

AUGUST	
Juniors	Seniors
BigFuture.com- website hosted by College Board, begin at "Get Started" for resources and into to college search topics interactively	BigFuture.com- website hosted by College Board, begin at "Get Started" for resources and into to college search topics interactively & create account
Create a BigFuture account for college searching	ACT/ SAT prep- plan which test dates will take tests, and register by deadline
Use Net Price Calculator tool on college websites to estimate families out of pocket expenses	Common Application opens August 1
Make ACT/SAT test date plans	Begin applying for college- most all college applications are open by August 1, some even earlier (REQUIRE: apply to at least 3, RECOMMENDED: at least 3)
Begin reviewing "Junior Year Checklist"	Continue to plan college campus tours.
Review the protocol to request official documents- transcripts from counseling office	Begin reviewing Seniors Year checklist
	Complete free career assessment through O*Net online for jobs and/or majors
	Email admissions counselors from all chosen college/universities to introduce self and request to be added to mailing list for future events.
	Review current transcript and HELP curriculum for possible eligibility (CPC+1)
	Request transcript from counselor/records office to be sent to colleges applies to.
	Review the four steps to financial aid (G2C Guidebook) to understand what the major sources of financial aid are.
	Show financial aid webinar video from Get2College

September	
Juniors	Seniors
Research selected colleges and/or universities admissions requirements- ACT score, GPA, if recommendation or essay required for admissions, admissions rate.	Utilize free ACT prep available for students, and classroom resources from ACT
Identify total Cost of Attendance (COA) for each college/university per year. Utilize cost of college worksheet (G2C guide book) to understand all costs associated with college	Identify total Cost of Attendance (COA) for each college/university per year. Utilize cost of college worksheet (G2C guide book) to understand all costs associated with college
Explore financial aid options, requirements and deadlines for attending selected college/university	Explore financial aid options, requirements and deadlines for attending selected college/university
Identify potential academic, competitive, and departmental scholarships that are available at each college.	Identify potential academic, competitive, and departmental scholarships that are available at each college.
Complete a mock application (paper) to understand the application requirements and process.	Create a calendar of important application and scholarship deadlines for selected college and/or university
Identify the requirements of a college/university admissions or scholarship essay such as word count, topics, submission format.	Email admissions counselors from all chosen college/universities to introduce self and request to be added to mailing list for future events.
Watch FAFSA webinar from Get2Collge to gain an understanding of what the FAFSA is and what it is used for and why important to financial aid process.	Complete college applications (Require: 1, Recommend: 3). Consider hosting an "Application Day" at school or in class.
	Request transcript from counselor/records office to be sent to colleges applies to.
	Identify the requirements of a college/university admissions or scholarship essay such as word count, topics, submission format.
	Login and review BigFuture- Pay For College resources, and scholarship list through the individual students profile previously created.
	Create a spreadsheet/lit of scholarship deadlines for each chosen college/university and at least two private scholarships.
	Watch FAFSA webinar from Get2Collge to gain an understanding of what the FAFSA is and what it is used for and why important to financial aid process.
	Apply for scholarships at chosen college/university by deadline.

OCTOBER	
Juniors	Seniors
Utilize admissions counselors from college/universities to speak about the application, selection, and admissions process for their particular school.	Complete college applications (Require: 1, Recommend: 3). Consider hosting an "Application Day" at school or in class.
Create a draft of a college or scholarship essay to be reviewed and edited by faculty members or counselor.	Utilize admissions counselors from college/universities to speak about the application, selection, and admissions process for their particular school.
Use EFC calculator (on Get2College website) to get idea of individuals Expected Family Contribution which will help in their college search to find what is affordable (Cost of Attendance-EFC=Financial Need)	Request transcript from counselor/records office to be sent to colleges applies to.
	Check and/or send official ACT scores to colleges/universities applied to.
	Register for ACT/SAT by deadlines
	Create a draft of a college or scholarship essay to be reviewed and edited by faculty members or counselor.
	Explore military option for financial aid for college.
	Watch FSA ID video on the Federal Student Aid YouTube channel about creating FSA ID <u>if completing the FAFSA in class and not at FAFSA event at school.</u>
	REQUIRED: Complete FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid) & MS Office of Financial Aid Application between Oct 1- March 31
	Apply for scholarships at chosen college/university by deadline.

NOVEMBER	
Juniors	Seniors
Review potential verification information that students could be asked for the future- show Get2College Verification webinar	Calculate how much financial aid will be needed for chosen college/university by using the financial aid calculator on each college website
Review a sample financial aid award letter- how and what to accept, when to expect then, an where to find them. Get2College resources- (1) Sample award letter, (2) comparing financial aid awarding	REQUIRED: Complete FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid) & MS Office of Financial Aid Application between Oct 1- March 31
	Apply for scholarships at chosen college/university by deadline.
	Apply for at least 3 private scholarships (national or local)
	Review potential verification information that students could be asked for the future- show Get2College Verification webinar
	Review a sample financial aid award letter- how and what to accept, when to expect then, an where to find them. Get2College resources- (1) Sample award letter, (2) comparing financial aid awarding
	DEC 1- Early Decision and Early Action deadlines

DECEMBER	
Juniors	Seniors
Review the four steps to financial aid (G2C Guidebook) to understand what the major sources of financial aid are.	DEC 1- Early Decision and Early Action deadlines, and popular for Mississippi universities scholarship or admissions deadlines- but all are different
Show financial aid webinar video from Get2College	REQUIRED: Complete FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid) & MS Office of Financial Aid Application between Oct 1- March 31
Review a sample financial aid award letter- how and what to accept, when to expect then, an where to find them. Get2College resources- (1) Sample award letter, (2) comparing financial aid awarding	Apply for scholarships at chosen college/university by deadline.
	Apply for at least 3 private scholarships (national or local)
	Review a sample financial aid award letter- how and what to accept, when to expect then, an where to find them. Get2College resources- (1) Sample award letter, (2) comparing financial aid awarding

