



College Planning Checklists

Grade 9

- Meet with your school (guidance) counselor
- Get used to the academic demands of Stuy & use AIS services as needed
- Engage in your classes and participate in class discussions
- Activate your Naviance account
- Add your parents to your Naviance account
- Explore extracurricular opportunities at Stuy and try a few activities that look interesting
- Plan for a productive summer activity; use the opportunity program listing in Talos
- Attend Stuy spring [College Office events](#) that are open to younger students (CUNY Night, Spring Into Admissions, etc.)
- Attend college counselor presentations for freshmen in science lab classes in May
- Make sure your parents attend the Stuy Naviance workshop
- Read "*Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be*" and check out lesshighschoolstress.com
- Complete your summer activity (but make sure to rest and have some fun, too!)

Grade 10

- Take the [PSAT](#) in October at Stuy
- Make sure your parent attends the Sophomore Parent Night (which includes the College Office)
- Continue to perform the best that you can in your classes and use AIS whenever you need
- Stay involved in your core extracurriculars or try something new; aim to find things where you can get deeply involved over the rest of your high school career, but don't spread yourself too thin
- Use the career exploration tools in Naviance to learn about different college majors or careers that may match your interests (Strengths Explorer, etc)
- Attend winter College Office presentation for sophomores
- Meet with your school counselor and plan for junior year courses
- Apply for summer programs (use Talos opportunity program listing)
- Attend College Office presentations open to younger students
- Decide when in your junior year you would like to take the [ACT](#) or [SAT](#), and then how & when you are going to prepare for it
- Complete your summer program (and have some fun and get some sleep!)
- If you're ready, use the college search tools in Naviance to identify possible colleges of interest, and learn more about them either directly through campus visits or virtual programs, or their respective websites

Grade 11

- Take the [PSAT/NMSQT](#) in October at Stuy
- Read the College Handbook for your class (posted in Naviance)
- Do the best that you can in your classes & use AIS when necessary
- Stay active in your extracurriculars; try to take on meaningful roles within them
- Register for and take either the ACT or SAT (school day SAT takes place in March)
- Attend junior College Office presentations in the winter
- Make sure your parents attend Junior College Night in the winter
- Plan for your summer activity
- Complete the SSR Survey in Naviance
- Complete the College Planning Survey in Naviance
- Meet with your assigned college counselor
- Research and directly engage with colleges of interest, including those suggested by your assigned college counselor (visit campuses, attend college fairs & information sessions, etc.)
- Have your SSR meeting with your school (guidance) counselor
- Ask two teachers for college rec letters
- Attend **all** College Office spring presentations & events for juniors

Summer Before Senior Year

- If you will re-take the ACT or SAT, prepare and register for the August or October exams
- Create Common Application account at www.commonapp.org
- Write drafts of your college essay (personal statement) and supplements for colleges in which you are most interested
- Determine if and how your prospective colleges use an interview
- Complete your summer activity
- **DO NOT SUBMIT ANY COLLEGE APPLICATIONS**
- As always, build in some time to rest and have some fun!

Grade 12-Fall Term

- Attend senior College Office admissions process presentation
- Ensure that your parents attend Senior College Night
- Meet with your assigned college counselor to discuss your plans; if you're applying early, register for your appointment asap
- Match your Common App and Naviance accounts
- Assign your teacher recommenders in Naviance
- Continue to research and connect with prospective colleges
- Finalize your college essay and any college specific supplements; use Stuy staff for feedback
- Determine any early application plans and clearly indicate them in your Naviance "Colleges I'm Applying To" list
- Attend the College Office Financial Aid presentation and make sure your parents attend as well
- File the [FAFSA](#) after October 1 but before any of your colleges' financial aid deadlines
- If applicable, do the same with the [CollegeBoard CSS Profile](#)
- Decide if you will share your ACT or SAT scores with any test-optional colleges
- Share your ACT/SAT scores with your early colleges via the test agency or by [self-reporting](#)
- Submit your early applications
- Check your application portals to make sure your early applications are complete
- Interview for any colleges to which you applied early that use an interview
- Share early results with your assigned college counselor and report them in Naviance
- If admitted to a college via binding Early Decision, withdraw any other applications and confirm your enrollment at the college
- Submit any Regular Decision applications and submit/self-report ACT or SAT scores wherever applicable

Grade 12-Spring Term

- Thank your teachers for writing a rec letter for you (card/email)
- Apply for private scholarships shared with you via College Office emails
- Check your application portals to make sure your RD applications are complete (including financial aid forms and supporting documents)
- Interview where applicable for your RD colleges
- Continue to perform the best that you can in your classes; avoid “senioritis”!
- Share your RD admissions results with your assigned college counselor and list them all in Naviance
- Investigate the colleges that admitted you and decide which is the best fit
- Evaluate the financial aid offers of each college to determine true out-of-pocket costs and potential debt upon graduation
- If you’re borrowing to cover any college costs, carefully evaluate [loan options](#)
- Attend admitted student events for your colleges
- Confirm enrollment at **one** college by May 1 and decline your other offers of admission
- Accept your college’s financial aid offer
- Schedule orientation
- Submit any required health and housing forms for your college
- Graduate and enjoy the start of the next chapter of your life!