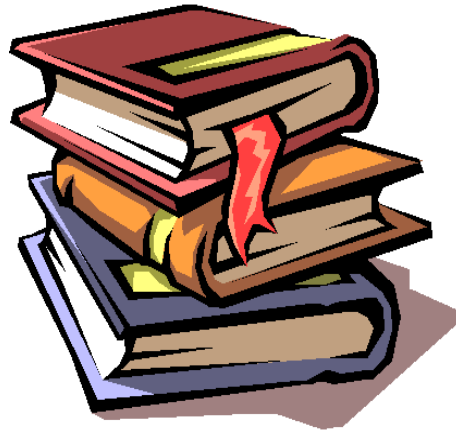


Bishop Grimes College Planning Guide

This guide was prepared as a basic resource to the college admissions process and should be used in your college planning. We have included a monthly checklist for your convenience in this process.

Your counselor is available to help you at any time with this process as well as with other issues. We have numerous resources available in our office to support all students making educational plans beyond high school.

Learning how to make choices and decisions based on sound and reliable information is a valuable lifelong skill. The more information you have, the better decisions you can make for



yourself and your future. We encourage you to meet with your counselor TODAY!!!!

One of the first priorities that you need to focus on as you begin your senior year is to make certain that you take and successfully complete all the required subjects necessary for graduation. We have included the course requirements below.

Please make certain that you review the requirements before

school begins in September. Your counselor has an updated credit check sheet on all seniors. Please contact the Guidance office if you are unsure of your credit standing. The second priority you need to focus on is making certain that you have a balanced and challenging academic program. It is essential that you investigate the course requirements for each college of interest.

Even though a lighter schedule may tempt you during your last year of high school, you need to know that colleges want to see that you are continuing to challenge yourself during your final year of high school.

The Guidance office is typically asked to send your senior schedule along with current report cards and high school transcript.

*The Guidance Office telephone number is (315) 463-8133



A Timetable and Checklist for Juniors/Seniors- Starting spring of your junior year

April-August

- Take ACT and SAT. Sign up at www.act.org and www.collegeboard.com
- Send for college catalogs and information, research online at college websites and collegeboard.com and make college visits.
- Begin searching for scholarship information online at fastweb.com and check homeroom bulletin boards regularly. Also there is a blue folder in the guidance office with updated scholarship information.
- If you are unsure of schools that offer your major(s), then please meet with your counselor to assist you in your search for the college(s) that meet your specifications.
- If you plan on playing NCAA Division I or II sports, you must fill out a Clearinghouse registration form located online at <https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common/>
- August 1st please log in to commonapp.org and create a username and password.

September

- Organize yourself by housing each application in a folder. Write all major deadlines on the front cover of each folder. If you make contact with an admissions and/or financial aid counselor, write these names on the folder along with their phone numbers. Log all contacts.
- Discuss college choices with your counselor.
- Check homeroom bulletin board and wall/door near the Guidance office to learn of College Representatives visiting Bishop Grimes (also listen for morning announcements and BG TV to announce).
- Start drafting the college essay (usually done during English 12 class time).
- Complete a recommendation sheet, photocopy it, and present it to those you are asking to write a letter of recommendation.
- Please ask teachers and counselor early to allow them time to complete. Also let them know if you are applying early action/decision.
- If you are using Common App- please tell teachers to upload their recommendations to the site and bring a hard copy to guidance.

October

- Solidify essay topics. Ask for assistance with topics and proofreading from your English teacher or your counselor.
- All students should complete at least one application by November 1st.
- Schedule meetings with your counselor to review progress and to have your questions answered. All are welcome during study hall/lounge times.
- Attend college visits at Bishop Grimes, college fairs, and financial aid workshops.
- Contact coaches or directors of activities if you plan to participate in sports or extra-curricular activities at college.

November

- Focus on having all college applications completed before Thanksgiving break.
- Bring school report/secondary report sections of all college applications to the Guidance office as soon as they become available to you.
- Make certain that you have given your counselor all necessary sections to review. Schedule a time to review your completed college application with your counselor. Please do not wait until the deadline is upon you. We may not be able to process your application in time.
- Please use a Transcript Request Form (in guidance) to request official transcripts, schedules and current grades sent to each school.
- Check on scholarships available to you both locally and nationally. A list of some of these is posted outside the Guidance office and in senior homerooms. A folder of scholarships is available for review in guidance.
- Identify if your school requires the CSS Profile. Many private colleges/universities require that you register with CSS early!
- Make certain that you are aware and tell Guidance of all deadlines! Do NOT wait until the last minute.

