



Students

All Year

- Review the “Every Year in High School” checklist available on our [Resources webpage \(www.monroecc.edu/college-now/resources/\)](http://www.monroecc.edu/college-now/resources/).
- Explore careers and their earning potential in the [Occupational Outlook Handbook \(www.bls.gov/ooh/\)](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/).
- If you have changed your mind about what you want from a college, be sure to meet with your school’s college and career office and update your Naviance profile.
- Go to college fairs and college-preparation presentations by college representatives.

Fall

- Register for Dual Enrollment courses by the end of September.
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT* You must take the test in 11th grade to qualify for scholarships and programs associated with the National Merit Scholarship Program.

** Remember: Register for all tests in advance and be sure to give yourself time to prepare appropriately! If you have difficulty paying a registration fee, see your school counselor about getting a fee waiver.*

Spring

- Some Dual Enrollment courses begin in February. Check your schedule and talk to your counselor to be certain you don’t miss registration deadlines.
- Register for and take exams for college admission. Check with the colleges you are interested in to see which tests they require.
- Find scholarships for which you might want to apply. Some deadlines fall as early as the summer between 11th and 12th grades, so prepare now to submit applications soon.

To Explore

- Learn about [types of financial aid \(studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types\)](http://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types). Under Scholarships, the scholarship search tool will help you connect with money available for college.
- Learn how to [avoid student aid scams \(studentaid.gov/resources/scams\)](http://studentaid.gov/resources/scams).
 - Be extra cautious when entering your personal information on applications and websites. Ask your parents or school counselor for assistance.

Parents

- Review the “Every Year in High School” checklist available on our [Resources webpage \(www.monroecc.edu/college-now/resources/\)](http://www.monroecc.edu/college-now/resources/).
- Take another look at your financial situation, and be sure you’re on the right track to pay for college.
- Talk to your child about the schools he or she is considering. Ask why those schools appeal to your child, and help him or her clarify goals and priorities.
- Attend college fairs with your child, but don’t take over the conversation with the college representative. Just listen, and let your child do the talking.
- Take your child to visit college campuses, preferably when classes are in session.

To Explore

- Get in-depth information on [federal student aid programs \(studentaid.gov\)](http://studentaid.gov).
- Contact the Admissions office of schools your student is interested in attending. Ask about Admission criteria and how they handle Dual Enrollment and AP credits.
- Help your child create or update an extracurricular resume. This could be requested by colleges and scholarship applications.