JANUARY	
Juniors	Seniors
Utilize the free ACT prep available for students, and classroom resources from ACT	Review "Senior Year Checklist" to ensure on the right track.
Email admissions counselors from all chosen college/universities to introduce self and request to be added to mailing list of future events.	Set up college email and online college student portal account access.
Revisit the "Junior Year Checklist" to make sure on track	REQUIRED: Complete FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid) & MS Office of Financial Aid Application between Oct 1- March 31
Begin looking at the "Senior Year Checklist" to plan appropriately	Apply for scholarships at chosen college/university by deadline.
	Apply for at least 3 private scholarships (national or local)

FEBRUARY	
Juniors	Seniors
Create calendar of important application and scholarship deadlines for selected college and/or universities	REQUIRED: Complete FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid) & MS Office of Financial Aid Application between Oct 1- March 31
Login and review BigFuture- Pay For College resources, and scholarship list through the individual students profile previously created.	Apply for scholarships at chosen college/university by deadline.
Apply for private scholarships (national or local) available for juniors.	Apply for at least 3 private scholarships (national or local)
Utilize Get2CCollege resources or admissions counselors for questions that may be asked during a scholarship interview- participate in a mock scholarship interview with peers or instructor.	Utilize Get2CCollege resources or admissions counselors for questions that may be asked during a scholarship interview- participate in a mock scholarship interview with peers or instructor.
Write a reflection of the interview process. Determine strengths and weaknesses.	Write a reflection of the interview process. Determine strengths and weaknesses.
	Complete any verification required from college/university or MS Office of Financial Aid

MARCH	
Juniors	Seniors
Research, make list, review and apply for summer academic programs on college campuses to give idea of (1)that specific college’s on campus and academic experiences, (2)sample of transition and flow of college life, (3)expand involvement for resume	Accept financial aid package through college student portal account.
Create final draft of essay to have for applications upcoming summer/fall	Register for summer orientation (the earlier the better)
Calculate how much financial aid will be needed for chosen college/university by using the financial aid calculator on each college website	REQUIRED: Complete FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid) & MS Office of Financial Aid Application between Oct 1- March 31
Apply for private scholarships (national or local) available for juniors.	Apply for at least 3 private scholarships (national or local)
Utilize Get2CCollege resources or admissions counselors for questions that may be asked during a scholarship interview- participate in a mock scholarship interview with peers or instructor.	Utilize Get2CCollege resources or admissions counselors for questions that may be asked during a scholarship interview- participate in a mock scholarship interview with peers or instructor.
Write a reflection of the interview process. Determine strengths and weaknesses.	Write a reflection of the interview process. Determine strengths and weaknesses.
	Complete any verification required from college/university or MS Office of Financial Aid
	Go over “Cost of College” sheet for each college/university considering (Get2College Guidebook)

APRIL	
Juniors	Seniors
Set up campus tours for chosen list of college/universities for spring and summer	Accept financial aid package through college student portal account.
Plan summer community service involvement	Register for summer orientation (the earlier the better)
Apply for private scholarships (national or local) available for juniors.	Double-check housing application, deposit, and roommate selection
Utilize Get2CCollege resources or admissions counselors for questions that may be asked during a scholarship interview- participate in a mock scholarship interview with peers or instructor.	Apply for at least 3 private scholarships (national or local)
Write a reflection of the interview process. Determine strengths and weaknesses.	Utilize Get2CCollege resources or admissions counselors for questions that may be asked during a scholarship interview- participate in a mock scholarship interview with peers or instructor.
Go over "Cost of College" sheet for each college/university considering (Get2College Guidebook)	Write a reflection of the interview process. Determine strengths and weaknesses.
Show Get2College Junior Jumpstart webinar to prepare for summer and senior year	Complete any verification required from college/university or MS Office of Financial Aid
	Go over "Cost of College" sheet for each college/university considering (Get2College Guidebook)
	Notify selected college of attendance (by May 1)

MAY	
Juniors	Seniors
Prepare timeline to being college applications by August 1	Accept financial aid package through college student portal account.
Create a spreadsheet/lit of scholarship deadlines for each chosen college/university and at least two private scholarships.	Register for summer orientation (the earlier the better)
Explore military option for financial aid for college.	Double-check housing application, deposit, and roommate selection
Apply for private scholarships (national or local) available for juniors.	Utilize Get2CCollege resources or admissions counselors for questions that may be asked during a scholarship interview- participate in a mock scholarship interview with peers or instructor.
Utilize Get2CCollege resources or admissions counselors for questions that may be asked during a scholarship interview- participate in a mock scholarship interview with peers or instructor.	Write a reflection of the interview process. Determine strengths and weaknesses.
Write a reflection of the interview process. Determine strengths and weaknesses.	Complete any verification required from college/university or MS Office of Financial Aid
Review the costs, benefits, and requirements of student loans. Review student loan acceptance process: loan entrance counseling- student, Master Promissory Note- student/parent. (available after July 1 at studentloans.gov with FSA ID)	Review the costs, benefits, and requirements of student loans. Review student loan acceptance process: loan entrance counseling- student, Master Promissory Note- student/parent. (available after July 1 at studentloans.gov with FSA ID)
	Go over "Cost of College" sheet for each college/university considering (Get2College Guidebook)