

Junior to Senior

Are you college/career ready?

Objectives

- Students will review graduation requirements.
- Students will be able to explain the importance of a college visit and how to schedule one.
- Students will be able to explain the different college entrance exams.
- Students will be aware of the importance of starting a resume now.

WHAT YOU NEED TO GRADUATE....

8 English Credits

6 Science Credits (must have Life Science)

6 Math Credits (must have completed Algebra I)

6 Social Science Credits + 1 Economics

1 Health + 1 C3 + 4 PE Credits or PE Exemptions

44 total credits (minimum)

263 on Iowa Assessments- You will take this the first week in April

**MUST PASS ALL CLASSES AND RECEIVE 263 MINIMUM ON
IOWA ASSESSMENT IN JUNIOR YEAR TO EARN
RELEASE/LATE ARRIVAL IN SENIOR YEAR**



JUNIOR YEAR TIMELINE, semester 1

November

- * Research college, military, & apprenticeship options
- * Look into/sign up for test prep sessions

January

- * Begin scheduling college visits
- * Organize scholarship info by deadline
- * Look into/sign up for test prep sessions

December

- * Research scholarships for Juniors: can use www.ICANSucceed.org/scholarships
- * Look into/sign up for test prep sessions

JUNIOR YEAR TIMELINE, semester 2

February

- * Schedule high school courses for next year
- * Register for April ACT/Sign up at West for ACCUPLACER (Feb. 15th)
- * Sign up/attend test prep sessions

March

- * Continue with college visits & scholarships
- * Attend test prep sessions

April

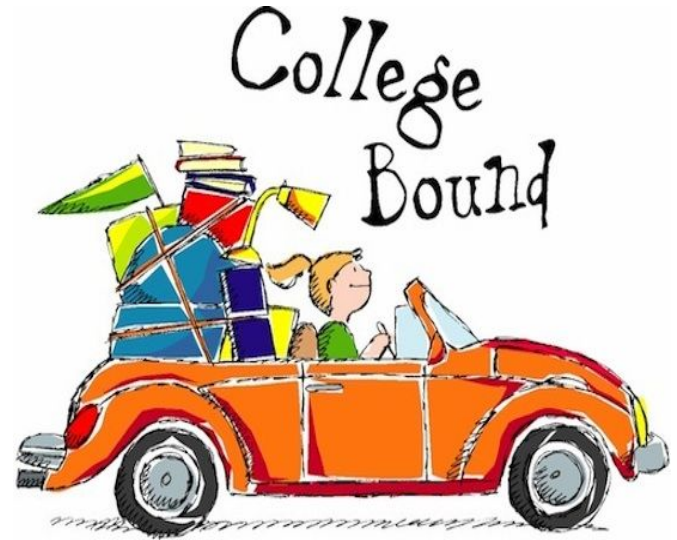
- * Continue with college visits & scholarships
- * Take ACT/take or retake ACCUPLACER

ACT vs ACCUPLACER

- **ACT**---entrance assessment for 4-year colleges or universities
 - Pre registration required online at www.actstudent.org
 - Timed, Saturday morning at West
 - Cost \$46 w/o writing (may qualify for waiver: Talent Search, income, etc.)
 - \$64 w/writing portion--check college recommendations
 - Usually take ACT in April of Junior year (deadline to sign up is March 9th)
 - SAT---usually for colleges on Coasts & South....check the college!!!
- **ACCUPLACER**---entrance assessment for 2-year colleges
 - Contact community college to set up time or offered at West on Thursday, February 15th at 9:00am (morning of P/T conference day)
 - Untimed (usually takes about 90 minutes)
 - Free the first time (or retake \$5 per part: Reading, Math, Writing)
 - Juniors usually take during 2nd semester of Junior year

COLLEGE VISITS, part 1

- Research suggests that you start investigating now!
 - 2 year? 4-year?
 - Big or small campus?
 - Cost of college?
 - Does the college have the major in which you are interested?
 - On campus or off campus housing?
 - Public or private college?
 - How far away from home?



COLLEGE VISITS, part 2

- College visits...
 - Generally occur during 2nd semester of Junior year & summer before Senior year
 - Parent/guardian notifies attendance office at West
 - Offer: a tour of campus, discussion of different majors, review application process, learn admission requirements, discuss financial aid process, and Q & A with current students
 - Get a feel for the college, prioritize your college choices & start to eliminate other colleges
 - <https://www.hawkeyecollege.edu/>



RESUME

- Your resume will come in handy when you are applying for scholarships, need a reference letter, and are applying for jobs!
- It should include contact info (name, mailing address, email, phone number), extracurricular activities, service learning occasions, specialized trainings/certifications, work history, and possibly your cumulative GPA and college prep course taken in high school.
- A well written resume may help open doors for you! Ask someone to review!
- Sample resume:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bAsRCGWCY8EFCp9Y8s/edit>



TIPS FOR YOUR JUNIOR YEAR

- Meet with a college counselor
- Keep taking challenging courses
 - Keep your grades up
- Make a list of questions before your college visits
- Talk with college students when you visit schools
- Learn about possible scholarships
- Try to be academically prepared for the ACT by spring



What can you do NOW to be college/career ready?

- Earn the best grades possible in your classes
- Enroll in challenging courses---the easiest road to high school graduation is not a benefit in the long run
- IMPROVE ATTENDANCE!
- Engage in activities and opportunities for growth
- Exercise the skill of prioritizing your time
- Check into & sign up for test prep sessions
- Ask 2-3 reliable adults to be a potential reference for you....someone not related (possibly a teacher, administrator, counselor, employer, coach, church leader, neighbor, or volunteer supervisor)

LATER THIS YEAR....

- Scheduling for your Senior year begins the end of January and ends the first week of March...
 - Start to think about classes you need & want for your Senior year
 - What are classes your specific college of interest requires for entrance and/or may be helpful for your college major?
 - Need a specific appointment with your school counselor to discuss?
Schedule it online now!
<http://www.waterlooschools.org/schoolsites/westhigh/>
- College Planning (5:00-6:00pm) and Financial Aid (6:00-7:00pm) presentations are set on Thursday, February 15th during Parent/Teacher Conferences in the Little Theatre at West High.