College Admissions Testing Timeline

This timeline includes the recommended college admissions tests that students should complete throughout high school. Each student's situation is different, so make sure to check with a Counselor or the College and Career Center to determine which tests are right for you.

9th Grade:
- Take SAT Subject Exams if appropriate (if taking advanced classes).

10th Grade:
- Take the PSAT in October if you want practice.
- Take AP tests in May, if applicable.
- Take SAT Subject Exams in June if you have achieved highest level of that subject and feel proficient.
- Consider using the summer to prepare for the SAT/ACT by taking a class, reviewing a prep book, solving problems on the College Board or ACT website, etc...

11th Grade:
- Take the PSAT in October. This is the only time throughout the year that this test is offered and it's a great way to get practice before the official SAT.
- Consider taking a prep class or practice tests that are offered by the Academic Boosters in November/December.
- Take the official SAT in January or March.
- Take the official ACT in February or April.
- Retake the SAT/ACT if needed in late Spring (or in Fall of senior year). Make sure to study before retaking the exam!
- Take AP tests in May, if applicable.
- Take up to 3 SAT Subject Exams in June (can't take SAT and SAT Subject Exams on the same day).

12th Grade:
- Retake the SAT or ACT if needed. For UCs and most CSUs, tests must be completed by December at the latest. Some CSUs and private schools require that they are completed before then, so make sure to check each college's website.
- If planning to attend a CSU, ensure that the Entry Level Math (ELM) and English Placement Test (EPT) requirements are met. See website for details:www.ets.org/csu/about.
- Take appropriate AP tests in May.
- If attending a community college, complete placement tests in February/March.