

## College Process

### Freshmen- Sophomore Year

- **Visit colleges.** Make sure grades and classes match admission criteria. See “College Admissions Requirements and Costs” sheet and “Planning Guide for College” handbook page 3-6.
- **Take challenging classes & get good grades.**
- **Take PSAT 8/9 & PSAT/NMSQT.** Link scores to khan academy to practice for future SAT/ ACT.
- **Job shadow and use Joy hour (20/year) opportunities to explore careers.** [www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco)  
Career inventories: [www.myroads.collegeboard.org](http://www.myroads.collegeboard.org), [www.actprofile.com](http://www.actprofile.com)

### Junior Year

- **NW College Rep Visits-** Take Advantage of College Reps visiting NW. Sign up to visit with 7 college reps. Students already received. *Available at front of the room if still needed.*
- **Visit colleges.** Students get two pre-arranged excused absences for college visits per year. Bring a note at least 5 days before the visit to the school office to receive the Pre-arranged absence form. See “Planning Guide for College” handbook page 10-11.
- **Take the ACT/ SAT-** spring of junior year. See “ACT/SAT Test” sheet.

### Senior Year

- **Apply for College:** Applications are due! Many early decision deadlines are November 1. Many regular deadlines are December 1. See “Planning Guide for College” handbook page 7-9.
- **Retake the ACT/ SAT (if needed)-** early fall.
- **Request ACT/SAT scores to be sent:** Log onto your account to request scores to be sent to the colleges of your choice. ACT and SAT gives the option to have scores sent for free to 4 colleges when you apply to take the test. After the test, they charge a \$14 fee.
- **Request transcripts from Mr. Nelson.** When application asks for counselor recommendations or transcripts always put down Mr. Nelson email, [mnelson@lhasa.com](mailto:mnelson@lhasa.com).
- **Request teacher recommendations.** Give two weeks notice. See attached ‘Recommendation Request Form’ and ‘Planning Guide for College’ handbook page 9.
- **Apply for the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):** Opens October 1. Use last completed tax documents from year prior. Apply to receive grants and loans to pay for college. “Planning Guide for College” handbook page 13 & “Federal Student Aid at a Glance” sheet.
- **Register for NCAA clearinghouse (if playing college sports).** <http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/eligibility-center> See “Planning Guide for College” handbook page 15-16.
- **Apply for scholarships.** Both scholarships from the college itself and private scholarship. See attached form. See attached “Scholarship Search” sheet and assignment sheet for seniors.
- **Check out CLEP/AP Opportunities-** Ask colleges if they grant CLEP/AP credit.  
[www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/clep/about.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/clep/about.html)
- **Job shadow to gain more insight into job options.** See attached assignment for seniors.
- **JOY hours-** 20/year required for graduation.
- **January- May.** Review acceptance letters, financial award packages, visit colleges and make final decisions.