



College Planning Timeline and Tips

Whether you're starting off your journey as a high school freshman or nearing that final college destination as a senior, we are excited you checked in at Davenport University.

Check out the guidelines below in each high school year to create an itinerary for the college trip ahead of you!

Freshman Year Sophomore Year Junior Year

- Take advantage of summer opportunities to learn about different career fields.
- Participate in school activities and volunteer efforts.
- Start off strong! Your GPA can impact your chances of admissions and the scholarship money you receive.
- Athlete — Research NAIA/ NCAA eligibility.

- Continue research on career fields and college possibilities.
- Consider adding **early credit options**.
- Take the PSAT!
- Explore adding AP or IB courses to earn credit.
- Experience a job shadow in the career field you have in mind.
- Create a resume and add honors, awards and volunteer experience.
- Maintain good grades — they matter!
- Start saving — ask your parents about a savings plan for college expenses.
- Attend college and career fairs — ask questions!

- Consider adding **early credit options**.
- Review and take courses for articulation credit with your college of choice.
- Explore adding AP or IB courses to earn credit.
- Take the time to search for scholarship opportunities! They will benefit you in college.
- Prep, study, and do awesome on the SAT or ACT!
- Maintain good grades — they still matter!
- Athletes — Create NAIA/ NCAA eligibility profile.
- Attend college and career fairs if you have not done so already!
- **Research colleges** and meet with college reps.
- **Explore and tour colleges** and universities to get a feel for the campus life.

Senior Year

September

- **Apply** to Davenport if you have not already! Psst... our application is free.

October

- Complete **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) starting Oct. 1.
- Learn about the **scholarships and gift aid** you qualify for!
- Review your free **financial aid 101 guide**.
- **Visit campus** if you have not done so already! We would love to see you. Don't forget your **campus visit guide!**
- Athletes — Set up recruiting visits with coaches.

December

- Confirm you would like to become a Panther by signing up for Orientation. **Orientation registration** is now open!

January

- Financial aid award letters are sent. Review what you qualify for and connect with your admission rep if you have any questions and review other aid options.
- On-campus **Housing Application** is available! You may qualify for a \$500 — \$1,000 housing grant based on your FAFSA.

March

- Priority deadline for filling your FAFSA! What does this mean? If you file your FAFSA by March 1, you will be considered for the maximum amount of financial aid.

May

- Inform every college of your decision to accept or decline the offer of admission by May 1.
- Take any AP/IB exams. Plan for test-out exams at your college.

June

- Send final transcripts after graduation, including any early credit courses earned.

July

- Payment portal opens.
- Housing assignment notifications will be sent!

August

- Wrap up any last steps with your admission rep!
- Move in with your suite mates!



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