

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'RE A JUNIOR!

You are half way through your high school experience and just two years away from college.

To set yourself up for college success, take a look at the typical milestones a high school junior goes through in the next ten months. Keep this schedule handy to remind you of the activities and deadlines.

SUMMER BEFORE YOUR JUNIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL

- A Study for the PSATs/SATs/ACTs. There are free sample tests available online. Just search for "practice" tests for the type you are taking. If you're feeling confident, think about signing up for the fall SAT/ACT test date as a trial run. You can always retake the test again later to get better scores if you don't do as well as you had hoped.
- Research colleges that have good programs in the type of engineering or technology industry you are interested in. Have questions about college? Ask a SWE member through the High School SWENexter Facebook group page!
- Get a head start on writing your college essay and personal statement. Essay prompts are continuously released and are often similar year-to-year. You can use these to get a draft ready.
- Any summer job can help you learn important work skills and earn money for college.
 If you have the opportunity, see if you can sign up for a local STEM summer camp! You can work on your technical skills and also make friends with similar interests.
- Interested in attending the Society of Women Engineers' annual conference in the fall?

 Learn more about the SWENext Awards you might be eligible for. Check out the program here!



EARLY FALL SEMESTER - JUNIOR YEAR

- Sign up for the PSAT through your school. The scores from your junior year are used to qualify you for the National Merit Scholarship Competition.
 - If you're involved in clubs and haven't done so already, look into becoming officers or leaders. You'll be able to show what kind of student and person you are when you apply to college next year.
- Apply for a SWENext WE Local Award between September 1 September 30. <u>Learn more here</u>.
 Start looking into applying for local/national scholarships. Not sure where to look? <u>Check out our Scholarships and Financial Aid SWENextTV episode</u>.

LATE FALL SEMESTER – JUNIOR YEAR

- Take the PSAT. The test day is usually in October. The PSAT scores from your junior year are used to qualify you for the National Merit Scholarship competition. Learn more here!
- Talk to your school's guidance counselor about the college application process. Do your research and develop a list of schools to apply to. Be mindful about the classes you need to take in order to apply to the schools you are interested in.

WINTER BREAK

- Continue studying for the SATs/ACTs.
- Narrow down your list of colleges to apply to and start thinking of colleges that you want to visit in the summer. Pick out three to five potential schools so that you have options.
- Begin your search and apply for a summer job or internship. Some internships have application deadlines as early as January! Finding the right internship will give you important work experience and give you direction for your future career.





EARLY SPRING SEMESTER – JUNIOR YEAR



- Sign up to take the SATs/ACTs. Do you need to take both? Check out the colleges that you are interested in to see what their requirements are.
- Stay on the lookout for scholarships that are applicable to you! SWE's scholarship application will be available to you starting in March of your senior year of high school.
 - If you're planning on applying for merit scholarships for college, keep an eye on your grades. Some of the better scholarships require a 3.5 GPA. However, don't worry there our plenty without high GPA requirements.
- O Apply for a SWENext Award between January 1 March 31. Learn more here.

LATE SPRING SEMESTER – JUNIOR YEAR



- Take any AP/IB/Cambridge exams you've been in classes for. You can get college credit at most schools by taking the qualifying exams. For your senior year schedule, sign up for one or more AP/IB/Cambridge classes available to you.
- Finalize plans to visit colleges in the summer. Check if the school you plan to visit provides a fly-in program and if you are eligible for it. Here's a good place to start.
- Ask for recommendation letters at end of junior year and reconfirm at beginning senior year. This gives the teachers time to write them.

