

HAMBURG AREA HIGH SCHOOL

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING TIMELINE FOR JUNIORS

11th

Fall

- Ensure that you have the credits and test scores needed to meet both HAHS and State graduation requirements (Act 158). Work hard to achieve the grades needed for your post-secondary plan.
- **Find a Career/Major** Continue to explore careers and areas of interest.
- **Use resources like SMART FUTURES** www.smartfutures.org (user/password is hasdlunchnumb/ lunchnumb), and www.pacareerzone.org and www.bls.gov
- **College-Bound** Did you take the **PSAT/NMSQT**? (offered once in October) In addition to SAT prep, this is the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship Service.
- **Career-Bound/Military** Take the **ASVAB** exam, a military entry exam that also provides results of student's knowledge and ability in several career areas. Offered once each year in October.
- Make a list of post-secondary schools that meet your most important criteria (major, size, location, cost, distance from home, academic rigor, graduation, rate, etc.) Here is a list of just a few college-search sites:
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>, www.petersons.com, <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov>, www.cappex.com, www.educationplanner.com. (apply to a variety of schools including good match, safety, and reach)
- Add colleges & Fin Aid resources on social media accounts!   
- **Job Shadow** Seek out opportunities to shadow various career field(s) of interest. Make an appointment with Mrs. Del Conte to learn more about shadowing or a PFE (internship) in senior year.
- **Student Athletes** If you are a competitive athlete and strong student you might be considering sports in college. *To play D1 or D2 athletics, students must register with the NCAA, have taken PS or Honors courses that meet the NCAA requirements, and have a core GPA of 2.3 or higher by the end of 11th grade (excludes all electives).*
- **Military Academy** Always wanted to join the military, strong academics, and physically fit? Consider an academy, offering the highest college experience in military development, discipline, honor, and leadership.

11th

Winter

- Register for an SAT www.sat.org / or ACT www.act.org in the Spring. (Counselors recommend ALL college-bound students still take a minimum of one test, even though many Colleges are test-optional)
- **HAHS Junior Post-Secondary Classroom Meeting:** January, in History class. Check for uploaded presentation on Counselor webpage> College TAB.
- **Visit colleges in person or participate virtually.** Pink College Visit form to excuse attendance on days that you miss school, located in Main Office.
- Have a discussion with parents about colleges in which you are interested? Examine majors offered, cost, etc.
- Develop your study plan for the SAT and/or the ACT (391-620 CEEB Code). Use PSAT results and Khan Academy. Most juniors will test in March, May, or June and again in the Fall of 12th grade.



2025 Junior Parent College Info Session + College Panel (reps from RACC, Alvernia, Albright, PSU Berks)

Thursday, February 6th starting at 6:00pm (panel @ 7:00pm)

- **Apprentice** Consider an apprentice program: Carpenter Union (Lebanon & Allentown #167), Electrical (IBEW Local 743), Elevator Union (Local 524), Finishing Trades/Drywall (Council 21), Fire Sprinkler Union (#692), Ironworker Union (Local), Plumbers (Local 524), Roofers (Local 30), Sheet Metal (Local 19-Hamburg)... to name a few <https://apprentice.org/>
- **Attend the Spring College Fair field trip, held @ Alvernia University- March 4, 2025.** Return permission form.
- Stay involved with your extracurricular activities. Colleges look for consistency and depth in activities.
- Consider whom you will ask to write your recommendations. Think about asking teachers who know you well and who will write positive letters about you. Letters from a coach, activity leader, or an adult who knows you well outside of school (e.g., volunteer work contact) are also valuable.
- Visit "Summer Programs" page of the HS Counselor webpage to learn about college & career experiences.
- Apply for a summer job or internship. Get experience to broaden your exposure to the work world.
- Be prepared to pay for college applications, transcripts, and testing fees in fall. Let counselor know if you qualify for a fee waiver.

- Visit the campuses of your top college choices. Virtual visits are available at www.collegeweeklive.com and other websites, but getting on the campus will be the most valuable experience.
- Send a thank-you note after each college interview or meeting with a college representative.
- If taking another SAT or ACT, begin your study plan now. www.sat.org or www.act.org
- Finalize any PFE experience with employer and Mrs. Del Conte.
- Absolutely no schedule changes after August. Be mindful of your course requests and schedule before school begins.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

HS Counselor Webpage - <https://www.hasdhawks.org/domain/183>

College Score Card, Career and college resources - <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>

Big Future/Collegeboard, College & career planning- <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>

Education Planner, College search, financial aid, & careers - www.educationplanner.com

PA Career Zone, Career planning <https://www.pacareerzone.org/>

FAFSA, Free Application for Federal Aid and financial aid resources and information- studentaid.gov

PA State Grant, PHEAA- www.pheaa.org

SAT, AP (Collegeboard)- www.sat.org

Smart Futures, Career Portfolio - www.smartfutures.org

Be sure to visit the High School Counselor page at www.hasdhawks.org often and view the monthly newsletters.

