

High School

Juniors

planning for college

You didn't think being a junior meant being totally carefree, did you? Of course not! You don't need to worry about the big decisions until next year, but follow this checklist to avoid missing important deadlines.

August - September

- Develop a list of interests and review high school course plans.
- Take dual credit classes, if available, to start earning college credit.
- Visit the College Planning Center at bnd.nd.gov/collegeplanning for college resources.
- Download the **BND College Calendar app** to stay up-to-date on important events and scholarships.
- Check out RUReadyND.com to explore careers, take interest assessments and practice the ACT.
- Ask your counselor about the PSAT test.

October - November

- Take the PSAT test – You could qualify for the National Merit Scholarship!
- Develop a list of majors you may want to study in college.
- Arrange job shadow opportunities.
- Identify what you're looking for in a college. Consider size, location, degrees offered and on-campus organizations.

December

- Prepare to take the SAT Subject Test. Talk to your high school counselor or colleges of your choice about test requirements.
- Receive your PSAT score reports.

January

- Contact admission offices of the colleges you're interested in and request a catalog.
- Learn about the costs of attending each college.

February

- Learn about student aid, including scholarships, grants and loans.

March

- Take the ACT and/or SAT. Ask your counselor for details.
- Start searching for scholarships for which you may want to apply. You may begin to submit applications as early as this summer.
- Create a list of activities, awards and achievements that you can use on college applications.

May - July

- Make an appointment for a tour, visit or information session with the colleges you're considering.
- Apply for a summer job and save money for college.
- Talk with your family about options to pay for college. Use the FAFSA4caster at fafsa.gov for a financial aid estimate.

High School

Seniors

planning for college

BND

You have a lot to do and decide during your senior year. It's not too late to take your time and do things right. Start by flipping this over to see if you've missed anything from our junior year recommendations. Then, use the senior checklist to help you close in on your final college and financing choices.

August - September

- Download the **BND College Calendar app** to stay up-to-date on important events and scholarships.
- Attend college fairs.
- Visit college campuses and meet with college representatives.
- Ask teachers for letters of recommendation for scholarships and college applications.
- Take or retake the ACT and/or SAT.
- Check into scholarships and grants through the College Planning Center at bnd.nd.gov/collegeplanning or talk to your counselor.
- Register for a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID at fsaid.ed.gov to electronically sign your financial aid application. Ask one of your parents to get an FSA ID too.

October - November

- Complete the financial aid application online at fafsa.gov starting October 1.
- Look for and attend your local College Application Month event to submit your application for admission. Ask your school counselor for information.
- Attend financial aid presentations in your area.
- Request information about housing and meals.

January - March

- Check with your school counselor about scholarship applications.
- Watch for admission acceptance and financial aid award letters from colleges.

April - May

- Choose your college and notify all other colleges you will not be attending.
- Submit all forms, housing applications and required fees to your college.
- Ask your high school to send a final transcript to your college.

June - July

- Complete student loan applications and send to your college.
- Check with your college about CLEP and DSST test options.
- Attend the summer orientation session at your college.



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