

Get a Jump Start Juniors

It is time to get serious about your school work and your future. Use this year to ask questions and make plans to succeed. Take responsibility.

1. Get prepared.

- Keep adding to your resume of abilities, activities, and personal qualities.
- Narrow your list of college possibilities and college majors.
- Begin planning visits to colleges.
- Start researching information on financial aid and scholarships.

2. Stay involved.

- Keep up with SAT and ACT dates.
- Take the SAT at least twice this year. Take the ACT at least once.
- Use websites such as collegeboard.com and gacollege411.com on a regular basis to keep you informed with latest information on colleges.

3. Meet with your high school counselor.

- Ask specific questions about college choices and majors.
- Find out what resources are available to help you.

4. Stay serious and think ahead.

- Commit time to studying for standardized tests as well as your normal school classes.
- Look at local newspapers to see which civic, cultural, and service organizations in your area award financial aid to graduating seniors.
- If you plan to participate in collegiate athletics, make certain that you meet the requirements set forth by the NCAA, NAIA, NCCAA, or NJCAA.

5. Save for college and search for summer opportunities.

- It is never too early to start saving for college or looking for jobs that may interest you.
- Find volunteer positions that will help you learn of a field of interest.

Become familiar with the following websites:

- www.gacollege411.org (general college information)
- www.collegeboard.com (SAT practice and registration)
- www.actstudent.org (registration for ACT)
- www.ecampustours.com (virtual college campus tours)
- www.cappex.com (general help with college questions)

Make sure if you create an account to keep the username and password somewhere you will remember it. You will use some of these accounts each year in high school.

Following are additional websites where you may find great sources for private scholarships and other types of financial aid.

www.finaid.org

www.fastweb.org

www.scholarships101.com

www.scholarships.com

www.college.scholarships.com

www.collegeboard.com

www.studentaid.ed.gov

www.coca-colascholars.org (The Coca-Cola Foundation)

www.horatioalger.com/scholarships (The Horatio Alger Association)