

**Marcus Thomas & Associates**  
*"Your Education Service Company"*  
**The College Planning Calendar**

\$10.95

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**MTA  
COLLEGE PREPARATORY CURRICULUM**

**FRESHMAN YEAR HIGH SCHOOL**

English  
Algebra I  
Biology  
World History  
Foreign Language  
Physical Education  
Health  
Elective

**SOPHOMORE YEAR HIGH SCHOOL**

English  
Geometry  
Chemistry  
American History  
Geography  
Foreign Language  
Physical Education  
Elective

**JUNIOR YEAR HIGH SCHOOL**

English/ English Literature  
Algebra II  
Physics  
Ethnic Studies  
Foreign Language  
Physical Education  
Computer Technology  
Elective

**SENIOR YEAR HIGH SCHOOL**

English/ American Literature  
Trigonometry/Calculus  
Political Science/International Affairs  
Economics  
Physical Education  
Business Management  
Elective

**MTA**  
**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

**Academic scholarships and grants minimum requirements**

*Grade point average 3.25 ACT 24*

**Unlimited dollar amounts**

***Talent scholarships and grants minimum requirements***

*Grade point average 2.5 ACT 20*

***Limited dollar amounts***

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Chemistry  
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MARCUS THOMAS & ASSOCIATES  
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**The College Planning Calendar**  
*Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors*

**Freshman Year High School**

**Summer**

- Develop two lists - 1) Courses you plan to take to prepare for college;  
2) Activities you plan to participate in to prepare for college.
- Plan your high school courses, schedule, and activities to prepare for college.
- Make an appointment with your school's college counselors so *you and your parents can discuss* how to improve your college preparation and selection processes.
- Regularly set aside money for college.
- **Fall**
- Find out what resources are available in your high school to help you plan for college. Talk to counselors and visit libraries to review catalogs and computerized college-search programs.
- Obtain dates and places of local college fairs from your counseling office.
- **Spring**
- Plan to visit colleges with your parents, friends, or a college tour group.
- Start educating yourself about college costs, and the process of applying for financial aid. Check the US Department of Education's *The Student Guide*, a booklet describing the federal student aid programs. You may also wish to consult *College Costs and Financial Aid Handbook*, published by the College Board.
- Pave the Way Enterprise Inc. provides excellent College Tours. Call (800) 999-9682.

**Sophomore Year High School**

**Fall**

- Find out what resources are available in your high school to help you plan for college. Talk to counselors and visit libraries to review catalogs and computerized college-search programs.
- Update plans for high school courses and activities.
- If you want to take SAT I: Subject Tests for college admission and placement, ask the counseling office for registration dates. It is a good idea to take each test after you finish your last course in the subject.
- If you are particularly strong in a subject, talk to a counselor or teacher about taking an Advanced Placement (AP) course and Examination of the College -Level Examination Program (CLEP) test in that subject.
- Plan to take the ACT in October of your sophomore and junior years.

**Spring**

- Plan to visit colleges with your parents, friends, or a college tour group.
- Pave the Way Enterprise Inc. provides excellent College Tours. Call (800) 999-9682.
- Ask for a copy of the ACT if previously taken. By doing well, you may be eligible for scholarships and awards.

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COLLEGE PREPARATORY CURRICULUM**

**JUNIOR YEAR HIGH SCHOOL**

English/ English Literature  
Algebra II  
Physics  
Ethnic Studies  
Foreign Language  
Physical Education  
Computer Technology  
Elective

**MTA  
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

**Academic scholarships and grants minimum requirements**

*Grade point average 3.25    ACT 24*

**Unlimited dollar amounts**

***Talent scholarships and grants minimum requirements***

*Grade point average 2.5    ACT 20*

***Limited dollar amounts***

# The College Planning Calendar

*Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors*

## Junior Year High School

### Summer

#### *August*

- *Review* your high school course plans and your activity plans.
- To learn about the college experience, *research* newspapers and yearbooks from colleges. Talk to classmates, parents, teachers, and recent graduates of your school who are in college.
- Make an appointment with your school's college counselors so *you and your parents can discuss* how to improve your college preparation and selection processes.
- Check with your counselor about taking the ACT in October. Ask for a copy of the ACT if previously taken. By doing well, you may be eligible for scholarships and awards.

### Fall

#### *October*

- Develop lists of your interests, educational priorities, special talents and abilities, social and cultural preferences, and personal qualities.
- Also, develop a list of what you think you would like to study and activities you would like to participate in while in college. Rank the items in order of importance to you.
- Obtain dates and places of local college fairs from your counseling office.
- Check with your guidance counselors regarding the dates when the next ACT will be administered.

#### *November*

- List the college features that suit your interests, needs, and abilities, and rank them in order of importance to you. These include size, type of college, location, fields of study offered, academic quality, necessary facilities, desirable programs, special opportunities, cost and financial aid opportunities, and social and cultural environments.

### Winter

#### *December*

- Plan to take the SAT II Subject Tests while course material is still fresh in your mind. Ask your counselor about registration dates, late deadlines, and special requests.

#### *January*

- If you have already identified a college you would like to visit this year, write to the admission office. ***Request an application form and a campus interview.*** Provide several possible dates for your visit.
- ***Review college costs, and the process of applying for financial aid.*** Check the US Department of Education's *The Student Guide*, a booklet describing the federal student aid programs. You may also wish to consult *College Costs and Financial Aid Handbook*, published by the College Board.

#### *February*

- Investigate other student aid and scholarship programs.

