12th Grade College and Career Planning timeline:

**Fall of 12th Grade**

* Narrow your list of college choices and do your research on what is needed for each application. This can be found on the college site and on [CollegeBoard Big Future](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/).
  + Different colleges will have different requirements which may include:
    - Using the Common Application
    - Sending your SAT scores directly to the college
    - Counselor letter of Recommendation
    - Teacher letter of recommendation
    - Essays
    - Self-reporting of information
* Create a master list or calendar that includes
  + Early decision deadlines/rolling decision
  + Thinking about taking the SAT or ACTagain?
  + Required Financial aid applications forms and their deadlines
  + Anything else you need for your application
  + Consider a campus visit to help with your decision
* **SIGN UP FOR YOUR SENIOR MEETING with your Counselor.** This is a great opportunity to visit and get your personal plan for post-secondary set-up and ready. You can use the QR codes in the Guidance office or via this Request Form: [Request to Meet with Counselor or Social Worker - Google Forms](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XdemFzUHSo17bJYHJZv2vSiEcZXa25j7-KHRRjdpQno/edit#responses)
* If needed, consider retaking the [Career Finder](https://roadtripnation.com/edu/careerfinder) inventory on CollegeBoard Big Future. As a reminder, this inventory will help you look at potential careers based on your interests.
* If using the Common App, get your account set up and begin working on your applications. Make sure you have your FERPA waiver signed so the high school can send your information
* Have your Adult sign the [Transcript Request Form](http://gkcounseling.weebly.com/uploads/5/9/0/2/59025217/current_student-transcript_request_.pdf) waiver via the link sent from the Counseling office in Aug; this is required before we can send ANYTHING to colleges, coaches, scholarships, etc.
* Considering the Military? Continue to meet with your recruiter and take your ASVAB. Attend all required information and meeting sessions
* Considering an apprenticeship? Communicate with your Counselor your areas of interest so they can pass along information specific to you as well as contact information
  + Work with your counselor to create your resume for apprenticeship opportunities or world of work. This can also be used for scholarships and athletics if modified.
* Planning on playing NCAA or NAIA sports in college? Make sure you are signed up for NCAA or NAIA and you have sent your SAT scores; this is needed if you think you want to play a Div I or II sport.
* Planning to apply Early Action or Early Decision? Make sure you have visited with your Counselor as this may require a signature to proceed. Keep track of deadlines.
* If you need a teacher or Counselor recommendation, you should be asking for this now. You will need to give them at least 2 weeks notice. Email or hand them your completed brag sheet, which can be found here: <http://gkcounseling.weebly.com/download-forms.html>
* Begin writing your essays if needed
* Look for scholarships. Visit [Future Planning page](https://www.gkschools.org/o/genoa-kingston-cusd-424/page/future-planning) for where to find local and national scholarships.
* If you are Free/Reduced lunch, make sure to visit your Counselor to have your application fees waived
* Submit your applications
* FAFSA (required for high school diploma)
  + Set up your FSA id; this is your online signature for your FAFSA
  + Start and submit your FAFSA; go to FAFSA.gov to start this step which opens on Oct. 1
  + Look over your Student Aid Report (SAR) which indicates that your FAFSA was processed
* Sign up for any AP exams that you will take in the spring
* Keep track of all correspondence sent to you via email or mail from your colleges; these will often contain specific information you need including login instructions and application specifics

**Winter of 12th grade**

* Keep active in school and continue to look for scholarship opportunities. Many local scholarships will be posted: [Scholarships Central page.](http://gkcounseling.weebly.com/scholarship-central.html)
* If you are waitlisted, consider submitting additional documentation to your college
* Resolve any FAFSA verification issues

**Spring of 12th grade**

* Do not let your grades slip and maintain your GPA.
* Begin the process of accepting admission.
* Start/complete the housing process.
* Review your Award Letters; compare the colleges award letters to look for information on the best financial fit.
* Work with your GKHS counselor and/or college admissions counselor to resolve any issue with application or financial aid
* Accept/decline financial aid offers
* Apply for scholarships. Keep checking the local scholarships that get posted: [Scholarships Central page.](http://gkcounseling.weebly.com/scholarship-central.html)
* Take your AP exams (and once scores are complete, send these to your colleges- ~July 1).
* Complete your senior survey when requested by the counselors, which includes a final transcript request.
* Send in required college deposits
* Make sure any “official” test scores are sent to the colleges (if required)

**Summer of 12th grade**

* Set up and attend your college orientation.
* Prepare for college, military, trade school, work, etc.!