Post-Secondary Resources

- ❖ www.hasdhawks.org > [Select High School](#) > [hover over RESOURCES](#) > [Counselors](#)
 - **Counseling Department Page** (College Resources, Upcoming events, Financial Aid, Scholarships)
 - **Mrs. Wyles-Herbert** HS Counselor last names A-K
 - **Mrs. Machamer** HS Counselor last names L-Z
 - **Mrs. Fink** HS Counseling Office Secretary
 - **Mrs. Shannon Del Conte** Career Specialist, located in the Library shadel@hasdhawks.org

College/Career

- ❖ www.berkscareerpathways.com - Helpful resources for choosing a career
- ❖ <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org> - The college application process & search
- ❖ www.cappex.com - Complete college search including scholarship info
- ❖ <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov> Career and college resources
- ❖ <https://www.campusreel.org> – Campus and college videos and tours made by students
- ❖ www.educationplanner.org - College search, fin aid, and more
- ❖ www.ncaa.org - NCAA college athletic eligibility
- ❖ www.onetonline.org – National career exploration & job analysis
- ❖ www.commonapp.org - The Common Application, one application for many colleges
- ❖ www.pacareerzone.org – Career Exploration with PA outlook
- ❖ <https://www.passhe.edu/universities> - PA State System of High Ed (State Schools)
- ❖ www.petersons.com – College, Career, Scholarship search
- ❖ www.roadtripnation.com – Interactive website detailing careers through interviews
- ❖ www.smartfutures.org - Career and college search, HAHS student career portfolio
- ❖ www.todaysmilitary.com – Military careers and information
- ❖ <https://www.parchment.com/u/registration/20870/institution> -Send your HS Transcript

SAT/ACT/ASVAB

- ❖ www.sat.org - SAT prep and registration, college search (same as collegeboard.org)
- ❖ www.act.org - ACT registration and prep
- ❖ www.kaptest.com - Kaplan test prep for SAT, ACT, etc.
- ❖ www.khanacademy.org - **FREE** SAT, ACT Test prep; also all school subjects

Financial Aid/Scholarships (Apply in Senior Year)

- ❖ [HS Counselor webpage](#)- Financial Aid & Scholarships tab for scholarships advertised through HAHS
- ❖ fafsa.gov – FAFSA. Apply for Federal Aid (application opens in December 2023).
- ❖ <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/scholarships> – Financial aid resources and information/also scholarship search
- ❖ www.pheaa.org – PA State Grant program (apply in addition to FAFSA)
- ❖ <https://bccf.org/scholarship-opportunities/> – Berks Co. Community Foundation Scholarships
- ❖ <https://studentscholarships.org/> -Scholarship search engine

Scholarship Tips

Scholarships, unlike student loans, **don't have to be repaid** and can reduce the cost of college. The more free money (from scholarships and grants) that you find to help pay for college, the less you'll have to borrow.

✓ Eligibility

Students who apply for scholarships must meet specific eligibility requirements and will be competing against other applicants. Scholarship eligibility may be based on any combination of criteria, including:

- Residency (state, county, or town in which the student lives)
- Affiliation with community or religious organizations
- Extracurricular activities, including community service or clubs
- Degree program, major, or field of study
- Financial need
- Essays
- Academic, athletic, or artistic achievement
- Letters of recommendation

🔍 Searching

Many high school students begin searching for scholarships during their junior year. However, there are scholarship opportunities for younger students, as well as current college students. Scholarship information is available from these resources:

- High school website
- High school counselor's office or online portal
- Local library
- College or university
- National scholarship search sites (examples listed on the back)

✍️ Applying

To apply for scholarships:

- Determine that all eligibility requirements are met.
- Submit all required application materials by the deadline.
- Find out if applicants are notified of the results.
(Some scholarships notify all applicants; others notify only the winners.)

Q&As

Q. What is a merit scholarship?

A. Colleges are increasingly offering merit scholarships—and not just for academic achievement or athletic skill. Schools may offer merit scholarships to attract diverse groups of students from states not highly represented at the school, or students with talents or circumstances that few others at the school have. Check with admissions offices at schools you're applying to and ask if they offer merit aid.

Q. Should students pay a company to find scholarships?

A. Students and families need to know that some scholarship offers are not what they seem. You can avoid getting scammed by ignoring offers that require you to attend a "free" seminar, pay a "small fee," or provide a credit card number.

Q. Will scholarships affect other sources of financial aid?

A. Scholarships from outside sources may affect other financial aid. By filling unmet need, scholarships may reduce the amount a family has to pay out-of-pocket or they may reduce loans, work-study, or grant aid. Check with your school's financial aid office to find out how outside scholarships may affect your financial aid offer.

Q. How are winners determined?

A. Although scholarships are competitive, keep in mind that you don't have to be the best student in your class to receive one. You simply need to be the best applicant who meets the qualifications for the scholarship.



SAT®

The SAT provides more than a score

- Personalized career insights
- Customized college guidance
- Scholarship opportunities



Learn how the SAT can benefit you.

