



► **PREPARING FOR THE BIG DAY**
CHECKLISTS & TIMELINES:
COLLEGE APPLICATIONS,
FINANCIAL AID PLANNING,
ETC..... 1



► **EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS**
COLLEGE PLANNING
NIGHT, COLLEGE
TOURS & CHARLESTON
COLLEGE FAIR
2007..... 1



► **IT'S TESTING TIME!**
SAT & ACT TESTING
DATES, LOCATIONS &
REGISTRATION INFO ...2

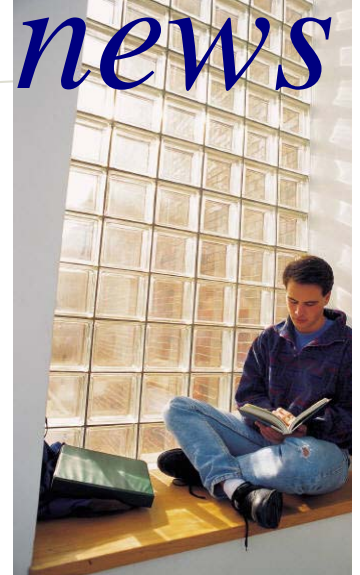
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JICS Guidance & College Planning

Get ready for the adventure of a lifetime!

How you plan now will determine the educational opportunities available to you.

news



Freshmen Year

1. Begin taking the strong academic courses – challenge yourself.
2. Develop good study skills and organizational habits.
3. Think about what subjects you like, what outside activities you enjoy, and what academic areas you want to explore more in depth.
4. Get involved: clubs, organizations that you have an interest in, community service projects, school service projects, athletics, music groups, etc.
5. Get to know your teachers and your counselor.
6. Try different things throughout the year. Don't be hesitant to try new things (drama, sports, choir, etc.).

Sophomore Year

1. Continue work on good study skills and organizational habits.
2. Continue taking challenging courses in your areas of strength.
3. Attend the Charleston area College Fair.
4. Take the PSAT in October.
5. Stay committed to activities, subjects, sports you find most fulfilling.
6. Take sample college tours on the Web. Use college search tools such as Embark.com, Collegeview.com, Collegenet.com to begin the search process.
7. Take summer visits to some schools that you might find interesting. Consider your options for summer work or academic programs.

Junior Year

1. Try to learn about distinctive features of many colleges & talk with your parents about college planning.
 2. Challenge yourself -improve your grades.
 3. Visit colleges during breaks.
 4. Attend the Charleston area College Fair.
 5. Take the PSAT in October. Take the practice tests provided in the PSAT bulletin mailed to your home.
- (January - May)**
6. Meet with your counselor.
 7. Register for spring administrations of SAT I, ACT, and/or SAT II: Subject Tests.
 8. Involve yourself in extracurricular activities with quality, depth of commitment, and initiative in activities that are important to you.

(June, July, August)

10. Expand your horizons and gain experience. Admission committees at highly selective institutions increasingly believe that how you use vacations reveals your priorities and resourcefulness; what you do shows people what you value.
11. Visit colleges, taking campus tours and attending information sessions wherever you can.
12. Gather catalogs and application materials, keeping track of what materials you have or need.
13. Gather ideas for college-application essays by keeping a journal about significant books, issues, experiences, and thoughts. Go online to a college's web site to get an idea of what essay questions might be asked.
14. Develop an informal resume of what you are involved in including school activities and outside activities that might include scouting, church, work, etc.

continued on page 2

mark your calendars!

JICS College Planning Night.....October 25, 2007 7:00PM in the Ark
Fall Charleston College Fair.....November 1, 2007
JICS College Tour to SC Schools.....October 18 & 19, 2007 (10th, 11th & 12th grades)



Senior Year

- (September–October)** 1. Narrow your list, meet with your counselor to discuss application choices and strategy.
2. Register for SAT I, ACT, and/or SAT II: Subject Tests. Sign up to take specific tests required by each of your choices.
3. Choose teachers to write recommendations. Ask them in September to write on your behalf
4. Use Thanksgiving Break to make college trips. Make appointments well in advance.
- (November–December)** 5. Meet deadlines for an Early Decision or an Early Action application.
6. Request that the College Board or ACT officially notify each college you applied to of SAT I, SAT II: Subject Test, or ACT scores. JICS cannot officially report these for you.
7. Confirm with your counselor that your final college list is balanced and fills your requirements.
- (January–April)** 8. Do your best on semester examinations.
9. Inform your counselor if a college notifies you of a decision or a request for additional material.
10. Fill out and submit the CSS Profile, FAFSA, or other needed financial aid forms as soon as possible after January 1.
11. By April 15, you should have heard from all colleges to which you applied. In the next two weeks, make a final decision and notify in writing all colleges that admitted you whether you will enroll.
12. A non-refundable enrollment deposit is due at the college of your choice on or before May 1.
13. Show your counselor a copy of any scholarship or merit-based award that you are offered by the college you decide to attend.



It is very important to check each colleges' testing requirements. Most colleges require either the SAT or the ACT and will take the highest score from either test. Most schools will take the highest verbal and the highest math score from various SAT testing dates. A few schools (i.e. the University of California schools) will only take the highest combined score from a single test date. ACT scores are used for the test date with the highest composite score. There is no combination of scores for the ACT.

There are some colleges and universities that have other testing options or do not use the SAT or ACT at all in the admissions process. A listing of these schools may be found at www.fairtest.org.

Getting the most from College testing

Important information parents and students need to know about SAT and ACT tests

- Juniors should take the **SAT I** in the spring of their junior year. Take into account factors such as athletic commitments, social engagements, and family travel when deciding which date is best for you. Retake the **SAT I** in October, November, or December, 2007. Juniors should take the **ACT** in April or June 2007 and then retake it in October, 2007.
- The **ACT** is administered by The American College Testing Program; the **SAT I** and **SAT Subject Tests** are administered by the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB). **SAT** Subject Tests are subject-specific tests. It helps to study for them and to take them as soon as possible after completing the appropriate course work.
- **You cannot take SAT I and SAT Subject Test on the same day, but you can take one, two, or three SAT II on one day.**
Not all SAT II are offered on all testing dates.
Some schools require or recommend particular SAT II. Students will need to find out which
- Registration materials for the **ACT** and **SAT** are available in the Guidance Office. It is **your responsibility** to register for the appropriate test on the desired date. The easiest Registration option is to complete the forms online. (useful links: www.collegeboard.com www.actstudent.org) Paper forms are also available in the College Counseling Office. Porter-Gaud School Code, 410412, is used to register for the SAT and ACT.
- **SAT or ACT scores do not appear on transcript because colleges require that students have official scores sent directly by the College Board or ACT. To have scores officially reported, write each college code number test on your registration form or file an addition score online.**
- All SAT and SAT II scores will appear on a score report. A student may not pick and choose which SAT scores are sent. ACT does allow you to pick which test date you wish to have sent to the colleges.

COLLEGE TESTING AT A GLANCE: Dates, Locations & Preparation

ACT	
www.actstudent.org	
JICS School Code: 410-399	
Test dates:	Deadline:
10/27/07	9/21/07
12/8/07	11/2/07
2/9/08	1/4/08
4/12/08	3/7/08
6/14/08	5/9/08

SAT	
www.collegeboard.com	
JICS School Code: 410-399	
Test dates:	Deadline:
11/3/07	10/2/07
12/1/07	10/30/07
1/26/08	12/26/07
3/1/08	1/29/08
5/3/08	4/1/08
6/7/08	5/6/08