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Admissions Planning Timeline

Beginning in Second Semester of Junior Year

Date	Task	Description
January - March	School Selection: First Pass	The first pass of the school selection process involves looking into 30+ schools. Students will understand the landscape of available options by the end of March.
April (Spring Break)	School Visits	Plan school visits during spring break (optional).
April - June	School Selection: Second Pass	The next round of school selection involves deeper consideration with regard to programs and eligibility. Student will narrow down list to 15-20 schools.
June - August	Free-Write Questionnaire	Answers to this questionnaire will provide us with the source material for application essays. Students will have three meetings to complete this phase of work (two one-on-one discussions on FWQ content and one topic-determination meeting). The FWQ is the first step to getting powerful and captivating personal statements underway.
	Finalizing List, EA/ED Decisions	Finalize Blue Stars school list and determine which schools to apply to early.
	First Pass at Filling out Common App	Sign up for the CA in June after school ends. The CA is open throughout the year. Note that August 1st is the rollover date. Prior to 8/1, you can fill out non-essay questions in Common App.
	Activity List	Compile extracurricular activities, volunteering, work experience, competitions, research, etc. for application activity lists and optional resume submissions.
	Secure Recommenders for Letters of Rec	Determine teacher recommenders and ask for letters of recommendation.
August - September	Admissions Essays	One or two main essays should be completed before school starts. Essays that follow summer experiences should be completed by mid-September.
	Application Forms	Fill out all non-essay questions in Common App and UC applications, including major and program selections. After 8/1 rollover date, start filling out college-specific Questions and Writing Supplements in the CA, Release Authorization and FERPA selection, recommender invitations, assignments, and forms.
	Interviews	Find out alumni interview policy from each school and sign up.
September	ACT	Take the ACT (if applicable).
October	Early Applications	Submit any EA or ED applications (most deadlines are November 1).
	UC Application	Start working on the UC application starting 10/1 (deadline is 11/30).
	SAT Subject Tests	Take SAT Subject Tests (if applicable).
	Interviews	Schedule interviews October - December.
November	Supplemental Essays	Complete supplemental college essays.
December	Application Submission	Submit all applications with January 1 deadlines. Application work with Blue Stars should be complete by December 24 (for January 1 deadlines).