



COLLEGE TERMS

Early Decision (ED) - Commitments are binding. A student accepted as ED must attend the college and pull all other applications to other institutions.

Early Action (EA) - Applications are nonbinding. A student receives an early response to their application, but does not have to commit to a college until the normal reply deadline of May 1.

Rolling Admission - Admission policy of considering each application as soon as all required information has been received, rather than setting an application deadline and reviewing applications in a batch thus usually notifying applicants of admissions decisions quickly.

Regular Decision - A college application option where students submit an application by a published deadline and receive a decision within a specified time frame.

FAFSA - (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) - Anyone planning to pursue post-secondary education should submit a FAFSA prior to June 30. By filling out the FAFSA, you determine your eligibility for financial assistance, which can help cover tuition costs and make it possible for you to attend the school of your choice

Transcript - The official record of your coursework at a school or college required for college admissions, and for some financial aid packages or scholarship applications.



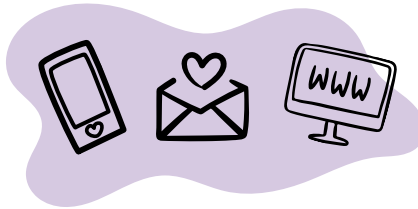
CREATING YOUR COLLEGE LIST

Know the different categories of college applications. It is recommended to apply to two in each category.

Target/Match - A college or university where a student's academic credentials and extracurriculars are similar to the profile of admitted students.

Reach/Dream - A college or university that a student may have difficulty getting into due to their academic performance or the institution's acceptance rates.

Safety - A college or university where a student has a high chance of being accepted and where their academic record is above the average for first-year students.

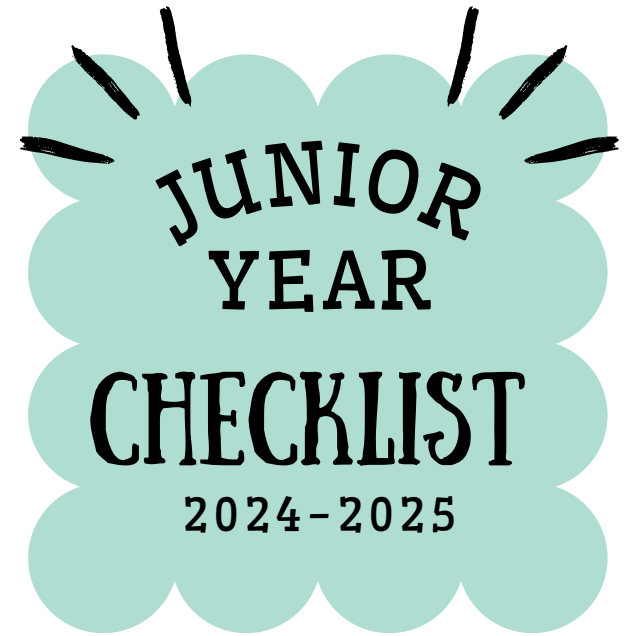


Contact Me!

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What you need to know!





REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What class/subject do I enjoy the most?
- What are some of my work preferences and skills?
- What are my goals for this year, senior year, and for life after high school?

CAREER O*NET INTEREST PROFILER

Explore your interests and how they connect to potential career paths!



JUNIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

RESEARCH & VISIT SCHOOLS ✓

Talk to admissions counselors at MSM visits, virtual or on campus tours, and reach out via email. These are all great ways to show schools you are interested!

MATCH SENIOR SCHEDULE TO COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS ✓

Research college requirements of your school and/or major and make sure you are matching these requirements to your senior year schedule!

CREATE A RESUME ✓

A resume is a document sharing your education, work, volunteer, and other activity history. It may be given to recommenders, colleges, employers, and scholarship committees.

ASK RECOMMENDERS FOR LETTERS ✓

Schools are interested in hearing from recommenders that have had you recently and know you well. Be thinking about junior year teachers to ask to write a letter of rec for you towards the end of the year!

LOOK INTO SCHOLARSHIPS ✓

Visit the MSM scholarship spreadsheet for list of local scholarships. Visit QuestBridge for a list of full ride scholarship opportunities to various schools. Be sure to check out college specific scholarships on college websites.

IMPORTANT SITES

• Big Future College Search

College Board's college search engine where you can filter for majors, location, size, etc., and receive a list of schools related to your interests!



• SAT Sign Up on College Board

While many schools remain test-optional, the SAT may be required for some colleges and universities as well as for some scholarship/financial aid opportunities.



• Financial Aid

The FAFSA is required for a student to be eligible for federal student loans, grants, or federal work-study, and often to qualify for state and institutional scholarships. Look out for scholarship opportunities starting in June of junior year.



OTHER TIPS

• Get involved!

Leadership opportunities and years of experience in your activities are two great areas colleges look for in your application!



• Volunteering

Colleges love to see you contribute to your community!

