

Junior Reminders...

FROM YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR...

- Schedule to take the ACT and/or SAT

- Try each one at least once and then we can discuss which one is best to focus your studying and retake
- Beware of deadlines....the deadlines to register are far ahead of the actual test date
- Go to www.actstudent.org or <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat> to register. Be sure to use RHS code 101514 so that we get your scores
- Three reasons to take the ACT and/or SAT
 - Meet your diploma requirement
ACT Reading= 19 and SAT Reading= 24 (new version) – either score will fulfill your FSA ELA requirement
 - Meet College Admissions Guidelines
Most colleges have a minimum score they are looking for to consider you for admissions; however, more competitive universities (UF, UNF, FSU, UCF, etc) will require a much higher score to have a chance at admissions
 - Post-Secondary Readiness scores (State college or university)
If you meet these minimum scores, you will start college in standard level classes (no remedial work that costs you extra money and does NOT count for college credit)

SAT		ACT		PERT	
Reading/Verbal	440 (old) 24 (new)	Reading	19	Reading	106
Math	440 (old) 480 (new)	Math	19	Math	114

*old SAT was give prior to March 2016

- Explore your career options

- Go to www.floridashines.org and click on Find a Career to take an interest inventory and get started on your career research
- Also use the Occupational Outlook Handbook at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/> to get more in-depth information about specific careers that you may be considering

- Researching post-secondary educational options

- Apprenticeships- generally for the hands-on type careers (construction, electrical, HVAC, masonry, etc). Go to <http://www.fl DOE.org/academics/career-adult-edu/apprenticeship-programs/> for a list of registered programs
- Technical/Vocational Programs- this includes automotive, cosmetology, culinary, entrance level law enforcement, computer repair and design, and so much more. Most programs take less than 2 years to complete and can get you into high paying jobs. Be wary of for-profit schools- they can be good but costly. Check out the technical programs offered at St. Johns River State College by going to

<http://www.sjrstate.edu/vocacert.html> or the programs offered at Florida State College at Jacksonville <http://www.fscj.edu/academics/areas-of-study>

- Military- there are many different options with the military. You can enlist in active duty directly or you can go into the reserves and then start college at the same time. There are also military academies for each branch if you want to get your degree and become an officer. Entrance into a military academy is fierce so you need to start during your junior year to apply. If you are interested in enlisting or going into the reserves, sign up to take the ASVAB December 6th here at RHS. (see sign-up sheet in the Guidance office)
- Two year degrees- some 2 year degrees lead directly to a career area while many students may choose to get their general A.A. transfer degree to continue onto a larger university to finish their Bachelor's degree. If you have a specific university that you want to eventually enroll in be sure to check out the state college in that area. They may have a direct link program with the university. For example, Santa Fe College in Gainesville provides direct enrollment to UF once you complete your AA degree. Tallahassee Community College (TCC) has a similar program with FSU.
- Direct university admissions- do your research early. You should have a list of the 4-5 schools you plan to apply to by the end of your Junior year. University admissions process begins very early in your senior year. Most universities want you full application and financial aid forms turned in by November 1st each year to have a chance at admissions. When you visit the universities website click on their admissions page, then they should have information about Freshman admissions. You need to pay specific attention to the Freshman Profile. This is a general guideline of the GPA and test scores you will need. Be sure to talk with your counselor soon if you plan to take this route.
- **NCAA Clearinghouse**- for those who may want to play Division 1 or 2 sports at the college level, you need to register with the NCAA clearinghouse by the end of your junior year so that they can evaluate your transcript for eligibility. This gives you time to fix anything that you may still need during your senior year. Go to <http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future> for details and to register.
- **Reminder**...there are many ways that your GPA can be calculated (or recalculated) as you look at your different options. Your standard unweighted GPA is what is listed on your report cards and on your transcript but this is NOT the GPA used by colleges, universities or the NCAA to determine eligibility. Here are some examples of how they recalculate your GPA:
 - NCAA- recalc your GPA using only your core academic classes. No electives are used in calculating your GPA
 - State Colleges- use your unweighted standard GPA (this includes all high school courses)
 - Universities- recalc your GPA using only core academic classes and any honors, AP, or Dual Enrollment electives that you took