**2016-17 JUNIOR/RISING SENIOR TIMELINE**

**Spring**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Earn the best grades you can. Finish junior year courses with personal EXCELLENCE. These are the last grades colleges will see on your transcript and use to determine your admission.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Confirm your standardized test status. Do you need to take the ACT/SAT yet/again? Do you need to take SAT Subject II Test(s) this spring prior to summer vacation?

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Finalize summer plans. Work, volunteer, explore! That you demonstrate growth, leadership, and responsibility this vacation is critical.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Letters of Recommendation: Determine which teacher/s will write recommendations for you and meet with them.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. College Visits: Visit local schools (UW, UPS, SU, WW, or beyond) to gain an understanding of what college environment is best for you. Get a vibe and confirm a good fit!

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Parents: estimate financial aid eligibility with FAFSA Forecaster: [www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov)

**Summer**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Locate all online applications (The Common App, The Coalition, and individual schools). Understand what your schools require in the application process.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Complete ALL college essays prior to your senior year.

**September**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Essay Review: Invite 2-3 trusted adults to review your college essays.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Confirm your application timeline. Apply early, well in advance of deadlines!

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Confirm Teacher & Counselor Recommendations

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Order standardized test scores to be sent to the colleges on your list.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Make appointment with guidance counselor

* Share application writing (if appropriate), Activity Sheet/Resume, school list
* Discuss college applications and timeline (Rolling, Early Decision, Early Action, Regular, School Report and/or counselor recommendation)

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Research and Visit Colleges (ongoing)

* Attend College and Career Nights
* Be on the lookout for admissions officer visits to your school; attend!

\_\_\_\_\_ 7.Research scholarship opportunities – ESPECIALLY local organizations

* + [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  + [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

**October**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. **Early Decision/Early Action applications due October 15; most due by November 15th**

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Submit Common Application, Coalition school applications

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Research your schools’ merit aid scholarships and determine which, if any, apply

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Consider attending the NACAC College Fair

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Parents fill out FAFSA and PROFILE in earnest

**November** – Application Submission Month

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Submit UW application between Nov. 1 and Dec. 1 (Honors College deadline as well)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Submit applications to the California system between Nov. 1 and Nov. 30

**December**

* Early action responses received
* FAFSA forms available online: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
* PROFILE forms available online: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
* Complete any remaining college apps and submit them!
* All college applications with Jan. 1 deadlines must be in by December 31st

**January**

* First semester grades mailed to colleges; Mid-Year Reports from counseling offices sent
* Research and submit scholarship applications (churches, community groups, private organizations)

**February**

* Students who applied early decision and were deferred should consult with college advisor/update application

**March**: Notification Dates

The period of waiting continues…

**April**: Prospective Freshmen Visits

Visit all schools to which you were accepted to get that gut feeling. Go where you are wanted, not necessarily to the school with the highest bumper sticker/jealousy factor.

**May 1**: NATIONWIDE CANDIDATE REPLY DATE