

FRESHMAN PRE-COLLEGE CALENDAR AND CHECKLIST

August

- Review your senior course schedule, graduation requirements and career plans with your school counselor
- Plan to attend upcoming college fairs
- Meet with college admission representatives at BHS
- Obtain a Social Security number (or Resident Alien ID) if you don't already have one. You will need it to apply for financial aid.
- Keep in mind that colleges look for the following:
 - Challenging coursework
 - Strong GPA and class ranking
 - Involvement in extracurricular activities such as sports, volunteer work, church etc...

September

- Meet with college representatives who visit BHS
- Sign up for the PSAT's (test in October) to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying
- Test and for practice before taking the SAT
- Attend College Fairs
- Talk with your parents about where you might like to attend college

October

- Study for and take the PSAT
- Meet with college reps that come to BHS and attend College Fairs
- Using Naviance, start to explore your potential career/major
- Using Naviance, add colleges to "Colleges I'm thinking of Applying to"

November

- Attend college fairs and financial aid nights
- Register for SAT/ACT and/or SAT II's, if necessary
- You and your parents should attend Financial Aid Night at BHS
- Register on fastweb.com for a scholarship search

December

- Mid December you will receive your PSAT score
- Use BELL Tutoring tutors to help you review your PSAT score
- Check bhs.edu for scholarship opportunities

January

- Using Naviance and select three to six colleges that interest you the most
- Visit those college websites to look at the admission requirements
- Sign up for and take SAT/ACT and SAT II's, if necessary
- Register for AP exams
- Check the bhs.edu website for scholarships, Open Houses and summer programs

February

- Start to seriously investigate private scholarships and other student aid programs.
- Check the bhs.edu website to look for scholarships for Juniors
- Listen for Advanced Placement testing registration information from the BHS Counseling Office
- Choose challenging courses for next year considering your post-secondary plans
- Using Naviance, choose potential colleges you may want to apply to and check out their websites for an OPEN HOUSE in the spring.
- Register for AP exams
- Check the bhs.edu website for scholarships, Open Houses and summer programs

March

- Using Naviance, choose potential colleges you may want to apply to and check out their websites for an OPEN HOUSE in the spring.
- Continue investigating outside funding sources
- Register and study for the SAT/ACT and/or SAT II's, if necessary
- Consider taking and sign up for an SAT Prep Course in April, if necessary
- Register for AP exams
- Check the bhs.edu website for scholarships, Open Houses and summer programs

April

- Register and/or take the SAT/ACT and/or SAT II's, if necessary
- Begin scheduling college visits that are on your current list of perspective colleges
- Check the bhs.edu website for scholarships, Open Houses and summer programs
- Plan for a summer job, volunteer work and/or internship opportunities.

May

- Take your AP exams
- Check the bhs.edu website for scholarships, Open Houses and summer programs
- Plan for a summer job, volunteer work and/or internship opportunities.
- Make plans for college visits in the summer (but return again in the fall as not many students attend college in the summer)
- Consider which teachers you will ask to write your letters of recommendations for college
- Complete your Brag Sheet and Student Resume for your school counselor

June

- Check the bhs.edu website for scholarships, Open Houses and summer programs
- Plan for a summer job, volunteer work and/or internship opportunities.
- Make plans for college visits in the summer (but return again in the fall as not many students attend college in the summer)
- Consider which teachers you will ask to write your letters of recommendations for college
- Over the summer, review your career plans and decide which colleges you will be applying to in the fall
- Check the bhs.edu website for scholarships, Open Houses and summer programs

July

- Narrow your college list to colleges you will be applying to in the fall
- Look at college applications online and start your college essays
- Check the bhs.edu website for scholarships, Open Houses

August

- Make sure your senior year schedule is challenging
- If you will be taking a college course at FCC, pick up an OPEN CAMPUS packet to complete (at BHS or online at bhs.edu)
- Follow up with teachers to make sure they will write your college of recommendation
- Provide your school counselor with a completed Brag Sheet and Student Resume in order for them to write your letter of recommendation
- Check the bhs.edu website for scholarships and Open Houses