# The College Application Timetable

| Did you know? Students who visit a highly selective college campus are up to 40% more likely to be accepted to that school. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring of Junior Year</th>
<th>Summer before Senior Year</th>
<th>Fall of Senior Year</th>
<th>Winter &amp; Spring of Senior Year &amp; Beyond</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visit College Campuses and Attend College Fairs</strong></td>
<td><strong>ongoing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Register & Study for SAT** | | | **2020 SAT test dates**
| **Register & Study for ACT** | | | **2020 ACT test dates**
| **Finalize College List**
3 reach, 3 target, 3 likely | | | Use Naviance college research tools to identify colleges that are the best match & fit. |
| **Apply to College** | | | Many colleges begin accepting applications starting on **August 1st**.
**Check college admissions websites for specific deadlines** |
| **Request Recommendations and Transcripts** | | | Beginning **August 1st**, use Naviance to request transcripts and teacher letters of recommendation.
**Talk to teacher recommenders in person before submitting your recommendation request in Naviance** |
| **Complete the FAFSA**
(Free Application for Federal Student Aid) | | | Submit FAFSA starting on **October 1st**
**Check college websites for more info. on financial aid deadlines** |
| **Apply for Scholarships** | | | Scholarship applications can be due as early as **September**
**Check scholarship websites for specific deadlines** |
| **Commit to a College** | | | Students must commit to a college on or before National Decision Day, **May 1st** |

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*2020 SAT test dates*

*2020 ACT test dates*

*Many colleges begin accepting applications starting on August 1st.*

*Beginning August 1st, use Naviance to request transcripts and teacher letters of recommendation.*

**Talk to teacher recommenders in person before submitting your recommendation request in Naviance.**

*Submit FAFSA starting on October 1st.*

*Scholarship applications can be due as early as September.*

*Students must commit to a college on or before National Decision Day, May 1st.*
## The College Application Checklist

### Visit College Campuses and Attend College Fairs
- Engage with admissions reps in-person, over the phone, and through email.
- Work with your student to plan spring & summer visits to the colleges they are most interested in.

### Register & Study for SAT
- Go to [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) to register for the spring SAT. You can always take it again in the fall if you want a better score.
- Come up with a study plan and stick to it!
- Talk to your student about paying for the SAT ($50-65). Register early to avoid paying an extra $30 late fee.
  - **fee waivers are available**

### Register & Study for ACT
- Go to [www.act.org](http://www.act.org) to register for the spring ACT. You can always take it again in the fall if you want a better score.
- Come up with a study plan and stick to it!
- Talk to your student about paying for the ACT ($52-68). Register early to avoid paying an extra $30 late fee.
  - **fee waivers are available**

### Finalize College List
- Carefully consider the criteria you are looking for in a college and the admissions requirements for each school to finalize your college list and which deadlines you want to shoot for.
- Talk to your student about where they are planning to apply and what criteria matters to them most.
  - **Use Naviance & college websites to help you make informed decisions about where to apply.**
# The College Application Checklist

**Did you know?** You are twice as likely to get into a college if you apply for Early Action rather than Regular Decision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall - Winter</th>
<th><strong>Student Checklist</strong></th>
<th><strong>Parent or Guardian Checklist</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Apply to College</strong></td>
<td>- Refer to college admissions websites for more information on how to apply. Most colleges begin accepting applications on <strong>August 1st</strong>.</td>
<td>- Talk to your student about how to pay for college application fees. Fees can range from $25 to $90 per application. <strong>fee waivers are available</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Request Recommendations and Transcripts</strong></td>
<td>- Speak to teachers directly to find out what they require in order to provide you with a written recommendation. - Use Naviance to request ALL letters of recommendation and transcripts for colleges you are applying to.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)</strong></td>
<td>- Go to <a href="https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid">https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid</a> to learn more about the FAFSA. - Submit your FAFSA application as early as <strong>October 1st</strong>.</td>
<td>- Parents and guardians should go to <a href="https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out">https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out</a> to identify what financial information is needed to complete the FAFSA successfully.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Apply for Scholarships</strong></td>
<td>- Use resources like the Naviance Scholarship Search to find out which scholarships you're eligible for. - Apply well in advance of scholarship deadlines.</td>
<td>- Discuss finances with your student. Let them know if there is a “financial gap” between the costs of college that would not be met by household contributions + federal financial aid. How much will the student need from other sources in order to attend college?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commit to a College</strong></td>
<td>- College Decision Day is <strong>May 1st</strong> but many colleges would like you to commit earlier!</td>
<td>- Talk to your student about each college they are accepted to. Is it a good fit for them? Academically? Culturally? Financially? Help them make their final decision.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>