The College Application Timeline

Junior / Senior Year

Junior Year

- Initial junior college questionnaire on Naviance
- Parent questionnaire
- First college meeting
- Register for the Summit Test Prep programs, if applicable
- Discuss a testing plan with your college counselor and register for the appropriate tests:
  - Register for the April ACT at www.actstudent.org
  - Register for the May SAT at www.collegeboard.com
- Attend college research class and begin to formulate a list of colleges
- Discuss senior year course selections with your college counselor
- Visit colleges over spring break and/or Head’s Holiday, if possible
- Research your college list throughout winter/spring
- Discuss your summer plans with your college counselor including possible college visits
- Attend College Office miniseries as applicable

Winter/early spring

- Attend College Office miniseries as applicable
- Attend Junior College Admissions Case Study program on Pelican Day
- Attend Loomis Chaffee college fair in April
- Register for June SAT and/or subject tests (if applicable) at www.collegeboard.com
- Begin preliminary work on your Common Application essay in English class
- Submit college essay draft to college counselor for Essay Review Day
- Ask teachers for recommendations
- Continue to research and visit colleges
- Finalize your “Colleges I’m Thinking About” list before leaving for summer vacation

Spring

- After grouping is completed, review the "Expected Difficulty" column of your prospective college list and make a plan for summer visits and/or interviews
- Register for the summer and/or fall ACT and/or SAT, if applicable
- Set up an account on www.commonapp.org and complete a draft of your Common Application
- Research and begin working on relevant application supplements
- Register for fall Subject Tests, if applicable
- Take the internet-based TOEFL at home over the summer if a non-native speaker of English and your colleges require it
- Complete final test preparation as necessary

Summer
The College Application Timeline
Junior / Senior Year

Senior Year

- Prepare research and notes from summer visits and interviews for a discussion during your first fall college meeting that should result in a more finite list of colleges to which you will likely apply
- Alert your counselor to any colleges you have decided to apply to along with relevant deadlines in order for your counselor to move them to “Colleges I’m Applying To” on Naviance, therefore releasing a request for your transcript and recommendations to be sent those colleges
- Complete the FERPA confidentiality waiver on the Common Application and match it to your Naviance account
- Review a final version of your major college essay with your college counselor
- Review your Common Application with your college counselor, especially your activities list
- Review any/all supplemental essays for your applications with your counselor
- If applying for financial aid, begin to complete the FAFSA and CSS Profile after October 1
- Stay on top of any early financial aid deadlines, especially for Early Decision schools
- Send SAT, ACT and/or SAT subject test scores (and TOEFL scores, if applicable) to colleges after consulting with your college counselor through your online account(s) on College Board and/or ACT
- If applying Early Decision, complete the ED agreement on the Common Application
- Make sure your list of colleges is up-to-date and complete on Naviance
- Make sure your list of colleges is up-to-date and complete on the Common Application website
- Sign off on your final college list at the beginning of winter term
- Notify your college counselor of the outcome of any early applications and promptly withdraw any outstanding applications from other institutions if admitted to a binding Early Decision program
- Complete all Regular Decision applications and financial aid applications
- Check each college’s portal for application status confirming receipt of all application material
- If required by your colleges, international students should provide a Certification of Finances indicating the family’s ability to pay for college
- Send thank you notes to teachers who wrote recommendations for you
- Meet with your college counselor to discuss early deferral strategy in late January, if needed

Fall

Winter

Spring

- Notify your college counselor of the outcome of any Regular Decision applications
- Discuss waitlist strategy with college counselor, if necessary
- Revisit colleges as needed to decide where to matriculate
- Submit an enrollment deposit to your college of choice by the universal reply date of May 1st
- Keep your grades up! Colleges will see your final transcript!
- GRADUATE!