

The College Office Timeline

9th Grade

- Work with your advisor to take courses in each core academic area.
- Become involved in school life; consider joining clubs/organizations and athletic teams or enrolling in the visual and performing arts.
- Consider summer activities you define as meaningful and enriching.
- Students who wish to pursue intercollegiate athletics may register for the [NCAA Clearinghouse](#).
- **Make good decisions!**

10th Grade

- Continue to enroll in challenging coursework and maintain satisfactory academic progress.
- Try to remain consistent with extracurricular activities (or explore new ones!) and consider leadership opportunities. Colleges like to see students who are involved!
- Begin to research colleges and consider visiting a small college and a large public university. Write down your initial impressions, as this can be helpful for future conversations with your college counselor.
- Explore general college research and planning tools when the College Office periodically visits advisories to discuss these factors.
- Continue with summer activities that interest you.
- Students who wish to pursue intercollegiate athletics may register for the [NCAA Clearinghouse](#).
- **Make good decisions!**

11th Grade: fall semester

- Attend the college evening for Form V parents.
- Register for the PSAT and diagnostic ACT test (given at ECFS).
- Begin standardized test preparation; some students may sit for the December SAT/ACT.
- **Make good decisions!**

11th Grade: spring semester

- Receive your college counselor assignment in January.
- Attend the family college meeting in late January/early February.
- Begin to research colleges with your counselor and schedule college visits over Presidents' Day and Spring Recess.
- If appropriate, sit for the SAT (March, May, or June) or ACT (February, April, or June). **Make sure to check the registration deadlines and test site requirements.**
- Attend the Junior College Symposium (for juniors and their parents/guardians) in April. A diverse listing of college and university representatives will be present for a half-day of panel discussions, case studies, and alumni presentations.
- Discuss college preferences, recommendation letters, and summer plans with your counselor.
- Review senior year course schedules with your counselor.
- Maintain satisfactory grades in an appropriate curriculum.
- Create a Common Application account.
- Attend College Essay Writing Workshop in May.
- **Make good decisions!**

11th Grade: summer

- Schedule additional college visits.
- Schedule college interviews (if applicable).
- Invest in activities that align with your individual interests, and try to record notes on these experiences.
- **Make good decisions!**

12th Grade: fall semester

- Maintain strong grades in an appropriate curriculum — **senior grades count!**
- If applicable, sign up for the SAT (August, September, October, or November) or ACT (September, October, or December). **Make sure to check the registration deadlines and test site requirements.**
- Complete the senior narrative worksheet (a form that records activities, community service, and summer experiences).

- Sign up for college presentations held at ECFS. The College Office will announce presentations held throughout New York City as well.
- Schedule an individual family college meeting with your counselor.
- Schedule college visits. In addition to holidays, ECFS offers college visiting days in the fall semester.
- Schedule college interviews (if applicable).
- Work with your counselor to complete application requirements.
- Submit Early Action, Rolling Admission, or Early Decision applications (typically November 1–15). Applications to University of Michigan, University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, SUNY institutions, and University of California schools are generally due early in the semester. If applying to these schools, prioritize these applications.
- Complete appropriate financial aid applications (FAFSA and CSS Profile).
- Monitor the submission of application materials, and check the financial aid status for every college (if applicable). Inform the College Office if there are missing materials after you submit your application.
- The goal is to finish all applications by December 1. If you have essays that need to be reviewed by your counselor, submit these BEFORE winter break.
- If admitted Early Decision (or to a first-choice school), promptly withdraw applications to other colleges.
- **Make good decisions!**

12th Grade: spring semester

- Apply to colleges with January 15–February 15 deadlines (if applicable).
- Check financial aid status at all colleges and universities (if applicable).
- Wait for colleges to release final decisions in mid-March through April 1. During this time, please respect your fellow students and their forthcoming decisions.
- Record all admission decisions in Scoir and submit them to the College Office.
- Maintain strong grades — colleges are monitoring your final grades!
- **Make good decisions!**