## The College Planning Calendar

## *Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors*

### **Junior Year High School**

#### **Spring**

##### *March*

- If you are considering taking CLEP or AP Examinations this spring, ask your teacher or counselor for advice and registration information. CLEP tests are available every month.

##### *April*

- Develop a preliminary list of colleges that interest you. Write for their catalogs and application forms, citing your academic and other interests.

##### *May*

- Advanced Placement Exams are given in high schools nationally.
- Identify teacher, administrators, counselors and other adults (e.g., minister or employer) who could write letters of recommendations.
- Read your local newspaper carefully this spring to find out which organizations in your areas award financial aid for graduating seniors. Start a file.
- *Contact MTA for college placement & financial aid assistance at <http://www.mtaConsultingGroup.com>*

##### *June/July*

- If possible, use your summer to earn money for college in a job related to your career interests.
- Consider a college visit in conjunction with any summer travels you (and your family) may take.

### **Senior Year High School**

#### **Summer**

##### *August*

- **If you have not clarified your educational goals, needs and preferences DO SO NOW!!!.**
- **If you have not developed a preliminary list of colleges, DO SO NOW!!!!.**
- *Write* to each college's director of admissions to request its catalog, application forms and financial aid information.
- When you receive this information, analyze the application instructions to see what information is required and to learn about all due dates. You may have to submit admission test scores, an essay, application form recommendations, and a financial aid application form.

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**SENIOR YEAR HIGH SCHOOL**

English/ American Literature  
Trigonometry/Calculus  
Political Science/International Affairs  
Economics  
Physical Education  
Business Management  
Elective

**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

**Academic scholarships and grants minimum requirements**

*Grade point average 3.25    ACT 24*

**Unlimited dollar amounts**

***Talent scholarships and grants minimum requirements***

*Grade point average 2.5    SAT    ACT 20*

***Limited dollar amounts***

# The College Planning Calendar

*Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors*

## Senior Year High School

### Fall

#### *September*

- **Create a complete checklist of test name and registration deadlines, fees, test date, college application deadlines, and other materials that you will need.**
- If you took an admission test last year, and wonder whether you would benefit from taking it again, consult your counselor.
- If you want to take the SAT II Subject Test this year, ask your counselor for registration dates.

#### *October*

- You will probably have to submit at least one essay with each application, so start to develop outlines this month.
- If you decide to visit colleges, ask your high school counselor for the names of former students in your area who are enrolled at the colleges or recently graduated from them.
- Decide whom to ask for recommendations and **ASK THEM NOW**, if you have not already done so. When you ask, provide a self-addressed, stamped return envelope together with the appropriate college forms, and an outline of your academic record and extracurricular activities.
- Check your library for books and pamphlets about financial aid, and look for special state, federal and local programs from which you may be able to get aid. Ask your counselor if they have any new resources. Keep a file.
- *Contact MTA for college placement & financial aid assistance at <http://www.mtaConsultingGroup.com>*

#### *November*

- Find out from the colleges to which you are seeking admission exactly what forms they require for financial aid.
- Complete the draft of your application essays; start to revise them.
- November 1 to 15: most colleges using “early decision” admission require test scores and application between these dates. Students must apply by November 15 and are notified by mid-December.
- Fill out applications for early decision, early action, or rolling admissions candidacy as soon as possible.
- A counselor usually sends a copy of your high school grades to colleges. Return the proper forms to your counselor at least two weeks before colleges require them.
- Check deadlines with your guidance counselor for government-sponsored financial aid programs, private scholarships and grants and obtain the forms you need to apply.

# The College Planning Calendar

*Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors*  
**Senior Year High School**

## Winter

### *December*

- **Begin completing your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and any other financial aid applications.**
- Complete all Scholarship & Grant applications and submit to appropriate agencies.
- Complete your essays. Type them and be sure they are clean, neat, attractive, grammatically correct, interesting, and easy to read. Keep copies.
- Give counselor, principal or designated office sufficient time to complete the “Secondary School Report” section of your college application forms.

### *January/February*

- **January 1 is the usual application deadline date for admission to some selective colleges.**
- **Send your FAFSA (financial aid application) as soon as possible after January 1.**
- Complete all Scholarship & Grant Applications and submit to appropriate agencies.

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## Spring

### *March*

- In your strongest courses, consider taking AP Examinations or CLEP tests.
- If you are applying to more than one college, carefully rank your preferences by location, academic program, and other important characteristics.

### *April*

- Most selective colleges start to announce their decisions this month. If you are accepted by more than one college, decide which one is best for you. (Review your ranking preferences.)
- If an accepting college needs a non-refundable deposit before you have heard from other colleges of interest to you, ask your counselor or MTA for advice.
- Carefully review financial aid award notices from colleges. If your financial aid awards are insufficient, ask if other financing plans are available. Accept what is awarded and ask for what is needed.
- **FEDERAL & STATE FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION DEADLINES ARE MAY 1.**

### *May*

- As soon as possible after May 1, notify colleges to which you are accepted of your decision to attend, in keeping with the Candidates Reply Date Agreement (some colleges do not subscribe to the Agreement and many have earlier deadlines).
- If you are “wait-listed” by a college and intend to enroll if accepted, call, visit, or write to the admission director to state your intention and ask how to strengthen your application.
- As soon as you have decided which college to attend, notify your college counselor and all colleges that have accepted you. Be fair to the college and to other students.
- If you are not admitted to any of the colleges selected, see your counselor immediately.
- Advanced Placement Examinations are given in high schools nationwide. CLEP tests can be taken anytime during the month.

### *June*

- **Make sure that you accept the financial aid award from the college you decide to attend in writing.**