

Use this checklist to guide your path to college

Ninth Grade - Freshmen Year

- Building your academic record begins now – grades matter!
- Take classes and participate in experiences/activities that stretch you and allow you to learn new things.
- Look for leadership opportunities and get involved.
- Explore your interests - get involved inside and outside of the Clariden community.
- Keep a list of awards, accomplishments, leadership roles, and activities earned this year.
- Introduction to college counseling – parent & student seminar – January.
- Take the PSAT 8/9 – February.

Tenth Grade - Sophomore Year

- Take the PSAT/NMSQT – October.
- Take Pre-ACT – November.
- Attend sophomore student and parent college seminar – January.
- Meet with your Clariden college advisor – winter.
- Attend National College Fair (Dallas/Ft. Worth)– spring*.
- Keep your grades up!
- Add awards, accomplishments, leadership roles and activities to your list.
- Look for leadership opportunities and get involved.
- Consider plans for a meaningful post-sophomore summer experience. Consider summer college experiences.
- Start to think about what type of college/universities you might wish to attend. While vacationing check some out.
- Possible ACT/SAT test prep.

Eleventh Grade - Junior Year

- Attend junior student and parent college seminar – September.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT – October.
- Take Pre-ACT - November
- College Readiness 1 – Clariden Course
 - college application/admissions process
 - college essays
 - ACT/SAT test prep
 - List of 20-25 colleges/universities identified
 - Self-assessments and college insight
- Take official SAT at Clariden - March
- Keep your grades up!
- Add awards, accomplishments, leadership roles and activities to your list.
- Look for leadership opportunities and get involved.
- Consider plans for a meaningful post-junior summer experience. Consider summer college experiences.
- Attend the National College Fair (Dallas/Ft. Worth) – spring*
- Attend area offered admissions receptions for colleges and universities – late winter/spring
- Visit college campus virtually or in person while on summer vacation
- Begin standardized testing – ACT/SAT/SAT subject tests/AP tests – winter/spring/summer

Twelfth Grade - Senior Year

- Attend senior student and parent college seminar – September.
- If applicable take standardized testing ACT/SAT.
- Add awards, accomplishments, leadership roles and activities to your list.
- Look for leadership opportunities and get involved.

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Twelfth Grade - Senior Year (continued)

- College Readiness 2 – Clariden Course:
 - Trim list of colleges/universities to 5-12 schools - August
 - Apply to 5-12 colleges/universities – Early Action favorable – Fall deadlines
 - Write college essays – edit & proofread – Meet Fall deadlines
 - Ask for letters of recommendation to be written by teachers and college advisor – Fall
 - Send test scores to colleges/universities – Fall/Winter
 - Apply for financial aid/scholarships – completion of FAFSA by parents – Fall
 - Identify scholarships and apply – Fall/Winter/Spring
 - Mock Interviews
 - Transition to college
- Keep your grades up!
- National Candidate Reply Date – May 1 – commit to your college/commit to housing.
- Set up your summer college orientation. The earlier the better. – May/June.
- Final Clariden Transcript sent to college/university you committed to – June.

Congratulations! You are college bound!