

COLLEGE VISITS

If possible, schedule a live, in-person college visit, but even if your first experience is by phone or through a website, make sure you:

- Speak with an admissions officer.
- Gather financial aid information, including costs and scholarship information and deadlines.
- Talk to students and alumni. If you don't know anyone who has attended the college you are considering, ask your school counselor for connections with current or former students.
- Check out dorms and common spaces, such as libraries, student study areas, the bookstore, athletic facilities and recreation spaces.
- Ask about student services: career centers, tutoring and writing help and the health center.

TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR

While visiting a college in person may be your first choice, you can use the power of the Internet to fuel a virtual tour. Some stops on your virtual tour should include:

- The homepage.** Your first stop to find basic information and news. From here, you can go off in many directions—admissions, financial aid, even the college's official virtual tour. Bookmark this page so you can return frequently to see what's new.
- Social media posts.** Check out the college's posts on Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.
- Student profiles.** Most college websites have student profiles and stories that can provide insight into what you can do and opportunities you may have never imagined.
- Subscribe to student media.** Student-run newspapers and podcasts offer a glimpse of college life and culture.

WORKSHEET: MY COLLEGE CHOICE



College: _____	College: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____
Location: _____	Location: _____
Size: <input type="checkbox"/> Small <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Large	Size: <input type="checkbox"/> Small <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Large
Setting: <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> Urban	Setting: <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> Urban
Religious Affiliation: _____	Religious Affiliation: _____

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (deadline, tests, GPA)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

ACADEMIC (class size, completion rate, student-faculty ratio)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

COST (tuition, room and board, estimated total budget)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

FINANCIAL AID (deadlines, required forms, percentage receiving aid, scholarships)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

HOUSING (residence hall, food plan)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

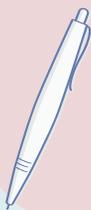
FACILITIES (academic, recreational)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

ACTIVITIES (clubs, organizations, Greek life, athletics, other)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

11TH GRADE COLLEGE PLAN



Junior year is when things start to happen. Here's a guide to get started.

FALL

- Talk to your counselor and evaluate your options: technical program, two-year or four-year degree, military?
- Start researching careers using the resources on pages 8-11.
- Make a list of colleges you'd like to attend and start scheduling college visits. Use the College Visit Checklist on page 26.
- Take the PSAT.
- Start a folder documenting your high school activities, awards and achievements.
- Keep your grades up.

WINTER

- Study for the ACT/SAT. Research the test requirements of the colleges you hope to apply to.
- Start looking at college costs.
- Check with your college counseling office for scholarship opportunities.

SPRING

- Look for new extracurricular activities or leadership opportunities with clubs and teams you already belong to.
- Take the ACT/SAT. See page 31 for test dates and registration deadlines.
- Start planning for summer. Look for work experience: a summer job, internship or job shadowing, or special learning opportunities on college campuses.
- Look for scholarships.

12TH GRADE COLLEGE PLAN

You're a senior! You've got this. But just in case, use this guide to stay on track.

FALL

- Review and update your high school graduation plan. Focus on where you hope to be in a year. College? Military? An apprenticeship? Make a list of the places you will apply.
- Make a master list of all you need to accomplish, including important dates for tests as well as registration, college application and scholarship deadlines.
- Take the SAT/ACT one more time, if needed. Be sure to have your scores sent to the colleges you're applying to. See page 31 for test dates and registration deadlines.
- Stay in contact with your college counseling office. Make sure your transcripts are sent to the colleges to which you are applying.
- Keep your grades up.
- Apply to college early, when possible.
- Ask teachers, counselors and coaches for recommendations.
- 21st Century Scholars:** Complete your requirements. Log in to your ScholarTrack account to complete the Scholar Success Program requirements in order to receive your scholarship. **ScholarTrack.in.gov**

WINTER

- Make another push for scholarships.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and file the FAFSA online by the state's April 15 deadline.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ----->

12TH GRADE COLLEGE PLAN

SPRING

- Keep your grades and activities up—colleges and scholarship committees will want to see your best efforts through graduation.
- Make final campus visits, if necessary, to make your decision.
- Apply for housing and schedule orientation.
- If you haven't already, inform colleges of your plans by May 1. Talk to your counselor if you have questions.
- Take your AP exams.
- Review your financial aid awards with your school counselor. Ask the college financial aid office for more information if needed.
- Celebrate! You did it.



FEATURED VIDEO

SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH



FIVE STEPS TO KICK START YOUR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

VOTE!

Young voters are an important part of our election process. You can make an impact on your community, the state of Indiana and our nation by participating in the 2020 election.

3 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT VOTING

1. General Election Day is November 3, 2020.
2. You have the right to vote in Indiana if:
 - You are both a U.S. citizen and a resident of Indiana; and
 - You will be at least 18 years of age on or before the next General or Municipal Election, and
 - You are not currently in prison after being convicted of a crime; and
 - You have lived in the precinct where you vote for at least 30 days prior to the election; and
 - You are registered to vote in Indiana. The General Election registration deadline is October 5, 2020.
3. Register to vote at www.IndianaVoters.com and have a valid Indiana Driver's License Number or Indiana State Identification Card Number ready.



If you do not have a valid Indiana Driver's License Number or Indiana State Identification Number available, you can download and print the Indiana Voter Registration Application (VRG-7) and register to vote by mail. You can also register to vote at any Bureau of Motor Vehicles License Branch or pick up a voter registration application at your local public library.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVEN IF YOU CAN'T VOTE

The **Hoosier Hall Pass** poll worker recruitment program enables 16- and 17-year old students a "live" experience of democracy in action on Election Day. This program provides an opportunity for students to learn about democracy, to actively participate in their community and work to support free and fair elections in Indiana. Learn more about getting your hall pass at in.gov/sos/elections.

