

JUNIOR CHECKLIST

You are halfway done with high school — 2 years down, 2 to go! As you continue to move through high school take advantage of all the opportunities offered, and consistently meet with your guidance counselor to ensure all your goals are met.

Use this checklist to help get more prepared, and check tasks off your list — Our Dakota Dreams will be by your side every step of the way.



Start your year off right — Talk with your school counselor about your options and your plans.



Inquire about test dates for the PSAT, ACT, and SAT — You will need to register up to six weeks ahead of time.



Sign up for courses with your eyes on the prize — college and money to pay for it! A tougher course load may pay off with scholarships and may get you a better chance to get admitted to the school of your choice.



Start investigating private and public sources for [financial aid](#) — Take note of [scholarship deadlines](#) and plan ahead



Sign up for activities to boost your college applications.



Attend college fairs, open houses, and learn as much as you can about schools you are interested in



Begin planning college visits — Fall, winter, and spring break are good times to go!



In October, take the [PSAT](#) — You will get the results by Christmas.



Sign up for ACT or SAT prep courses.



Do your top college picks require essays or recommendations? Now is the time to begin planning your essays and choosing whom you would like to ask for a recommendation.



Sign up for the [ACT](#) and [SAT](#), if you haven't already.



Begin the application process!



Decide if you should take [AP exams](#) in May — Talk it through with your counselor.



Investigate the [College-Level Examination Program® or CLEP](#), which grants college credit for achievement in exams covering many different college-level subjects



In January, meet with your school counselor again to develop your senior schedule.



Organize your Individual Graduation Plan — Work with your counselor to meet all your goals.



Think about lining up a summer job, internship, or co-op.



Plan more campus visits for spring break — Check to see if any schools offer an overnight visit to really get a feel for the school.



Memorize your Social Security Number if you haven't already. It will be your identity on campus.



Write a resume — Your teachers and counselor can help!