

College Planning Timeline

Your Month-by-Month College Planning Checklist

Use this timeline to stay on track. Adjust the timing based on your program, school, and application deadlines.

12+ Months Before

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| ☐ Explore careers. | ☐ Research programs and credentials. |
| ☐ Explore colleges and training programs. | ☐ Think about your education and career goals. |

9–12 Months Before

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| ☐ Narrow down your college choices. | ☐ Research financial aid. |
| ☐ Review admission requirements. | ☐ Gather important documents. |

6–9 Months Before

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| ☐ Create application accounts. | ☐ Complete FAFSA when available. |
| ☐ Begin applications. | ☐ Research and apply for scholarships. |

3–6 Months Before

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| ☐ Submit applications. | ☐ Submit requested documents. |
| ☐ Monitor application status. | ☐ Review financial aid information. |

After Acceptance

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| ☐ Review your acceptance. | ☐ Complete orientation. |
| ☐ Complete financial aid requirements. | ☐ Meet with an advisor. |
| ☐ Accept your offer. | ☐ Register for classes. |

Before Classes Begin

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| ☐ Set up your student email. | ☐ Know where and when your classes meet. |
| ☐ Confirm your schedule. | ☐ Make a plan for transportation, work, family responsibilities, and study time. |
| ☐ Obtain required books or materials. | |

My Notes

Want help creating your college plan? Schedule a free College & Career Advising appointment. *College Connections Project • Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center (MEOC)*
www.meoccollegeconnections.org