

# Countdown to college

WELLS  
FARGO

Plan your path to education success with these month-by-month calendars, a resource from the **CollegeSTEPS®** Program.

## August

- Review your high school courses and activities. Colleges look for challenging course work, strong grades, and extracurricular activities.

## September

- Browse college catalogs and guidebooks, and surf the Web for information.
- List 10 colleges you would like to attend.
- Talk to your parents and high school guidance counselor about that list to narrow it down.
- Register and study for the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT).
- Plan to attend college fairs and parents' nights in your area.

## October

- Take the PSAT.
- Research Advanced Placement (AP) or college courses you might take.
- Continue researching organizations that award scholarships to graduating seniors. You may need to apply for them the summer after your junior year.

## November

- Learn about eligibility requirements for federal and private student loans.
- Talk as a family about how much you can afford to spend for your education.

## January

- Plan for the next round of tests: the SAT and the ACT.
- Attend financial aid nights in your area.

## February

- Investigate private scholarships and other aid programs. Check with your parents' employers, local membership organizations, or programs related to your intended course of study.
- Make the most of spring break with a weeklong college tour.
- Register for the SAT and ACT. Take an exam prep course to help you succeed.

## March

- Visit the three to six schools on your final list. Schedule an admissions interview and an overnight stay. Take time at each school's financial aid office to collect information.
- Begin preparing essays for admission and scholarship applications.
- Take the SAT and/or the ACT.
- Mark your calendar with the dates for future tests.

## May

- Take the SAT and/or the ACT.
- Mark your calendar with the dates for future tests.

## June

- Continue researching organizations that award scholarships to graduating seniors. You may need to apply for them the summer after your junior year.

### Want more?

Get even more help planning for college with our CollegeSTEPS™ Resource Connection. You'll get a list of questions to ask on campus visits, a step-by-step guide to financial aid, links to our blog about financing education, and more at [wellsfargo.com/collegeplanning](http://wellsfargo.com/collegeplanning).

JUNIOR YEAR