**College Prep Timeline**

**Junior**

- **Fall**
  - Get the best grades in the toughest classes
  - Prep for the SAT or ACT
  - Prep for your AP test(s)
  - Research and apply for rad summer programs and jobs (related to your major = bonus)

- **Winter**
  - Take SAT or ACT for the first time
  - Rock your AP Test(s)
  - Finalize rad summer program or job
  - Research schools and start developing your college list

- **Spring**
  - Visit 2-3 colleges
  - Attend summer program (or) Work summer job (or) Both
  - Begin your personal statement

**Senior**

- **September**
  - Attend college fairs
  - Take the SAT or ACT for second time
  - Request your recommendation letters
  - Decide if you'll apply Early Action or Early Decision

- **October**
  - Finalize your college list
  - Finish your personal statement
  - Start your supplemental essays
  - Submit your Early Action or Early Decision application (if applicable)
  - Submit your FAFSA: Oct 1 (earlier = better)

- **November & December**
  - Finish your personal statement and supplemental essays
  - Last chance to take the SAT or ACT
  - Arts and Theater students:
    - Finalize portfolios, audition tapes, writing samples
    - Send official test scores to colleges
    - Finalize and submit all your applications

- **Winter**
  - Fight off Senioritis
  - Apply for scholarships
  - Keep getting the best grades in the toughest classes
  - Send thank you card to everyone who helped you with college apps

- **Spring**
  - Hear back from colleges
  - Decide where you'll spend the next four years of your life
  - Send in deposit by May 1
  - Rock your finals
  - Relax. Because you did it.

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**College Essay**

**Content**

What should I write about?

**Structure**

How do I structure my essay?

**Details**

How do I stand out?

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[www.collegeessayguy.com](http://www.collegeessayguy.com)