

# JUNIOR/SENIOR CHECKLIST

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*College = ANY education beyond high school that results in a high quality degree or credential such as a military training, license, certificate, associate's degree, bachelor's degree, and beyond.*

- ☐ Continue to challenge yourself academically.
- ☐ Review your junior/senior schedule. Will it prepare you for college? Does it meet college admissions standards?
- ☐ Clarify your educational goals, needs, and preferences. (Check out CareerCruising.com)
- ☐ Develop a preliminary list of colleges or training institutions that could help you meet these goals.
- ☐ Decide which colleges you want to visit. Develop a list of questions to ask. Talk to students you know who attend/have attended. Visit spring, summer, or fall. Check websites for details. Consider "reach" and "safe" schools in your selection process.
  - REACH/LONGSHOT = colleges where your chances of admission are less than 50/50.
  - COMPETITIVE/POSSIBLE (50/50) = colleges where the likelihood of your admission is about 50/50
  - BACKUP/SAFETY = colleges where you likely be admitted.
- ☐ Talk with college representatives visiting Muskegon Catholic Central. (Listen for announcements and check your Career Cruising mail).
- ☐ All juniors take the ACT test in March. Register for the ACT test again if needed. (Refer to ACT.org for test dates and registration deadlines. You must register online.) **Seniors** should retake in September, October, or December.
- ☐ Register for the SAT tests in September if required by prospective college. Take the SAT tests in June or October. ([www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org))
- ☐ Complete college applications.
- ☐ Seniors: apply for financial aid (FAFSA). Online registration begins in January. Complete and submit by March 1.
- ☐ Register in January for a PIN at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov).
- ☐ Complete any additional financial aid applications that may be part of each specific college application. CSS profile, information at collegeboard.com.
- ☐ Apply for all scholarships that might apply to you. This is an underused resource!
- ☐ Apply for local scholarships: Community Foundation for Muskegon County, Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, Gerber Foundation, and more.