



Tri-County Academy College Planning Timeline

Freshman and Sophomore Years:

- Create a file for all of your records.
- Keep academic records and lists of awards, honors, and activities at school and in the community.
- Participate in extracurricular activities, academic programs, summer camps, community service, etc. Add this to your record of activities and awards/honors.
- Start thinking about the colleges you would like to attend- Create lists of colleges and universities and gather information from their websites
- Create a professional e-mail account (example: firstnamelastname@gmail.com) and check it regularly. This is how ALL colleges will communicate with you.
- Prepare for standardized testing: Answer the ACT question of the day/ACT practice test/attend workshops.
- Take the ACT so you can get familiar with the test.

Junior Year:

- Plan to visit "Get2College" center. These centers are a valuable resource to MS students who are planning to go to college. Get2College offers a variety of free information and college planning services to help Mississippi's high school students get to college. The centers offer a friendly environment where both students and parents can come to learn more about what it takes to be accepted and to pay for college. Students and parents can receive free help with ACT prep, completing admissions and financial aid applications, resume building, career exploration, college selection and more! The website is www.get2college.org

Metro Jackson Location

2616 Lakeward Dr.
Jackson, MS 39216
601-321-5533

- Continue to prepare for standardized tests.
- Start researching colleges. Develop a list of colleges to which you may wish to apply and gather information.
- Attend College Fairs and talk to recruiters
- Participate in extracurricular activities and get involved with community service.

- Take the ACT. Thorough preparation is the best way to ensure success. You should take the ACT at least twice your junior year so that you have time to retake it in the summer and fall of your senior year, if necessary.
- Begin to research financial aid sources and the availability of scholarships.

Senior Year:

- Plan to visit one of the three “Get2College” Centers. These centers help Mississippi students plan for college. The website is www.get2college.org
- Answer the ACT Question of the Day

Fall Semester:

- Make campus visits to colleges.
- Contact military liaisons if interested in ROTC scholarships or military academies.
- Continue extracurricular involvement.
- Take the ACT.
- Narrow down college choices and apply for college admission, meeting priority deadlines.
- Ask counselor to send transcripts to school.
- Finalize resume’ and write required essays.
- Apply for scholarships. Be sure to observe deadlines so you don’t miss out!
- Request letters of recommendations and other admission requirements two to four weeks before due.
- Apply for housing.
- Inquire about scholarship qualifications at each college where applied. Start the financial aid application process for each school.

Spring Semester:

- Update resume
- Complete your Mississippi Grant (MTAG) application.
- Decide which college to attend and notify the school of your decision. Notify the schools you will not attend of your decision.
- Final transcripts should be sent after graduation. If you take a dual enrollment class, send transcript after graduation from Holmes to the college you plan to attend.
- Keep track of important financial aid and scholarship deadlines.
- Observe deadlines for sending in all required fees and paperwork including award letters, promissory notes, housing information, etc. You may be required to log in to the college website to complete these steps.

Summer before College:

- Ensure final transcript arrives at chosen school.
- Attend summer orientation if offered.
- Check into buying books and supplies early.
- Call or meet assigned roommate to get acquainted and to make a list of what is needed for the residence hall.