OUR SCHOOL CODE IS:

3	9	1	6	2	0
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2024 TEST DATES

AUG 24	OCT 5	NOV 2	DEC 7
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REGULAR REGISTRATION DEADLINES

AUG 9	SEP 20	OCT 18	NOV 22
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LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINES*

AUG 13	SEP 24	OCT 22	NOV 26
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2025 TEST DATES

MAR 8	MAY 3	JUN 7
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REGULAR REGISTRATION DEADLINES

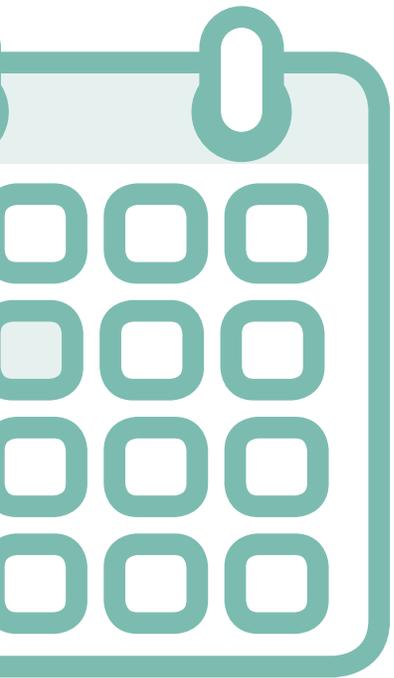
FEB 21	APR 18	MAY 22
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LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINES*

FEB 25	APR 22	MAY 27
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Visit sat.org/whytake for more information.

Test dates and registration deadlines may change. Check sat.org for updates.



TEST DATES

United States, US Territories, and Puerto Rico



2024|2025

Test Dates	Regular Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline	Photo Upload and Standby Deadline
September 14, 2024	August 9	August 25	September 6
October 26, 2024	September 20	October 7	October 18
December 14, 2024	November 8	November 22	December 6
February 8, 2025	January 3	January 20	January 31
April 5, 2025	February 28	March 16	March 28
June 14, 2025	May 9	May 26	June 6
July 12, 2025*	June 6	June 20	July 4

*No test centers are scheduled in New York for the July test date.

Test Information Release for the 2024–2025 testing year will occur in September, December, and February. See www.act.org/the-act/tir for more information.

www.act.org

DIVISION I ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

To study and compete at a **Division I school**, you must earn 16 NCAA-approved **core-course credits**, earn a corresponding test score* that matches your **core-course GPA** and submit your final transcript with proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

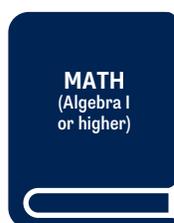
CORE-COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:



ENGLISH

4 years



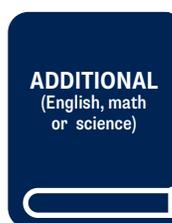
MATH
(Algebra I
or higher)

3 years



SCIENCE
(Including one
year of lab,
if offered)

2 years



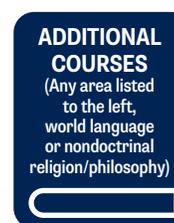
ADDITIONAL
(English, math
or science)

1 year



SOCIAL
SCIENCE

2 years



ADDITIONAL
COURSES
(Any area listed
to the left,
world language
or non-doctrinal
religion/philosophy)

4 years

For Division I, 10 of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits must be completed before the start of your seventh semester, including seven in English, math or science.

QUALIFIER

As a Division I qualifier, you may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment at an NCAA Division I school.

- » Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the right areas.
 - o Complete 10 of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits, including seven in English, math or science, before the start of the seventh semester.
 - o Complete your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in eight academic semesters or four consecutive academic years from the start of ninth grade.
- » Earn a corresponding test score that matches your **core-course GPA** (minimum 2.3) on the **Division I Sliding Scale**.*
- » Submit your final transcript with proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

ACADEMIC REDSHIRT

As a Division I academic redshirt, you may practice during your first regular academic term and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment but may NOT compete during your first year of enrollment. You must pass either eight quarter or nine semester hours to practice in the next term.

- » Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the right areas.
- » Earn a corresponding test score that matches your core-course GPA (minimum 2.0) on the Division I sliding scale.*
- » Submit your final transcript with proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

* More information regarding the impact of COVID-19 and test scores can be found at on.ncaa.com/COVID19_Spring2023.



Division II Academic Standards

Division II schools require you to meet academic standards. To be eligible to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in your first year of full-time enrollment, you must meet the following requirements:

NCAA DIVISION II

MAKE IT *YOURS*

1. Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:

ENGLISH	MATH (Algebra I or higher)	SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)	EXTRA (English, math or science)	SOCIAL SCIENCE	OTHER Any area listed to the left or courses listed in additional discipline (world language, comparative religion or philosophy)
3 years	2 years	2 years	3 years	2 years	4 years

2. Earn a minimum 2.2 **core-course GPA**.

3. Ask your high school counselor to upload your **final official transcript** with proof of graduation to your Eligibility Center account.

EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

If you meet **specific criteria** after six semesters of high school, you may be deemed an early academic qualifier for Division II and may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment.

QUALIFIER

You may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of full-time enrollment.

PARTIAL QUALIFIER

You may practice and receive an athletics scholarship but may NOT compete during your first year of full-time enrollment.

