

DACC Junior College Planning Event: 11 Things All Juniors Should Know

“Start or continue these items from now through Fall of your Senior Year.”

Introduction: Planning and preparation is critical for your next steps after high school. Today we are going to discuss things you can do to prepare for your senior year. Our focus today is going to be college...though you should be researching all your options for military, careers and college.

1. **Options For After High School:** Career, Military, Internships and College. Please see your school counselor for a referral for a military recruiter.
2. **Why College and Am I Ready?** What are the benefits of going from a Career Tech school to College?
 - a. Going to college gives you an advantage in getting the job of your choice. There are certificate programs, associate degree and bachelor degree options and they all have their benefits. DACC programs can get you started in many careers but you may need more education to score higher level jobs.
 - b. YOU ARE READY FOR COLLEGE! Most DACC graduates are college ready.
 - c. Military Service is a great way to pay for college. Your School Counselor can help.
 - d. If you want to see if you are ready for college, take a College Credit Plus course at DACC. Ask your School Counselor if this is right for you.
3. **Researching College:** Research is critical for Juniors. Find 4-10 schools that may suit your career interest, major, location, cost, type of school, etc. Use a website to search.
 - a. SchoolLinks or Naviance (you must go through your homeschool page)
 - b. The College Tour: <https://www.thecollege tour.com/>
 - c. Big Future College Board <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>
 - Compare Up to 3 colleges <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/compare-colleges>
4. **In- Person vs. Virtual College Tours: Set a Visit for this Summer!**
 - a. College visits are a critical part of the college decision process. Universities may even give fee waivers or admission preference to students who visit.
 - b. All Universities are now having in- campus visits. Most colleges have virtual tours with admission reps. All visits are set up through the university websites.
 - c. Youvisit: Virtual college tours. This website has hundreds of colleges with video tours and virtual reality tours. <https://www.youvisit.com/collegesearch/>
5. **ACT/ SAT:** Should I take another ACT or SAT? ACT: 6/11 and 7/16. SAT: 6/4 and 8/27
Practice, practice, practice on ACT and SAT's website!
 - a. ACT: <https://www.act.org/>
 - b. SAT: <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat>
6. **Applying For College:** The Common App- Apply for nearly 1000 colleges on one application.
 - a. <https://www.commonapp.org/> You can get started now on creating your account. You can not start submitting applications until August.
 - b. The Common App Essay Prompts: They will stay the same as last year. See link. Start NOW!! <https://www.commonapp.org/blog/2022-2023-common-app-essay-prompts>
7. **Applying For College:** Other Types of Applications

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- a. <https://www.csc.edu/>
 - b. <https://www.mtc.edu/apply/>
 - c. <http://undergrad.osu.edu/apply/freshmen-regional>
 - d. <https://www.unoh.edu/future-students/application/>
8. **FAFSA:** The FAFSA will open October 1, 2022. You use your parents tax returns from 2021. Why do the FAFSA? Anyone competing for scholarships typically must complete a FAFSA. You can get grants and loans from the Federal government.
 - a. <https://studentaid.gov/>
9. **Scholarships:** Most scholarship money comes directly from colleges and they will automatically consider all students. There are thousands of scholarships to compete for individually.
 - a. Your DACC or Homeschool websites. DACC will host a Senior Google Classroom with tons of Scholarships in the Fall.
 - b. Check with parent's workplace, credit unions, churches, etc.
 - c. The Delaware Community Foundation: <https://www.delawarecf.org/>
 - d. Fastweb: <https://www.fastweb.com>
10. **What do my School Counselors do for me during my Senior Year?** School Counselors at DACC and your homeschool are critical in your college planning process. DACC School Counselors ensure your correct schedule for graduation, help you apply for colleges and scholarships, support students to find jobs or join the military and support students' mental health needs and much more. Your homeschool MUST send your transcripts!
11. **Summer:** What I can do to get an advantage over the competition this summer.
 - Summer jobs (check indeed.com, area food places, stores, etc.)
 - Volunteering- Get creative! Options include helping at food pantries, community festivals, running events, churches and neighborhood cleanups. Get involved!
 - Take personality tests/career assessments (some on School Links/Naviance or search on your own... stick to Holland Code Career Test, Myers Briggs, etc.)
 - Job Shadows

Conclusion: Getting prepared for after high school takes time and effort. You often do not know for sure the results of where you will attend college and financial aid “for certain” until the end of your senior year. Keep an “OPEN” mind and get started. Talk to your parents, other family members, teachers, School Counselors and friends to get ideas.

Your School Counselors love to meet with you about college, military and careers!

Notes: _____

HAVE A SAFE AND AWESOME SUMMER!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE TERRIFIC CLASS OF 2023!!!