

Preparing for College

Part 1 General Notes

A. It is best if the student does all the asking about scholarships and references.

B. When filling out school and scholarship applications, include specific Belle Meade and other service activities, church work, activities, clubs, and any other service in with your extra curricular activities lists. Lots of detailed participation, service, and leadership is a good thing. Build yourself up.

Part 2 The List

Do (not necessarily Due) Date	What	Details	Priority
Beginning of Jr. Year	Sign up for College Board SAT Question of the Day and Khan SAT Prep.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://sat.collegeboard.com/practice/sat-question-of-the-day • https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat • https://www.khanacademy.org/sat <p>Work on these a few minutes every day until you take the SATs.</p>	Med-High
Mid Jr. Year	Start Looking at Schools	Research and visit schools that fit your academic experience and future plans. Consider their financial aid packages as well as the stated costs. Many selective schools offer significant or even complete tuition and living expense reduction in certain circumstances.	Med - becomes High by Sr. Year
Late Jr. Year. Through Dec. 15 Sr. Year	Register for and take SAT. Consider taking the ACT as well.	http://collegeboard.com/ Take SAT I and two subject tests (SAT II). Don't schedule more than two tests on any given day. Choose subjects you are confident in. Give yourself time to take these three tests twice if need be before mid December of your senior year. Schools only count your highest score, so finding where you are and giving yourself time to retake if need be is a plus. In addition to the resources above, Kaplan has good SAT preparation books that you may choose to use.	High
Late Jr. Year and again Sr. Year.	Check with local Rotary, Lions etc. for scholarships	These are usually small one time awards, but they help.	Med
October Sr. Year	Ask for Letters of Recommendation	Choose people who think highly of you AND <u>write well</u> . If they'll give a copy to you first, that	High

		helps. The person writing the recommendation will often have to send it in themselves, but seeing it lets you know if you want to use it. Sometimes you get great recommendations from poor writers. Don't use those.	
October 1 Sr. Year	Begin College Applications	Apply to at least two schools that meet/stretch your goals and have great financial packages as well as at least one safe school. Your desired course of study should be considered when choosing schools. When writing for college applications and scholarships, start early and rewrite, edit, edit, and re-edit. Have several good writers review your work. Then rewrite and polish it again. You can use https://drive.google.com/ to allow several people to work on a piece simultaneously and discuss edits in real time.	High
October of Sr. Year	Begin working on scholarships when available.	Northern Piedmont Community Scholarships at: http://npcf.org/scholarships/	High
October of Sr. Year *New deadline as of Fall 2016	Complete FAFSA and send to schools.	http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/ Income taxes should be complete.	High
Dec. 15 Sr. Year	Have all SAT tests taken	SAT I and two SAT IIs	High
Dec 15-Jan 20 Sr. Year Depending	College Apps Completed	This date varies by school. Really refine your applications. Don't forget to check to see if the school accepts fee waivers.	High
Dec 15-Jan 20 Sr. Year Depending	Use College Board to send SAT scores to schools.	https://www.collegeboard.org/	High
Jan Sr. Year	Begin checking RCHS for scholarships.	https://sites.google.com/a/rappahannockschools.us/counseling-guidance-department/local-scholarships	High
Jan 15 Sr. Year	Begin Community Fund Scholarships.	http://www.cfrrr.org/apply-for-grants-and-scholarships/scholarships/	High

Feb Sr. Year	Complete College Board CSS Profile and send to schools.	https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/prf/index.jsp	High
Beginning of March Sr. Year	Submit Community Fund Scholarships.	http://www.cfrrr.org/apply-for-grants-and-scholarships/scholarships/	High
April 15 Sr. Year	Submit Northern Piedmont Community Foundation Scholarships.	Submit on or before this date.	High