

# College Planning Timeline for High School Students



## Junior Year– Fall

- Take the PSAT in October. Your College Contribution covers this cost and you are already pre-registered.
- Attend the National College Fair in Phoenix in October and other local college fairs.
- Talk to the college reps, pick up literature, and start visualizing what type of college would be right for you
- Attend the Great Hearts College Symposium (in October)
- Take advantage of colleges visiting Arete, listen to the presentations, and learn about what characteristics of colleges are important to you. Check the College Counseling website or the College Counseling offices for a schedule
- Attend the monthly college prep class (Admissions 101) offered at Arete Prep
- Visit colleges and universities over fall break
- Attend the Junior Night (September) and Financial Aid Night (September) presentations at Arete Prep
- Consider taking an SAT and/or ACT Prep Course in second semester (Arete Prep will be providing a class in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter)

## Junior Year– Spring

- Schedule a meeting with your College Counselor
- Register for both the SAT and ACT and SAT Subject Tests if your colleges require or recommend
- Use spring break to take a college tour or research colleges
- Create a list of colleges you are thinking about in Naviance (your College Counselor can help)
- Begin drafting your resume, personal statement and supplemental essay in April and May as part of Admissions 101
- Think about who will write your letter of recommendation; request verbally and by email before school ends



#### Senior Year– Fall

- Move prospective colleges to active applications on Naviance
- Request letters of recommendation from 1-2 teachers in person and then officially on Naviance
- Apply to the state universities as soon as the applications open in the early fall
- Complete and submit the Common Application at [CommonApp.org](http://CommonApp.org)
- Send SAT & ACT test scores to colleges through [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) and [act.org](http://act.org)
- Use fall break to visit colleges, stay overnight in the dorms, and schedule interviews
- Attend the National College Fair again and attend visits at Arete during the school day
- Complete and submit the FAFSA at [FAFSA.ed.gov](http://FAFSA.ed.gov) in October
- Complete the CSS Profile at [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) if any of your schools require it

#### Senior Year– Spring

- Plan to visit your top college choices to make your final decision, especially if you are thinking of attending a college that you did not get the chance to visit earlier
- Make your deposit to hold your spot at one and only one college
- Accept your financial aid package
- Sign up for orientation and placement tests
- Students must let colleges know by May 1st if they are accepting or declining the offer of admission