

Timeline for College Bound Juniors
Pacific Grove High School Counseling Department

July and August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take challenging courses; note progress towards graduation and college. • Visit college campuses. Be sure to call ahead for tour and open house schedules. • Apply for a social security card for work or for college. • If under 18, obtain or renew your work permit.
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign up for the PSAT/NMSQT, which is given in October. • Begin to research scholarship opportunities. • Get more involved with your extracurricular activities.
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take the PSAT/NMSQT to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation program recognition and scholarships. Be sure to check 'yes' for Student Search Service to hear from colleges and scholarships. • Make a list of college characteristics that are important to you. • Go to college fairs in your area.
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gear up for mid-year finals. • Learn more about financial aid. • Talk to your parents about financing college and use the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) Calculator to estimate how much your family will be expected to pay. • Continue your practice for the SAT. • To attend a service (Armed Forces) Academy, contact your local Congressperson.
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with your counselor to discuss your college plans. • Use your PSAT/NMSQT Score Report Plus for personalized feedback on your actual skills, and to help you get ready for college and the SAT.
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start a file of your college brochures and information. Before you know it, they start pouring in. • Are you selecting courses for your senior year schedule soon? Consider AP courses. You can get college credit or advanced placement for qualifying grades on AP Exams at most colleges. • Consider college characteristics – private or public, two- or four-year, close to or far away? Then use Eureka, College Board's College Search's Advanced Search or www.CaliforniaColleges.edu to find colleges that match your needs.

February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to visit colleges this spring while they are in session. Be sure to schedule an interview with admissions officers when you visit campuses.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for a great summer opportunity – job, internship, or volunteer position. • Start preparing for AP Exams in May. Sign up on-line for the SAT at www.collegeboard.com or ACT's at www.act.org
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go to college fairs in your area. • If applicable, prepare writing samples, portfolios, audition tapes, and other materials for the fall college application season.
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact your Congressional Representative to apply for a military academy. • Athletes, to play college athletics, you must be certified by the N.C.A.A. • Make a resume of your accomplishments, activities, and work experiences. • Take AP exams and or SAT/ACT.
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize your summer plans. Try to find a job or activity that relates to your career interests. • Explore college majors that you might want to try. Be sure the colleges you are considering offer the majors in which you are interested. Use Eureka or College Board's College Majors Search to find out which majors are offered at which colleges. • If you are considering military academies or ROTC scholarships, contact your counselor before summer vacation.
July/August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register online early for fall SAT's, if necessary. • Request applications, brochures, and financial aid information from your colleges. • Visit college campuses this summer. Be sure to call ahead for tour and open house schedules. • Try to narrow your list to five to eight colleges by the end of the summer.