

Freeport High School Eleventh Grade Timeline

August-October:

- ☐ Meet with your school counselor to review the Four Year Educational Plan and review graduation requirements.
- ☐ Review class schedule and discuss concerns.

If you want to play Division I or II sports in college, start the certification process and check with your counselor to make sure you're taking a core curriculum that meets NCAA requirements. All Student- Athletes must apply to NCAA Eligibility Center: www.ncaaclearinghouse.net
- ☐ Prepare and take the PSAT.

Taking this test qualifies you for the National Merit Scholarship program, which means you could earn money for college. In addition, it's a good way to practice for the SAT. Visit College Board website at www.collegeboard.org for additional information pertaining to the PSAT.
- ☐ Update and email your resume to your counselor. Sample resumes are available in the guidance office.
- ☐ Stay on track with your classes and grades. Colleges like to see an upward trend.
- ☐ Attend afterschool tutoring/extra help as needed.
- ☐ Continue serious involvement with extracurricular activities and community service.

Colleges look for consistency and depth in the non-academic activities you pursue. Taking on leadership roles and making a commitment to the same groups are more important than trying out tons of new activities each year.
- ☐ Attend ESL Parent Night presentation for Spanish speaking parents and students.
- ☐ Attend Back to School Night with parents.
- ☐ Apply for free/reduced lunch if you meet the eligibility requirements.
- ☐ Attend Financial Aid Night at Freeport High School.

November-December:

- ☐ Attend Parent/teacher conferences with your parents.
- ☐ Get involved in community service.
- ☐ Initiate a counselor meeting to discuss academics and quarter one grades
- ☐ Explore post-secondary plans.

Now is the time to follow a more specific path. Decide whether you want to pursue full-time employment, further education or training (such as a vocational-technical school, career college, or two-year or four-year college), or a military career.
- ☐ Begin to research and create a college list.

Your list of colleges should include schools that meet your most important criteria (for example, size, location, cost, academic majors, or special programs). Weigh each of the factors according to their importance to you and develop a preliminary ranking of the schools on your list. You will be able to save your college search on the College Board website www.collegeboard.org.

- ☐ Transcripts are mailed home for student and parent review. Speak to your counselor regarding any questions or concerns.
- ☐ Attend Regents review sessions for any upcoming January Regents exam.
- ☐ Review course catalog for descriptions of our FHS honors, advanced placement, and elective coursework and criteria which can be found under School Counseling at www.freeportschools.org
- ☐ Meet with your counselor to select courses for the upcoming school year. Prepare a challenging schedule as colleges do consider senior year courses and grades.
- ☐ Refer to www.ncaa.org to learn more about college preparatory courses and NCAA if you wish to participate in Division I or II sports.

January-February:

- ☐ PSAT results will be reviewed in school with the counselors. Each student should create an account with The College Board via mycollegequickstart.com if they have not already done so.
 - Log in to www.collegeboard.org/Quickstart in order to:
 - *See correct answers and explanations,
 - *Get personalized SAT study plan,
 - *Search for colleges,
 - *Explore majors and careers,
 - *Learn about scholarship programs,
 - *Take a personality test
- ☐ Speak to your counselor to make sure you are on track for graduation. Retake any required Regents exams needed.
- ☐ Continue gathering college information.
 - Go to college fairs, attend college nights, and speak with college representatives who visit our school; use an online college finder (The College Board or Naviance) and search top college lists. You may be able to narrow your choices or add a school to your list.
- ☐ Organize a plan for taking college entrance exams.
 - Plan out when you'll be taking important tests like the SAT, ACT, SAT Subject Tests, and AP exams, and mark the dates on your calendar. You'll want to have plenty of time to prepare. Method Test Prep Program is available for test prep for the ACT/SAT by going to www.freeportschools.org then clicking on the School Counseling link.

- ☐ Research if the colleges you are interested in require the SAT, ACT, or SAT Subject Tests. Register to take the tests you need; most juniors take them in the winter or spring. You can take them again in the fall of your senior year if you're unhappy with your scores. If you receive free/reduced lunch see Mrs. Seymour in the guidance office for information about receiving a fee waiver for SAT/ACT.
- ☐ Schedule Junior College Conference. Organize your college information.
Junior college conference materials (Senior Brag Sheet) mailed home. Students and parents should complete paperwork, along with a working copy of the student's resume, and return to the student's counselor. Resume samples can be obtained in the Guidance Office.
- ☐ Attend Parent/teacher conferences with your parents.

March-April:

- ☐ Set up a filing system with individual folders for each college's correspondence and printed materials. This will make it easier to locate the specific information you're looking for.
- ☐ Attend FHS College Fair.
Speak to college representatives about admission into their school and remember to bring your updated resume.
- ☐ Begin narrowing down your college choices.
Make sure you have all the information you need about the colleges you're interested in (entrance requirements, tuition, room and board costs, course offerings, student activities, financial aid, etc.). Then begin comparing the schools by the factors that are most important to you and rank your choices. Start planning college visits.
- ☐ Continue to prepare for college entrance exams.
- ☐ Attend Parent/teacher conferences with your parents.

May-June:

- ☐ Attend Regents review sessions to prepare for June Regents exams.
- ☐ Speak to your counselor to ensure you are still on track for graduation and to discuss the possibility of attending summer school if needed.
- ☐ Search for scholarships.
There are lots of scholarships out there; you just need to spend a little bit of time and effort to find them. Check with your guidance office for scholarships from local organizations and use online scholarship search tools to find a wider range of options. The sooner you start looking for scholarships, the easier it will be to select some to apply to during your senior year.

- Explore summer opportunities through our website www.freeportschools.org. Visit the school counseling summer link. Explore community service or volunteer positions that will help you learn about a field of interest or do something meaningful during the summer that you can write about in your college essay or speak about on a college admissions interview.
- Ask at least two teachers for college recommendations (must be teachers from major subject areas who have taught you within two years of college entrance). Ask teachers who know you well and who will have positive things to say. Secondary letters from a coach, activity leader, or adult who knows you well outside of school are also valuable.
- Students interested in playing a division level sport in college must register with the NCAA Clearinghouse (www.ncaaclearinghouse.net) and bring the release to Mrs. Manley in the guidance office in order for transcripts to be sent in a timely manner. Students who qualify may see Ms. Perdomo for a fee waiver.
- Take the ACT, SAT Reasoning and/or SAT Subject Tests.
- Students should submit an updated copy of their resume to their counselor.
- Set up appointments at your top college choices for a summer visit/tour.

You'll often have to plan ahead when visiting colleges. Call the admissions office to set up a personal interview, tour, and a meeting with a professor or coach if you're interested. You can also ask them to send you an application.
- Visit college websites and download the application for schools to which you will be applying to. Check application deadline dates and stay organized!