

College Planning Guidelines for Students Who Learn Differently

<p style="text-align: center;">Freshman year... student should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Map out course selections for each year of high school-choose challenging courses where student can do well. ● Meet counselor and develop a four-year framework to fulfill graduation requirements ● Engage in extracurricular activities that show depth of interest-start resume ● Read and understand IEP or 504 Plan ● Investigate accommodations for standardized testing; see www.act.org and www.collegeboard.com ● Determine if updated psycho-ed testing should be updated ● Keep up grades! 	<p style="text-align: center;">Sophomore year... student should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Take both a practice ACT and SAT with accommodations ● Consult with teachers about SAT Subject tests (SAT II) ● Explore summer opportunities in areas of interest ● Ensure that writing, notetaking and reading skills are keeping up with increased rigor of coursework. ● Participate in IEP or 504 meetings-work on self awareness of strengths and weaknesses and self advocacy ● Keep up grades!
<p style="text-align: center;">Junior year... student should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Register for the PSAT ● Visit your school's website frequently; get familiar with Family Connection or other planning program ● Attend college and career visits at school; check dates for college and job fairs in the community ● Register early for choice of ACT/SAT, especially if accommodations are needed ● Take ACT/SAT at least once ● Familiarize yourself with high school's college prep packet ● Update resume ● Develop relationships with teachers; ask for letters of recommendation ● Visit colleges over spring break/summer ● Explore summer opportunities in areas of interest ● Keep up grades! 	<p style="text-align: center;">Senior year... student should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use summer to visit schools, write essays and applications, complete the Common Application, and update resume ● Finalize a master plan/timeline for the application process ● Attend college and career visits at school ● Meet with counselor to discuss post secondary plans and confirm fulfillment of all graduation requirements (including SSL hours) ● Meet with College/Career Center to discuss post high school and transition plans ● Follow directions to request transcripts and teacher/counselor recs ● Consider a gap year if appropriate ● Re-take SAT/ACT If necessary ● Continue campus visits and interviews; re-visiting top choices ● Keep up grades!