

Junior Planning Calendar & Guide

Important Dates & Timelines

2023-2024/ HHS School Counseling Department

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

PSAT TEST DATE

Wednesday, October 11th: All juniors will have the option to take the PSAT offered at HHS (electronically)

CTC ASSEMBLY

October TBD : Presentation on the CTC programs. Return permission form to Franklin Counseling Office to attend tours of CTC campuses

COLLEGE REP VISITS

WIN periods throughout the fall: Reps from numerous schools will visit the high school throughout the fall semester to meet with students! Sign up in Schoology "Class of 2025".

SAT TEST DATE

www.collegeboard.org/sat to register and look up testing dates/locations

October 7th: offered at HHS. *Deadline to register is 9/8/23!*

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

PSAT SCORE REPORT & INTERPRETATION

PSAT/NMSQT score reports will be distributed around mid-December.

COUNTY COLLEGE FAIR @Conestoga Valley High School

November TBD (one of the largest college fairs in the county!)

ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)

December TBD: Students interested in potential military enlistment as well as anyone looking for career guidance and feedback are encouraged to take the ASVAB. Sign ups will be posted in the Schoology Class of 2025 page. (There is no obligation to the military to take the test.)

CTC TOURS

Tours will be held during the school day for all students who would like to learn more about the offerings at the CTC. *Students must sign up in advance and turn in a permission slip.*

October 31st (AM session): Brownstown Campus tour

November 1st (PM session): Mount Joy Campus tour

November 2nd (AM session): Willow Street Campus tour

JANUARY

COLLEGE/POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL SEARCH PROCESS

If you haven't done so already, now is the time to begin the college and/or post-secondary school search

process. Get familiar with Xello, CollegeBoard, military, trade school and college websites and other available resources. ***Make a list of about 10-20 schools/programs to research.***

CTC APPLICATIONS

Approximately Early-January: applications will be due to the Guidance Office. Exact date TBD.

WINTER KEYSTONE EXAMS

Keystone testing takes place in January. Any students who need to retake a Keystone Exam will be contacted directly. See your counselor if you have questions.

FEBRUARY

COURSE PLANNING & SELECTION

Consider (and re-consider!) your choice of senior year classes. Contact military reps, colleges, trade, and technical schools on your list to make sure you are selecting courses that are needed for acceptance. Make certain you have an appropriate and competitive schedule that will prepare you for your selected pathway after high school.

PROSPECTIVE COLLEGE ATHLETES www.eligibilitycenter.org

All student-athletes considering playing at the college level should register (online) with the NCAA Eligibility Center website for initial academic eligibility review. You must also have SAT scores and a high school transcript sent to them at the end of 11th grade.

MARCH/APRIL

SAT TEST DATE www.collegeboard.org/sat

March 9th: March SAT Test date offered at HHS. *Deadline to register is 2/23/24!*

AP EXAM REGISTRATION

Sign up to take AP Exams (details will be posted in Schoology in Spring 2024)

COLLEGE VISITS

Plan when you can visit college campuses. Identify specific colleges you may want to visit. Call or go to their websites to find admissions events or set up a visit. Contact admissions with colleges whose campuses you are not able to visit to show demonstrated interest.

FUTURE PLANNING FAIR @ HHS

April (date TBD)

All 11th grade students will go to the Buchanan gym to interact with and gather information from representatives from a wide variety of colleges, military branches, and other postsecondary opportunities.

MAY/JUNE

SAT TEST DATES www.collegeboard.org/sat

June 1st: offered at HHS. *Deadline to register is 5/17/24!*

AP EXAMS

Early May (based on specific exam)

Must register on College Board & pay for exams via Total Registration (will be posted in Schoology Class of

2025) SPRING KEYSTONE EXAMS

Keystones take place in May. Any students who need to retake a Keystone Exam will be contacted directly.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Think of 2-3 individuals that you may want to request a letter of recommendation from to support any post-secondary plans. Think of a teacher who could speak about how you would make a valuable and successful addition to a college campus. If you are applying for a specific major, include an academic teacher that would be relevant. Create a “brag sheet” to help your recommenders write a more comprehensive letter of recommendation.

