

Junior - 11th Grade Career & College Planning Checklist

August – September Check off each activity as you complete it.

1. _____ Discuss your career and college ideas with your parents, high school advisor and counselor.
 - Explore career interests, search for colleges, learn about jobs in the military, create a resume, and much more through online guidance programs found on Naviance/Family Connection.
 - What careers are you considering?
 - What training or education do you need?
 - How will you get these skills?

2. _____ Update your account with Family Connection, and be certain that your personal information is correct—especially your e-mail address! The Family Connection web address is: <http://connection.naviance.com/bowie>.
Your email is: _____ Student ID _____
Your password is: _____ Student ID _____

3. _____ Learn the dates for the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT and ACT. See pages 33-34 of FOYF or check Counselor's Corner on www.jbhs.org.
 - Register before the deadline.
 - Students on an advanced math track should consider registering for the January or February SAT or ACT.
 - Register online at www.collegeboard.com or www.act.org.
 - All students should test spring of their junior year.

4. _____ Prepare for the PSAT, ACT, and SAT.
 - Take online practice tests
 - Use the hard copy practice tests you can pick up in your counseling office.
 - Consider taking a test-prep course.
 - Remember: Your best preparation is working hard in your current high school courses.
 - Information about these tests is in this book.

5. _____ Check your credits carefully with your counselor. It is your responsibility to keep up with required credits and your progress toward graduation. Use *Gradespeed* to monitor your academic progress!



October – December

6. _____ Encourage your parents to attend the Junior Seminars publicized in *AISD's Parent University* and through emails from Naviance/Family Connection.

7. _____ **Take the PSAT/NMSQT on October 14, 2009**
 - This exam qualifies students for several national recognition programs.

8. _____ **Discuss with your counselor your choice of colleges.**

9. _____ **Research the dates of College Preview Days.**
 - These are days set aside for prospective students to visit the college campus.
 - Pre-register for Previews so you are able to attend.

10. _____ **Consult college websites to request descriptive materials, housing and financial aid information.**

11. _____ **Use Naviance/Family Connection to register for college information sessions which are conducted by college representatives. They are held in the community or on campus.**

12. _____ **Update your Individual Academic Career Plan (IACP).**

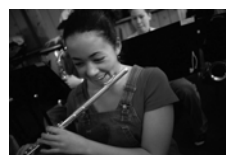
13. _____ **For Practice ONLY, complete these forms:**
 - The Apply Texas Application: www.applytexas.org
 - Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) www.fafsa.ed.gov . This is a FREE application. Students should NEVER pay for this service.
 - Apply for a FAFSA PIN and DON'T lose it!

14. _____ **Begin to create your high school resume. Use Naviance/Family Connection.**
Be certain your resume contains each of these:
 - **Extracurricular Activities**

 - **Community and Volunteer Service**

 - **Talents, Awards, Honors**

 - **Employments, Internships, Summer Activities**



January – May

15. _____ Attend a college fair in Austin
 - * October TACRO College Fair @ Delco Center
 - * October Skillpoint Alliance Fair
 - * April NACAC National College Fair
 - * TBD National Hispanic College Fair
16. _____ Complete the AISD scholarship application form.
 - This form is on pages 53-54 of FOYF.
17. _____ Search for financial aid and scholarship sources.
 - The scholarship website is:
<http://connection.naviance.com/bowie>
18. _____ Take the May or June SAT or ACT, if you haven't already tested or if you want to improve your scores.
19. _____ Review your credits and make sure that you are on-track for graduation. (See your counselor if you are in doubt.)
20. _____ If you plan to participate in Division I or II Athletics, complete the NCAA Clearinghouse electronic registration at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net. See page 22 of FOYF.
21. _____ If you need additional courses for graduation on the Recommended High School Plan, consult with your counselor for courses offered through summer school, correspondence, credit-by-exam or dual credit.
22. _____ Attend College Preview Days. Spring previews are perfect times for juniors to see colleges.
23. _____ Talk with your advisor and teachers, and then request in writing, letters of recommendation which you can use your senior year in applying for colleges and scholarships.
 - Good letters of recommendation are never requested and written at the last minute.
 - For more information, see pages 23-27 of FOYF.
24. _____ Explore dual credit and co-enrollment opportunities for the summer and senior year.
 - Eligibility guidelines are on pages 56-59 of FOYF.
 - This is a lengthy process, so don't procrastinate! Your counselor or ADVANCE specialist can give you the details about how to enroll.



June – August

25. _____ Edit and finalize your high school resume. This will be extremely important in completing your college applications during the fall of your senior year.
- See no. 14 above.
26. _____ Contact admission offices to set up campus tours and appointments with college representatives. This is your chance to ask questions, so have a list ready.



27. _____ Write rough drafts of your college admissions essays.
- Typical essay topics can be found on the Apply Texas Application at www.applytexas.org
 - You can review scholarship essay topics Naviance/Family Connection

Important Things to Remember to Do:
