



EAST – WEST SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES COLLEGE PREPARATION TIMELINE

FRESHMAN YEAR

- Build strong academic skills by doing well in all courses
- Study hard and get excellent grades
- Do your best to earn Grade Point Average (GPA) of 80% or above
- Read at least 5 fiction/nonfiction books during Freshman year
- Become involved in school activities and volunteer for community activities
- Meet with your counselor to discuss your plans for the next four years
- Begin building your Student Resume by keeping track of your activities, honors, work experience and academic record
- Begin saving money for college
- Register for SAT subject tests, if appropriate
- Plan on visiting college campuses while on vacation

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Continue building a strong academic record
- Set academic goal to earn Grade Point Average (GPA) of 85% or higher
- Continue to participate in extracurricular activities and community service
- Read at least 5 fiction/nonfiction books during Sophomore year
- Consult with your guidance counselor about taking the PSAT as a sophomore
- Speak with your counselor about taking the PSAT as a sophomore
- October Take PSAT
- December receive PSAT results
- Check out www.collegeboard.org , review PSAT scores
- Perform internet research about colleges, careers, and scholarships
- Register for SAT subject tests, if appropriate
- Update your Student Resume
- Explore summer enrichment programs offered at universities
- Complete a career search

JUNIOR YEAR

- Be prepared to work hard this year!
- Junior Year is the most important year to prepare for College
- Aim to achieve a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 90% or better
- Make sure to read at least 5 fiction/nonfiction books during Junior Year

September/October

- Get off to a strong start in school
- Register for and take the PSAT

November/December

- PSAT results available
- Begin to research a preliminary college list
- Register for January SAT if you are in the Fall SAT elective

December/January

- Register for SAT Reasoning Test, SAT Subject Tests, and/or ACT tests
- Are you on track to meet your graduation requirements?

February/March

- Request an Individual parent/student counselor conferences
- Surf the Web for college, career, and scholarship information
- Begin visiting colleges you have interest in - Spring break is an excellent time to see colleges
- Begin researching summer opportunities
- Continue to participate in school and community activities

April/May

- Take appropriate SAT/ACT test
- Begin a filing system for college material
- Send for college information
- Make appointments for tours and/or interviews and visit colleges

June

- Take SAT/ACT
- Request teacher recommendation letters
- Take final exams and Regents exams in school
- Finalize your Student Resume
- Finalize your College List

July/August

- Do something meaningful during the summer that you can talk about in essays and interviews
- VISIT COLLEGES
- Begin organizing possible essays for colleges

SENIOR YEAR

- There is a lot to do this year! Remember to be organized, meet deadlines and ask questions
- Work hard to earn a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 95% or better
- Keep reading – be sure to read at least 5 fiction/nonfiction books during Senior year

September

- Be sure you have all the courses and credits required for graduation
- Register for the SAT Reasoning test, SAT subject tests, and/or ACT tests
- Ask for letters of recommendation from teachers, employers and others who know you well
- Prepare college applications
- If you decide to apply early decision, submit your application to your counselor two weeks before its deadline
- File CSS PROFILE Financial Aid form if your college requires it

October

- Review your high school transcript with your counselor
- Finish college essays
- Continue visiting colleges
- Check the College Representative visiting schedule in the Guidance Office
- Register for SAT Reasoning Test, SAT Subject Tests, and/or ACT exams
- Continue to work on college applications - MEET EARLY DECISION DEADLINES
- Attend college fairs/open houses
- Begin to apply for scholarships

November

- Finalize college choices
- Take SAT Reasoning Test, SAT Subject Tests and/or ACT exams
- Talk with college friends home for Thanksgiving
- Submit college applications - keep copies of everything you send out
- Send SAT Reasoning Test, SAT subject tests and/or ACT results directly to colleges
- Continue to check for Scholarship information
- Check status of Letters of Recommendation

December/January

- FAFSA (Federal Financial Aid Forms) available in January at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> - must be filed by student and parent in early January
- NOTE: All colleges need to receive mid-year grades - AVOID SENIOR SLUMP
- Are all your applications submitted?

February/March

- File all appropriate forms as soon as possible
- Any applications still not submitted should be completed as soon as possible if the deadline allows
- Notify your counselor of all college acceptances, rejections, and wait-listed status
- Continue to check for scholarships

April/May

- Make final decisions about college - Submit necessary deposit
- Report all college decisions to your counselor - notify him/her about which college you will attend
- Report all scholarships, grants, and awards to your counselor

June

- Confirm post high school plans with your counselor
- Meet all graduation requirements
- Meet all college deadlines to ensure your place in the college of your choice.
- GRADUATION - Congratulations and Good Luck