and prep for the SAT (Link to <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat>) and/or ACT (<https://www.act.org/>) if appropriate. Reminder: Your school counselor can help with fee waivers.
- Work with school counselors to make sure you are on track to graduate high school.
- Begin searching for scholarships and make a list of deadlines for ones you want to apply for. Scholarship deadlines range from anywhere during spring of Junior year to Spring of Senior year.

June to August

- Continue searching for colleges to apply to. If possible, visit the colleges that interest you during summer and fall. Don't hesitate to reach out to college admissions office to set up a time to meet with them, find out information about college fairs, or set up a campus tour. The more points of contact you make with a school, the better.
- Reminder: Many colleges have a special admissions office for students of color. Be sure to reach out to those offices if available. They can be more helpful navigating challenges than the traditional admissions office.
- Continue searching and applying for scholarships.

SENIOR YEAR

September

- Continue to work with school counselor to make sure you are ready to graduate on time.
- Register and take SAT and/or ACT test if you did not
- take a college entrance exam as a junior or want to take one again.
- Request letters of recommendation from teachers, supervisors, coaches, and other adults that know you in an academic or professional setting. Letters of recommendation from family are not accepted.
- Start your online applications. Create an account with The Common Application (link to <http://www.commonapp.org/>) if the colleges you've selected use it.



- Begin writing your essays. Be sure to get these essays edited and revised by at least 3 people. Teachers and counselors are excellent resources.

October

- Apply for Financial Aid (FAFSA) as early as October 1. The earlier, the better.
- Attend college fairs and virtual tours. Most schools keep track of how many points of contact you make with them. If they are offering workshops or events, be sure to attend.
- Complete your applications if you are applying early decision or early action.

November

- Put final touches on your application essays and get feedback on your essays from counselors and/or teachers.
- Continue to research and apply for scholarships.
- If you submitted the FAFSA, you should receive the Student Aid Report (SAR). Carefully look it over for accuracy. Errors can cost you thousands of dollars.

December

- Complete your application for regular admissions. Apply to at least three colleges (reach, target, and safety). Note that some colleges may have an earlier deadline in order to be considered for scholarships.
- Make sure you have sent your test scores to all the schools that require them.
- Confirm that your letters of recommendation have been submitted.
- Continue to research and apply for scholarships.

January to June

- Stay on track to graduate. Your grades during the last half of senior year can influence your college acceptance and colleges will ask to see your second semester, winter/ spring quarter transcripts.
- Continue applying for scholarships.
- Accept an offer of admissions by May 1st. If you have been offered financial aid, accept the offer and follow the instructions given. Notify schools you will not attend of your decision.
- If you are waitlisted for a college you want to attend, advocate for yourself by writing, calling and visiting the admissions office and ask how you can strengthen your application. Make your interest known.
- Sign up for orientation and housing.

