



Holiday fever

Just a few more weeks and you'll be enjoying winter break. Before you check out, be sure to study for your end-of-semester exams. You'll have a lot of free time coming up, so use that time to your advantage and start preparing for your future!

Remember Me

SAT Test Date
December **6**

ACT Test Date
December **13**

SAT Registration
December **29**

ACT Registration
January **9**

SAT Test Date
January **24**

ACT Test Date
February **7**

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High School Students

- Don't forget to finish end-of-semester projects and study for exams. Your finals often count as a significant part of your overall class score, and you don't want to ruin a good grade by slacking off these next few weeks.
- Use your holiday break wisely. Read a few books to keep your brain active, get involved in community service projects and try earning some college-fund money by shoveling drive ways and sidewalks or offering up your babysitting skills.
- Don't miss out on other college tips and information about scholarship opportunities. Follow Journey to College on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Seniors

- Some schools have December application and scholarship deadlines, so be sure to get your admissions essays written. Have your parents or a teacher look over your essays for grammar and spelling mistakes.
- Paying for college can be a real struggle for those who don't plan ahead. Start researching and applying for [scholarships](#) now.
- If you haven't started applying to colleges yet, now is the time. Even if you don't think college is the best path for you, apply to a few schools just in case you get to the end of the year and change your mind. It's best to give yourself more options.
- Keep your grades up. You want your GPA to be as high as possible when applying for schools and [scholarships](#).
- Prepare now to file your [FAFSA](#) by registering for a [Federal Student Aid PIN](#).

College Students

- A new semester is right around the corner, which means a whole new set of books to purchase. Help offset your purchase by selling back your books from this semester and saving the money for next semester's purchase. You can also try to buy used books to save even more.
- Use your holiday break to earn some money. Whether working a seasonal retail job, shoveling snow, or babysitting, there are many opportunities out there.
- Be smart about credit cards and other lines of [credit](#). Don't get sucked into "saving" money by signing up for store cards when making your holiday purchases this year. It may tempt you to spend more than you can afford to pay back.
- If you receive the [Bright Flight Scholarship](#) or [Access Missouri Grant](#), keep in mind that as a renewal student, a 2.5 cumulative GPA is required to continue receiving the award.

Parents

- With just a few weeks left in the semester, check your students' grades. Help them finish the semester strong by asking about final projects and helping them study for exams.
- If your son/daughter is signed up for an upcoming [ACT](#) or [SAT](#), use the holiday break to help them study and prepare. A good score on these tests could result in a [scholarship](#).
- Students who are seniors should be applying to colleges during this time. Encourage them to apply to multiple schools to keep their options open.
- Continue to foster an environment that encourages continued education. It's good to get kids thinking about their future at an early age.