

COLLEGE ACTION PLAN OUTLINE

1. TESTS- REGISTER AND TAKE THEM

- SAT Reasoning Test
- SAT Subject Tests, if applicable
- Advanced Placement (AP) exams, if applicable
- other?

2. RESEARCH COLLEGES (step 1) – Pick 10-20

- conduct college searches on the internet
- talk to people
- read catalogs, brochures, guides
- create a list of around 15 colleges to further check out
- look at videos
- check out resources offered by your high school's guidance counselor

3. RESEARCH COLLEGES (step 2) – PICK 4-6

- conduct college searches on the internet
- visit local colleges in New York City
- read catalogs and other materials
- assess your odds
- check out financial aid policies
- narrow the list down to about 5 colleges you'll apply to
- talk to current and/or former students
- collect all the application forms/instructions
- talk to teachers/coaches/admissions/financial aid officers
- check out resources offered by your high school's guidance counselor

4. RESEARCH FINANCIAL AID

- research scholarships, grants, and other financial aid options on the internet
- read financial aid guides/scholarship listings
- talk to college financial aid officers
- get the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form
- find out which forms your colleges require
- send for scholarship applications
- get colleges' financial aid forms, if applicable
- check out resources offered by your high school's guidance counselor

5. APPLY TO COLLEGES

- make sure you have all the applications
- make a checklist of what each one requires- note deadlines and fees
- complete application forms
- write essays, if required
- ask someone to proofread your essays
- have test scores sent to colleges
- have your high school transcript sent to colleges
- have your mid-year grades sent, too, if required
- get teacher/counselor/mentor recommendations
- make copies of everything you submit
- get it all in on time

6. APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

- make sure you have all the applications
- make a checklist of what each one requires
- get your parent or guardian's 1040 income tax form
- get any other financial information you need to know
- complete application forms
- include attachments
- make copies of everything you submit
- get them all in on time