

College Planning Timeline

Senior Year

Summer

- Create a “professional” email address. Make sure it is listed in RenWeb.
- Explore college options and visit campuses.
- Research applications, particularly essay and testing requirements.
- Take or retake the ACT, SAT and SAT Subject Tests
- Begin searching for scholarships
- Talk with your parents about paying for college.
- Open a checking and savings account and learn how to manage it.
- Enjoy your summer with an interesting job or meaningful summer activity

Fall

- Continue taking the ACT, SAT and SAT Subject Tests
- Take a computerized career planning assessment
- Complete “Brag” sheets
- Meet with visiting recruiters from schools that interest you
- Continue visiting schools you are considering
- Decide on a final set of colleges for applications
- Complete your applications
- Stay organized and watch your deadlines.
- Research scholarship opportunities and financial aid
- Request teacher recommendations
- Submit transcript requests to the counseling center
- Keep your grades up – your senior year grades do count.

Spring

- Complete the YOUiversal Scholarship Application at www.adhe.edu as soon after January 1 as possible
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- Continue watching deadlines and checking for scholarship opportunities.
- Watch the mail for your Student Aid Report (SAR). Carefully examine the results.
- Respond quickly to college requests for additional documentation.
- Make a decision and notify other colleges that you won't be attending.
- Notify Mrs. Penrod of your final college decision and provide copies of scholarship awards

Summer

- Attend orientation
- Finalize a budget with your parents
- Pack for College