

To Do-Junior Checklist

General To Do's:

- ✓ **Begin to examine your goals, interests, learning strengths, passions—review coursework**
 - ***Take Assessments:** Holland Type Indicator—ASVAB, Jung y-Myers Briggs personality Profiler
 - ***Check** with your counselor to make sure you are enrolled for the correct courses to be eligible for college.
 - ***Contact** the US military academies NOW if you are interested in applying. Find out more information at: www.defenselink.mil/faq/pis/20.html
 - ***Focus** on keeping your GPA as high as possible while taking rigorous coursework. If you need help or tutoring with coursework—Use the Public Library tutor.com service—All you need is a library card. Check it out @ <http://www.grand-island.com/your-government/library/online-resource-center>
 - ***Check** with your counselor about taking more challenging courses such as honors, college prep, or Advanced Placement courses. Ask about any courses that you can take that may help you decide if a particular career direction is right for you.
 - ***Meet** with your counselor to ensure you are on track for college with your course selection.
- ✓ **Career Exploration: Use results from interests and career profilers to help you explore careers**
 - ***Arrange** job shadowing and internship exploration opportunities—talk to counselor about these options and earning high school elective credit.
 - ***Apply** for CPI-Career Pathways Institute if interested in Autos, Welding, Construction, Information Technology: www.careerpathwaysinstitute.org.
- ✓ **Get prepared for standardized tests—ACT and/or SAT**
 - ***Read**, read, and read some more!
 - * **Make** note of registration deadlines and prepare for the upcoming ACT and SAT assessment. When researching colleges, be sure to note whether they require the SAT or the ACT assessment. Some colleges will require or recommend one or the other, others accept either. Your counselor also can provide guidance.
 - ***Prepare** for the test(s) you plan to take. Check with counselor on test prep materials and online—free test prep tools. Local Public Library has a test prep programs.
- ✓ **Discuss Financial Aid/paying for college options**
 - * **Discuss college finances with your family.** When performing your college search, you need to know how much your family will be able to contribute towards your college education. Always remember, just because a college may seem expensive and out of your reach, never assume anything. There are several types of financial aid that may enable you to attend a college that may seem too expensive.
 - ***Check out** loan options
 - ***Search For Scholarships:** Many people think your senior year is the time to begin searching for scholarships. While senior year is certainly an important time to be searching for ways to fund your education and you certainly should be heavy into your [scholarship search](#) by then, you really should begin now.
 - ***Sign up** for scholarship search--Fastweb.com www.fastweb.com and Education Quest for scholarships at <http://www.educationquest.org/scholarshipquest/>
- ✓ **Explore college options and what the “best fit” is for you**
 - ***Get** information from colleges you are considering by visiting their web sites or calling admissions.
 - ***Check out** colleges and majors that align to your interests, strengths, and at Princeton Review: <http://www.princetonreview.com/colleges-majors.aspx>
 - ***Attend** College Fairs

***Use this tool as a College Super-Matcher:** *Big Future* <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>

--a free search engine that helps users find their best-fit college – offer six ways to search: by state, major, career, Ivy League, sports and A-Z. The ‘College Current’ feature displays a mash-up of video, images and RSS results for any college, plus real student reviews and the real-time Twitter conversation going on about that school.

*** 4 Types of Colleges:**

- **Research Universities (National Universities):** UNL, UNO
- **Masters Level/Regional Universities:** Creighton, Wesleyan
- **National Liberal Arts Colleges:** Augustana, Doane, Grinnell
- **Regional Colleges:** Peru State, Wayne State, Hastings, Midland
- **Specialty Colleges:** Arts, Music, Business Bryan LGH Medical, Cosmetology Xenon

***Check** with Counselor to make sure the courses you are taking or are scheduled to take in high school meeting college admission requirements?

***Create** a file for college information, scholarships, etc

***Sports in College?** Must apply to NAIA and/or NCAA eligibility center

✓ **Set up college visits**

***Contact the Admissions Office--** Interview an admissions officer.

***Plan** a trip when school is in session to get a feel for what a regular day looks like. Some schools may even allow you to sit in on a class of interest.

***Check out** the area.

***Speak** with a professor.

* All these steps will help you [make the right college choice](#).

✓ **Inventory your school, community, church, and volunteer involvement.**

***Stay active in extracurricular activities.** While your grades in high school are important, colleges also look at what you do outside the classroom. They like to see that you are involved in sports, student government, and community activities, and that you take on leadership roles when available.

***Volunteer** with opportunities you are passionate about and match career interests.

- *** Colleges and Scholarship** review committees want to see a “whole” person.

✓ **Create resume**

Your resume should talk about yourself outside of school. The school to which you are applying will already know your grades and test scores since these are included on your school transcript. Items that should be included are:

- school activities,
- community activities,
- community service,
- sports,
- awards and recognition,
- hobbies, and
- work experience.