DECEMBER

- Many application deadlines fall on January 1st. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS BREAK.
- Remember to complete the FAFSA by February 1st.
- Make certain that you are continuing to challenge yourself academically. Colleges will check for mid-year grades.

JANUARY

- Continue to file college applications if any are still pending.
- Do income taxes as soon as possible; use actual figures (not estimates) on your financial aid application. Both you and your parents should file early!
- Check that all materials have been received by colleges.
- Check all deadlines for financial aid at each school to which you have applied. The earlier you send in your financial aid packages, the better your chances of being considered for certain grants/awards
- Mid-year grades and Updated transcripts will be sent in February to schools that request them.

FEBRUARY

- Make certain that you are checking the scholarship lists and the blue folder in guidance.
- Maintain contact with both the admissions and financial aid counselors at each college to which you have applied.

MARCH

- AP Exam sign up and fees due.
- Scholarship applications are available in Guidance.
- Continue to work hard in all of your classes.
- Visit college campuses at your convenience.

APRIL

- Receive decision letters and bring copies of acceptance letters and scholarships to guidance.
- Compare financial aid packages.
- If you're top choice school does not offer you the best package, then contact the financial aid counselor and ask them to recalculate/reevaluate your package. NEGOTIATE!
- Let the top choice school know that you have received better packages (if applicable) at competitive schools.
- Write a personal note explaining financial aid circumstances, if necessary. This is especially for changes in family circumstances such as a job loss, change in income, or household composition.
- Notify all colleges to which you have applied about your decision.
- Wait list applicants: send a letter restating your interest.
- Send deposit to selected college (usually by May 1st).

MAY

- Take AP tests if appropriate.
- Notify Guidance of ALL college acceptances and your college choice.
- Notify Guidance of ALL scholarships you are offered and ones you will receive.
- Schedule your college orientation session.
- Listen to announcements for graduation updates.

JUNE

- Congratulations!! You did it!!!!

Bishop Grimes - Course Requirements per Year

7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Religion 7	Religion 8	Scripture	Morality	Faith	Theology 101
English 7	English 8	English 9R	English 10R	English 11R	English 12 or AP English Lit
Math 7	Math 8 or Algebra 1R	Algebra 1R or Geometry 1R	Geometry 1R or Algebra 2R/Trig	Algebra 2R/Trig or Adv Pre-Calculus	Pre-Calc, Adv Pre-Calc or AP Calc, Business Math
Science 7	Science 8 or Earth Science R	Earth Science R or Living Environment R	Living Environment R or Chemistry R	Chemistry R, NR Chemistry or Physics R	Physics R, Applied Physics, AP Physics or SUPA Biology
History 7	History 8	Global 1R	Global 2R	US History R/AP US Hist	Government and Economics Students may also take AP European History
Level 7A Language	Level 8B Language	Level 2 Language	Level 3 Language	Students may take Level 4 Language or a new Level 1	Students may take Level 5 Language or a new Level 1
Reading	Reading	Art or Music	Psychology/Health	Students may take AP Psychology	
Art 7 (1/2 yr.)	Art 8 (1/2 yr.)				
Computer Applications 7 (1/2 yr.)	Computer Applications 8 (1/2 yr.)			Electives	Electives
Music 7, Band or Chorus	Music 8, Band or Chorus				
PE 7	PE 8	PE	PE	PE	PE
Health		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students may choose electives from Painting, 3D Art, Ceramics, Band, Chorus, BGTV Broadcasting, Holocaust, Business Law, College and Careers, Sports Marketing and more. • Each year students are required to take 7 ½ credits. • Student may also take Le Moyne courses beginning the summer after 9th Grade. • Many students choose to further enhance their schedule by working one on one with their teachers in any course to develop an Honors paper or project for Honors credit. 			

Regents Diploma:

Students will pass the required courses above and pass Regents Exams at the end of Algebra 1R, 1 Science exam, Global 2R and English 11R and US History R

Advanced Regents Diploma:

Students will pass the required courses above and pass Regents Exams at the end of Algebra 1R, Geometry 1R, Alg 2R/Trig, Level 1B Language, 2 Science exams, Global 2R and English 11R and US History R

Regents or Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors:

Students will pass the required courses and exams the same as the Regents or Advanced Regents Diploma with a 90 or above **average** on all of the required exams