

# NPHS 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE COLLEGE COUNSELING TIMELINE

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register for Oct/Nov/Dec <a href="#">SAT</a> and/or <a href="#">ACT</a> with writing (if you have not taken them yet, are not satisfied with scores, or if you have learned more content or test-taking strategies since you first took them). Not required for community college. Need test prep for free? Click <a href="#">HERE</a>.</li> <li>Check your transcript for graduation status and your senior schedule for required coursework. 12<sup>th</sup> grade should be as rigorous as any other year, and you should strive to earn good grades in every course.</li> <li>Access your <a href="#">Naviance</a> account to research colleges, majors and applications. Add colleges to your account, and pay close attention to the following:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standardized test (SAT, ACT) dates &amp; deadlines</li> <li>Application due dates</li> <li>Financial aid due dates and deadlines</li> <li>Deadlines to send test scores, transcripts, and any other materials to your choice of colleges</li> <li>Letter(s) of Recommendation requirements</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>IF your colleges require a letter of recommendation, ask your counselor and teacher(s) IN-PERSON if they would be willing to write them. If so, add them to Naviance. Follow <a href="#">THESE</a> steps (depending on the college system).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you intend to apply to any college EARLY, read <a href="#">THIS</a>. Even if you do not intend to apply early, you can begin the application process (even though NP Counselors recommend that you wait to apply until AFTER until you attend a Workshop) by clicking <a href="#">HERE</a>.</li> <li>Attend college representative visits and college programs. Information is available in <a href="#">Naviance</a> and the Career Center.</li> <li>Research scholarship opportunities via Naviance or your colleges of choice and, if you meet the application criteria, APPLY!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend Application Workshops at NPHS! Click <a href="#">HERE</a> to determine which one(s)...</li> <li>Take SAT or ACT with writing (if still needed) and <b>send scores</b> to all colleges to which you will apply. For <a href="#">CSU</a>, use code <b>3594</b> to send SAT scores to CSU Mentor/<b>ALL</b> CSU campuses and/or send ACT to one CSU campus and use CSU Mentor to share with <b>ALL</b> other campuses. For <a href="#">UC</a>, if you send official SAT scores to one UC campus, UC will share with <b>ALL</b> UC campuses.</li> <li>Attend NPHS college visits.</li> <li>Continue college research, add colleges to your college list in Naviance with accurate <i>type</i> (regular/early/rolling) of application. If a college accepts the <b>Common Application</b>, indicate if you are <i>"Applying via Common App."</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go to college websites and review admission requirements, application deadlines, fees and financial aid information. Determine if these schools will need official copies of your transcript at the time you apply. Common App schools typically <b>DO</b> need transcripts, and UC/CSU schools typically do <b>NOT</b> require transcripts until June (but some require them sooner...pay attention to your UC/CSU Portal(s)). To have a transcript sent electronically, do <a href="#">THIS</a>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>If you are applying to any college that requires a letter of recommendation, complete the Brag Survey in Naviance. <b>NPHS deadline is November 15<sup>th</sup></b>. Also, try to bribe your parents to get them to fill out the Parent Brag survey! Be sure to follow <a href="#">THIS</a> as you apply to colleges.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send in any "early decision" or "early action" applications by the stated deadlines. Some schools have "rolling admissions," so you may be able to submit your application early if you are ready.</li> <li>If you are an athlete, and plan to play a sport in college, register for <a href="#">NCAA</a>.</li> <li>Continue to apply for scholarships.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take SAT (if still needed) and <b>send scores</b> to all colleges to which you will apply. For <a href="#">CSU</a>, use code <b>3594</b> to send SAT scores to CSU Mentor/<b>ALL</b> CSU campuses. For <a href="#">UC</a>, if you send official SAT scores to one UC campus, UC will share with <b>ALL</b> UC campuses.</li> <li>Finalize your list of <i>"colleges I'm applying to"</i> with accurate <i>type</i> of application. If the college accepts the Common Application, indicate if you are <i>"Applying via Common App."</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By Nov.15, request required letters of recommendation, complete brag survey and connect your Naviance account to your Common App account (if you are applying to any Common App schools) and turn in paper <a href="#">FERPA</a> (if needed) for any non-Common App schools that require letters of recommendation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Send in UC and CSU applications as early in the month as possible and prior to the <b>11/30</b> deadline.</li> <li>Keep your grades up. Colleges <b>do</b> look at 1<sup>st</sup> term and year-end grades.</li> <li>Continue to complete applications, observing all deadlines and instructions.</li> <li>If required, <a href="#">request official transcripts</a> via the Registrar to be mailed (non- Common App./non-electronic only).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take SAT or ACT with writing (if still needed) <b>LAST ADMINISTRATION ACCEPTED BY MANY COLLEGES!</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you haven't already done so, <b>send official SAT and ACT test scores to all colleges to which you are applying.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>Schedule visits or required interviews.</li> <li>Complete and submit any college Applications with December deadlines.</li> <li>Investigate the <a href="#">Financial Aid</a> process and prepare whatever documents you may need.</li> <li>Fill out the <a href="#">CSS Profile</a> if you applied to any of the participating colleges.</li> <li>If you have applied to any schools for early decision, you may receive decisions during this month. When you decide which school to attend, you need to notify that school by letter of your commitment, and submit required deposit check. Many schools require this notification letter to be postmarked as early as mid-January for early decision.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend Financial Aid Night(s) and complete Financial Aid applications.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</a>, information is available in the Career Center and FAFSA may be sent any time after Jan. 1. at <a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>. <b>GET IT DONE EARLY!</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>Submit any college applications and supporting documents for January deadlines.</li> <li>Complete financial aid applications for your school(s) of choice.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If required, fill out Mid-Year Report reports and <a href="#">request transcripts</a> (non-Common App/non-electronic only).</li> </ul> </li> <li>If you are a male, over 18, you must register with the <a href="#">Selective Service</a> or you will not be eligible for financial aid.</li> <li>Continue to look for scholarships.</li> </ul>

FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that colleges have received all your information and inquire about housing.</li> <li>• Some college acceptance letters may arrive. Update your admissions status in your college list in <a href="#">Naviance</a>.</li> <li>• If you completed the FAFSA, you should receive your <a href="#">Student Aid Report (SAR)</a>. Review, make any necessary corrections and return it to the FAFSA processor. If you completed the FAFSA using estimated parent tax information but now they have filed IRS forms, the FAFSA must be updated. The schools listed on your application will also receive those results. Review your results and make any necessary corrections.</li> <li>• Continue to look for scholarships, watch due dates.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If applying to any <a href="#">community college</a>, go to school website for application and sign up for community college placement tests.</li> <li>• Submit tax forms to the Financial Aid Office of colleges who request them.</li> <li>• Contact colleges with any new information or if you have had a schedule change or D or F grade.</li> <li>• Watch for Student Aid Report (<a href="#">SAR</a>) to arrive, giving amount of student aid for which you are eligible. Make sure your colleges receive it. Keep the original.</li> <li>• Register for AP tests.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive admission decisions from all colleges to which you applied. From those schools that accept you, compare your acceptance letters and your financial aid and scholarship offers.</li> <li>• Decide where you want to go, by (re)visiting if necessary, reviewing cost, and going to information meetings.</li> <li>• Wait-listed? Write letter of interest and ask for help. Most colleges decide in July. DENIED? You can appeal, but FOLLOW THE EXACT INSTRUCTIONS on the college website!</li> <li>• Make your acceptance choice. Find out what deposits you will be required to make to ensure your place.</li> <li>• When you decide which school to attend, you need to notify that school by letter of your commitment and submitting required deposit check. Many schools require this notification letter to be postmarked by <b>May 1</b>.</li> <li>• Submit applications to community college and attend orientation.</li> <li>• CSU and UC campuses will notify you if you must take their placement tests.</li> <li>• Continue to look for scholarships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mail in deposit to selected college by May 1. Sign and return financial award.</li> <li>• Fill out loan applications.</li> <li>• If required, take the UC – Entry Level Writing or Math exam.</li> <li>• If required, CSU placement exams.</li> <li>• Complete the Senior Survey in <a href="#">Naviance!</a></li> <li>• Fill out housing forms, if available.</li> <li>• Start looking for a summer job – you may need the money!</li> <li>• Take Advanced Placement exams, if applicable.</li> <li>• If you were placed on a waiting list for a particular school, and you decided to wait for an opening, contact that school and let them know you are still interested.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to work toward earning good grades (“senioritis” even now could negatively affect your admission status).</li> <li>• Pay attention to deadlines for fees including tuition, room, and board.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Request a final transcript</a> from the registrar to be sent to the school you will be attending.</li> <li>• Attend all advising days, open houses, orientation programs, and registration offered by your college.</li> <li>• Send thank you notes for any scholarships you have received.</li> <li>• Graduation!</li> </ul>