

# OCHS COLLEGE PLANNING CALENDAR



## FRESHMAN YEAR

### Fall

- Meet with your counselor – get to know them, and let them get to know you!
- Get involved! Join a club, sport, or activity.

### Winter

- Start exploring your interests. Think about which classes you're really enjoying and why. Take the cluster finder or career interest profiler on Family Connection if you haven't already. Discuss the results of these with important adults in your life.
- Create your graduation plan, which details a course plan for the rest of high school depending on your post-secondary goals.

### Spring

- Choose your classes for next year. Keep your college and career goals in mind!

### Summer

- Get a summer job or participate in a summer enrichment experience. Check out the OCHS Job Fair in March for job opportunities, and use Family Connection to find enrichment experiences.
- If you get a job, start putting some money away for college. Your future self will thank you!

## SOPHOMORE YEAR

### Fall

- Check in with your counselor. Provide them with any updates that they should know about, and make sure that you're fulfilling any prerequisites for higher level classes in your plan for junior and senior year.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT in October. You can't qualify for the scholarship until your junior year, but taking it now will allow you to practice for when you can qualify.

### Winter

- With your family, start to do research about financial aid. Fill out the FAFSA4caster to get a better idea of how much aid you may qualify for.
- If you can, visit a college campus just to see what it's like. Attend an open house at a local school, like Stockton University, or plan to visit a nearby school on your next family vacation.

### Spring

- Choose your classes for next year. Keep your college and career goals in mind!
- Make sure you're still involved in your school or community. Continue with former activities, or find new ones that you might like.

### Summer

- Get a summer job or participate in a summer enrichment experience. Check out the OCHS Job Fair in March for job opportunities, and use Family Connection to find enrichment experiences.
- Continue putting a portion of your earnings into a college fund.

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## JUNIOR YEAR

### Winter

- Students interested in military academies must begin the process now - summer academy applications open in Jan/Feb 2023
- Attend the 11th Grade College Planning Night at OCHS
- Register for and take the ACT and/or SAT
- Be sure that your course selection is appropriate and supports your career goals
- Develop a list of colleges and majors that you're interested and add them to Naviance
- Attend the CASCA College Fair @ Stockton University in March
- Schedule and attend College Visits (on campus and at OCHS)

### Spring

- Meet with your guidance counselor to discuss colleges and majors
- Apply for internships and summer programs that fit your career goals
- Investigate summer experiences, including summer school, and college sponsored workshops
- Take ACT/SAT/Register for Summer/Fall SAT/ACT
- Request teacher recommendations (after Spring break and prior to June 1st)
- Complete a resume - If you want to get a head start on recommendations before teachers get swamped, contact them and provide your resume **and a recommendation form**
- Follow up on teacher recommendations (add them to Naviance)
- Begin ROTC application(s) (April 1st the application opens)
- Schedule and attend College Visits (on campus and at OCHS)

### Summer

- Begin requesting information from majors and programs within the colleges you are interested in
- The Common Application is available to start after August 1st. Begin to work on the required essay and the common application
- Attend the College Application Boot Camp Date/Location TBA

# OCHS COLLEGE PLANNING CALENDAR



## SENIOR YEAR

### Fall

- Register in September for the October and/or November SATs and/or ACTs
- Schedule and attend College Visits (on campus and at OCHS)
- **Attend OCHS Senior Financial Aid & Scholarship Night**
- Give thank you notes to the teacher(s) who wrote you a letter of recommendation
- Meet with your guidance counselor to finalize your future plans
- **Complete your applications before Thanksgiving break**
- **Sign Up for Instant Decision Day @ OCHS (December 2022)**
- Create an FSA ID and file the FAFSA, the CSS Profile (if applicable) on October 1st
- **Send SAT/ACT scores to the colleges you have applied to (if not test blind/optional)**
- *Provide your counselor with a transcript request form for **every** college you apply to*

### Winter

- Schedule College visits/Admitted Student Days
- Sign Up for Instant Decision Day @ OCHS
- Complete scholarship applications/Add them to the Naviance favorite list
- Finish your first semester strong! (***Your counselor will send a mid-year transcript to every college you apply to***)

### Spring

- Submit your deposit to the College/University you plan to attend prior to May 1st!
- Advanced Placement (AP) testing in May
- Inform colleges of your admissions decisions before May 1
- Complete the Senior Exit Survey