

Meet regularly with your counselor

Your counselor will play an important role in post secondary planning college application process. You should develop a personal relationship so they may write a sincere recommendation. Be sure to keep them informed of your plans.

Get A Head Start

Speak with your counselor about earning college credit with *Tech Prep*, *Advance Placement*, CLEP, and *First College Program*.

Schedule an appointment with the ACCESS Center to begin your college search

The ACCESS Center will assist you in assessing your career goals and developing a preliminary list of colleges that suit your personal and educational goals. You should schedule your appointment in October or November.

Select challenging courses for your senior year

College admissions counselors state that **THE** most important thing students can do to increase their chance of admission is to take challenging classes and do well in these classes. Senior year **IS NOT** the time to “*slack off*.”

Register for the SAT

It is recommended that you take the SAT at least one time during your junior year, but not before you have completed Algebra 2. You should take the SAT again in the beginning of your senior year; the best times are November and December so that you can utilize the knowledge you are gaining in grade 12 to better your SAT test results. SAT Prep Classes are offered in the fall and in the spring at CHS at a cost of only \$99. You may see your counselor to register for one of these test prep sessions, or to get additional information on SAT/ACT. Waivers may be obtained from the ACCESS office or the Director of Guidance for those meeting income guidelines.

Other Ways to Prepare for the SAT

- Review your PSAT results. Look over the test booklet and questions you missed. Knowing your weaknesses will help you to see in which areas you need additional help.
- Go to collegeboard.com and answer the daily SAT question. You can also set up for the SAT Question of the Day to be sent to your e-mail.
- Consider purchasing SAT preparation books or software. But remember, just buying the book won't improve your score. You have to actually **USE** the materials. Collegeboard.com also offers many **FREE** downloads.
- ACCESS signers can register for a 1-day **FREE** SAT-Prep class. **First come, first served basis.*
- SAT II—Remember that some colleges require SAT II for admissions, please check with your college.

Consider taking the ACT

The ACT is an alternative to the SAT and is an admission requirement option for many colleges. You may register at www.act.org.

Speak with recruiters

Recruiters from the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines visit our school monthly to provide information and to visit recruits. Be sure to ask questions and take the **ASVAB** if you are interested in joining the military.



Visit colleges

A personal visit often influences your decision about applying to a college. Why not use time this summer or one of the long weekends to visit a few local colleges. Ask questions and talk to students! Download sample applications to use as a working copy.

Create a Résumé/Activity Sheet

Résumés are useful for work and college applications. Activity sheets are often required by colleges and are extremely helpful for scholarship committees.

Requesting letters of recommendations

Request letters of recommendations from employers, volunteer coordinator, clubs or sports you are involved in and also church leaders, too.

Begin your search for scholarships

The Internet offers many databases to assist you with the search for scholarships. FASTWEB.com, for example, contains information on over 600,000 scholarships worth \$1 billion. Although the majority of scholarships are awarded to seniors, it doesn't hurt to begin the search now. A list of websites and local scholarships is available in the *School Counseling, Guidance Office*, and on the *Churchland High School website*.

Read every day for at least 15 minutes

Studies confirm that students who read daily have a distinct advantage on college admissions tests.

