

College Planning Checklist for 11th Graders ✓

For students intent on applying to college, junior year is full of hard work, reflection, discovery, and much more. Here's a checklist to keep you on track for applying next year.

September-December To-Do's

- Self-discovery**
 - Make lists about your likes, dislikes, etc.
What are your skills? What are your favorite classes? What are you possibly interested in studying in college?
- College discovery**
 - Start a college list
Rely on those people closest to you to help you get a start. Don't overthink it right now. Just get a start!
 - Explore college matches
Take the College Match Quiz in My Matches to get paired with colleges based on what you like to study, what clubs you'd like to explore, and more.
- Break out your calendar**
Get a hold of your high school's upcoming college visits and/or college fairs in the area.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT®**
This test is given in October. If you'll need accommodations, make sure to [plan and ask early](#).
- Consider your financial aid need**
 - Talk with your parent/guardian
It's never too early to start talking openly as a family about the cost of your education.
 - Explore online calculators
Check out online tools and calculators to get an idea of what college might cost use. Students linked with parents in Scoir can work together to use our cost calculator.

January-May To-Do's

- Sign up for a spring test**
Whether it's your first test or you want to test again, look into available spring dates for the SAT and/or ACT and register online. If you require a fee waiver, make sure you ask ahead of time!
 - Study for and take AP exams**
If you're taking Advanced Placement courses, make sure you are prepared for and signed up for exams in May.
 - Let your list bloom**
Continue researching colleges based on type, major, cost, and more.
- Students on Scoir can [compare colleges side-by-side](#) to get a better idea of best-fit.
- Time to break out your calendar again**
Pencil in some chances to further explore colleges on your list—whether that's an in-person or online visit, college fair, or a few hours of online research.
 - Understand sources of financial aid**
Winter is a great time to wrap your mind around the [available sources of financial aid for college](#). Conduct your research and make time to talk as a family.

June-August To-Do's

Register with NCAA

If you're a student-athlete planning to play in college, make sure you register with the NCAA.

Are you considering ROTC?

If so, you should begin the application process before the summer.

Prepare for the FAFSA

The FAFSA will open on October 1st of your senior year. You'll want to apply as soon as possible after it's available. Over the summer months, make sure you create a username and password (FSA ID) and collect financial documents like tax returns.

Visit colleges near and far

As time and budget allow, take the spring and summer to visit campuses.

Add your GPA and Test Scores

If your school's settings allow, upload your [GPA](#) and any [test scores](#) to your Scoir profile. This will help give you better-informed [scattergrams](#), which show historical admissions decisions using GPAs and SAT/ACT scores of students who graduated from your high school before you.

If your school's settings allow you to enter test scores, you should see this +Add Test button in your Academic Overview!

Create a portfolio or resume

Record and collect the accomplishments, extracurriculars, and work experience that you have accumulated over your high school career.

Consider drafting your college essay

Summer is a great time to—at the very least—brainstorm topics for your college essay and pick a date for when you are going to start writing.

Learn more about applying with Scoir

You can now apply to Coalition colleges through Scoir! [Learn more](#) before application season.

Keep busy

Stay active over the summer! Whether that's by bagging groceries, signing up to be a camp counselor, or participating in a summer program...just stay active!

The journey to college starts with self-exploration. Our Network can help you take those first steps.

[Learn more](#)