Junior Planning Checklist

GOAL SETTING

Determine what your goals are for after high school graduation

Career goals: Research and brainstorm possible career fields in your areas of interest or strength

Educational goals needed for your potential careers: 4-year college, 2-year/community college, technical/specialized school, military, work, etc.? What college major(s)?

Update your resume (in Xello) - save a copy in your personal files/google drive, so you have access to it after you graduate!

Plan a challenging, yet manageable course load for your senior year

A rigorous 12th grade schedule can aid in college admissions consideration *and* will look good to potential employers. Consider finding a job, internship, or volunteer opportunity in an area of interest.

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING

Sign up for entrance exams (ASVAB, SAT, or ACT)

Develop a plan for when you will take the SAT (or ACT). If you are even considering applying to colleges, you should take the SAT or ACT *at least once* before the end of the school year!

Utilize your PSAT score results to determine if you plan to do any prep work. Access the Khan Academy website to access free practice tests and prep materials

RESEARCH & PLAN AHEAD

Xello, CollegeBoard, college/program websites, and the Occupational Outlook Handbook are all great resources for investigating careers and the pathways to obtain the appropriate training

Make a list of the schools/programs that you are interested in - save them to your favorites in Xello

Start visiting schools

Attend rep visits at HHS

Search college/schools website for tours and open house info

Utilize breaks from school and other time off to schedule visits if possible

Work on your personal statements/essays

Look at each college's application for their requirements/topic. Not all colleges require an essay! This information is usually made available mid- to late summer before your senior year.

Plan to complete and submit your applications as well as request to have your high school transcripts sent in the first semester of senior year (make note of application deadlines!)

Many colleges have “rolling admissions” and “early action” deadlines that could give you additional scholarship or admissions consideration if you submit your applications sooner rather than later in senior year.

Potential College Athletes: Register for the NCAA Clearinghouse if you are interested in playing Division I or II sports www.eligibilitycenter.org

Request HS transcript at end of 11th grade!

Military Academies Applicants: If you plan to apply to any of the military academies, contact the admissions office(s) to begin the application process *by spring of 11th grade!*

ASK QUESTIONS (THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS)

★ *THIS IS A LOT TO MANAGE!* See your school counselor with any other questions about the future planning, career and college/post-secondary search, application, and transcript request processes.

Future Planning Resources

Class of 2025 Schoology Page

<https://schoology.hempfieldsd.org/course/2770571168/updates> *Contains all updates, forms, and information specific to the junior class

Xello (login is your student email + password) <https://start.students.hempfieldsd.org>

- College searches
- Request transcripts
- Request teacher recommendations
- Update resume
- Scholarship searches
- Career Exploration and Inventories

Additional College/Post-Secondary Searches

- www.collegeboard.org
- www.actstudent.org
- www.petersons.com
- www.collegeconfidential.com

Financial Aid and Scholarships

- www.fafsa.ed.gov
- www.pheaa.org
- www.fastweb.com
- www.finaidfacts.org

NCAA Clearinghouse www.eligibilitycenter.org

- *Quick Reference Guide:* http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Quick_Reference_Sheet.pdf

Standardized Testing

- SAT/ SAT Subject Tests: www.collegeboard.org
- ACT: www.actstudent.org

Admissions Essays

- *BigFuture Essays* (CollegeBoard): <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays>
- *Essays that worked* (Johns Hopkins University): <http://apply.jhu.edu/apply/essays/>

The Common Application (Common App) www.commonapp.org

- If you are applying to more than two schools that are Common App participants, you will want to consider applying via Common App

Career Research/Outlook <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

- The Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) provides information on what workers do; work environment;

education, training, and other qualifications; pay; job outlook; information on state data; similar occupations; and sources of additional information, for 324 occupational profiles, covering about 4/5 jobs in the economy.

Contacts

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