

# College Application Process Timeline and Checklist

## YGW Boys' Division

### Freshman Year

- ❑ Take shiur, classes, sports, and community service seriously and do your best.
- ❑ Become involved in YGW activities such as team sports and clubs. Part of your high school experience is learning outside the classroom as well as within it.
- ❑ Get to know your teachers and participate in class so that they will get to know you.
- ❑ Read books outside of school. Readers do better on standardized tests.
- ❑ Make a file of your HS career. Keep a Summary of Activities and update it every semester. Include out of Yeshiva activities such as summer jobs, internships, shul activities or volunteering. Keep Report Cards, Awards, and any other documentation of your activities.

### Sophomore Year

- ❑ Continue to work hard in school and follow all of the steps outlined for Freshman Year.
- ❑ In October, take the PSAT (for practice). We do the registration for the PSAT. We receive the scores and send them home in December. (Brief PSAT preparation is done in English and Math classes in October before the test.)

### Junior Year

#### Fall:

- ❑ Don't worry about college yet! Just focus on doing your best in the increasing challenges of junior year classes.
- ❑ Take the PSAT (for real) in October; again, we do the registration. Scores on this test determine a student's standing in the National Merit Scholarship program.
- ❑ Pay attention to the materials that you will receive with your PSAT results in December.
- ❑ Consider SAT preparation work, as appropriate, such as working through a practice book or taking a prep class in the spring or summer. (Brief PSAT and SAT preparation is done

in appropriate English and Math classes in October and also late spring, but we cannot fit systematic test preparation into our classes.)

### **Spring:**

- Take the SAT at least once by May. (Alternative: take the ACT, or both.) The student registers for the SAT; paper registration materials with the “clergyman’s letter” allowing Sunday testing are available from Mrs. Braun. The March and June dates are acceptable alternatives.
- Students and parents should meet with Mr. Savir to develop an initial list of colleges to investigate and go over the application process.
- With Mr. Savir, develop a plan for acquiring college credits while at YGW, and follow up with AP Exams, CLEP Exams, or dual enrollment with WAU as appropriate.
- Consider visiting colleges.
- If appropriate, identify with Mr. Savir SAT II tests to take; register in April and take the tests in June. (N.B.: UMCP, UMBC, YU and Lander do *not* require the SAT II.)

### **Summer between Junior and Senior Year:**

- Make the list of colleges to which you will apply.
- Start the first application steps with the online applications for the Common Application or specific colleges.
- If you are applying to colleges or for scholarship programs that require several essays, start writing and have some of this work done before we start school.
- If appropriate, make college visits or plan them for early fall.

## **Senior Year**

### **September and October:**

- Parents and students should meet with Mr. Savir to confirm college application plans.
- Make college visits, if appropriate.
- Meet with college representatives visiting YGW.
- Work on and complete applications:
  - give correct recommendation forms to teachers and Mr. Savir
  - have SAT scores sent directly to colleges (done online)
  - fill out the transcript request form and give to Mrs. Braun
  - work on essays (some of this will be done in English class)
  - send application checks directly or give them to Mrs. Braun to send

- note that all paper materials can and should be sent together from YGW office
- Register for October SAT and take it, if needed. Registration Deadline is Sept. 6!
- *UMCP preferential admissions date is Nov. 1 and YU Early Decision Honors Program date is also Nov. 1.*

### **November and December:**

- As needed, complete additional applications.
- As needed, register for and take additional SAT tests.

### **January and February:**

- *The last College Board testing date that will enable scores to reach colleges in time for consideration is January 26, 2014 with Registration Deadline of December 27.*
- Complete all applications by January or February deadlines.
- Check to be sure all forms have been submitted to colleges, including the mid-year report.
- Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) if you are applying for financial aid.

### **Spring:**

- YGW Talmidim do NOT get “Senior Slump!”
- Read all mail or email from the colleges to which you applied to be sure your applications are complete.
- Reply to all colleges by May 1.
- After you have accepted an offer of admission, see Mr. Savir about the deferral process.
- You’re done with the College Application Process! Now enjoy your last few weeks as a YGW Talmid!