

Decision Calendar For High School Juniors & Seniors

Below is a timeline for students to use when beginning their college search process. This timeline may vary depending on the individual, the college they are interested in attending, and their admission type. Your student's high school counselor is a great resource to guide you through the college search process.

Junior Year:

- **September - December:**
 - Parents and students should meet with high school counselor to discuss college/career planning
 - Take college admissions exams such as SAT and/or ACT www.collegeboard.com
 - Attend college planning programs sponsored by your high school and/or in your community
 - Become familiar with your high school's college/career center
- **January**
 - Begin researching scholarship opportunities. Information on MCC scholarship opportunities can be found at [Financial Aid](#) or www.fastweb.com
- **March – August:**
 - Begin visiting colleges (visits are ideal when campus is in session)
 - Identify factors in choosing a college that are important to you such as location, public or private, two-year or four-year
 - Utilize your college/career center to assist you in researching careers, college majors
- **April – May:**
 - Attend local college fairs and open houses at colleges. A comprehensive list of college open house dates may be found at www.nextstepmagazine.com
- **May:**
 - Another opportunity to take SAT and/or ACT exams. Request scores be sent to your top college choices
 - Use study hall time to explore college/career interests. The MCC Career Center's [website](#) can assist students with college and career explorations
 - When a student selects courses for senior year, choose challenging ones as to not limit opportunities
- **June:**
 - Seek summer employment that supports potential career interest

Senior Year:

- **August - November:**
 - Narrow your list of top college choices
 - Apply to your top college choices
 - You may apply [online](#) to MCC
 - Begin asking teachers and school counselors for letters of recommendation
 - Make plans to visit all the colleges you will apply to
- **November:**
 - Send your new and/or updated SAT and/or ACT scores to colleges of interest
- **January:**
 - Apply for financial aid. Utilize MCC [financial aid resources](#) or go directly to the government website at www.fafsa.ed.gov FAFSA cannot be submitted before January 1
- **March - April:**
 - Visit your top choice colleges when classes are in session and ask admissions and/or academic departments final questions
 - Compare financial aid award letters from the schools to which you have been accepted

- **May:**
 - Submit deposit (if required) by the national deadline May 1
 - Let colleges know you will be declining if you are choosing not to attend
 - Finalize financial aid

- **June:**
 - Be confident in your final college choice and be decisive, don't rethink or over analyze
 - Begin preparing yourself for the challenge ahead, and enjoy your last days in high school!