

# Preparing for College: Time Line

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 (Update: <http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/prospective-students/index.php>)

	Freshman (Grade 9)	Sophomore (Grade 10)	Junior (Grade 11)	Senior (Grade 12)
<b>September</b>	Talk with your guidance counselors Sign up for courses that will prepare you for college Take honors or advanced classes in your interest areas	Begin to attend college fairs  Consult with current students & alumni about their experiences	Continue to visit prospective schools & attend college fairs	Ask your references to write letters (3 weeks in advance)  Begin your applications, making note of all deadlines & requirements Take the ACT (if desired)
<b>October</b>	Research prospective colleges	Take the PSAT	Look for opportunities to assume leadership positions in your extracurricular activities	Retake the ACT, SAT or SAT Subject tests (if desired)
<b>November</b>	Get involved in community & extracurricular activities that interest you	Continue to participate in extracurricular activities	Develop a short list of your target schools  Begin researching scholarships**	Retake the SAT and SAT Subject tests (if desired)
<b>December</b>	Read more and practice writing skills	Make plans for campus visits (if desired)	Visit more college campuses over winter break	Retake the SAT and SAT Subject tests (if desired)
<b>January</b>	Talk with your parents about the cost of college & develop a financial plan		Take the SAT or SAT Subject Tests	Apply for financial aid as early as possible (either FAFSA or the TASFA)
<b>February</b>		Speak with your school counselor and develop an academic plan for your junior & senior years	Take the ACT	Discuss your final college selection with your parents and teachers
<b>March</b>		Make campus visits with your parents	Brainstorm ideas for essay topics (for admissions and scholarship applications)	Continue your scholarship applications
<b>April</b>		Attend college fairs to seek information about college majors	Take the SAT or ACT (if desired)	Pick a school and notify all accepted schools of your final decision
<b>May</b>			Talk about your college interest with teachers Write essays and seek editorial and guidance support	Write thank you notes to everyone who helped you with this process
<b>June, July &amp; August</b>	Study for the PSAT	Study for the SAT or ACT	Start applying for scholarships  Take the June SAT or ACT (if desired)	Look through the college's course listing & meet with a university academic counselor to select courses

\*\*For scholarship information, please visit: <http://www.sw.uh.edu/community/cwep/current-students/index.php> (click at Scholarship Opportunities). Further enquiries about the Child Welfare Education Project MSW Program, email Dr. Monit Cheung at [mcheung@uh.edu](mailto:mcheung@uh.edu).