

John Jay High School



9TH GRADE

FIRST STEPS GUIDE

Counselors meet with students, both individually and in groups, to work on academic, personal, and social issues and to provide guidance to students as they prepare their academic programs and develop post-secondary school plans.

The counselors work to cultivate helpful and mutual partnerships with parents/guardians. This cooperation helps us provide care for students as they navigate the often-challenging years of adolescence. Our reward is to watch students graduate with a positive sense of self and with a direction regarding college and/or career.

Counselors are available in person or via Webex.

Freshman High School Timeline

On Going

- We encourage you to continue to build a relationship with your counselor through on-going contact throughout the year.
- Check your school email account and your counselor's Schoology group regularly for counselor communication.
- Work hard, develop your work ethic, and do your personal best.
- Calendly is available for students to schedule appointments with their counselor.

October - December

- Consult with your counselor if difficulties arise with your classes.
- Pursue extracurricular activities. Check Schoology for available clubs.
- Students with a documented disability, a 504-accommodation plan, or students who are declassified, should contact the Counseling Center to obtain a student eligibility form to apply for possible accommodations with the College Board for PSAT/SAT and Advanced Placement exams.
- Make an appointment with your counselor.

January – February

- Plan sophomore year classes. Check to make sure you are taking a program that challenges you and provides you with an enriching learning experience.

March - May

- See your counselor for final review of your schedule for sophomore year. (Check to be sure you are taking all courses required for graduation.)
- Think about summer opportunities.

June

- Regents exams (Algebra or Geometry and Earth Science).
- Finalize summer plans.

Graduation Requirements

The Board of Education awards a diploma based upon the successful completion of an approved course of study. Credits required include:

English	4.0
Social Studies	4.0
Mathematics	3.0
Science	3.0
Physical Education	2.0
World Language	1.0
Fine or Performing Arts	1.0
Health	0.5
Electives	3.5
 Total Credits	 22.0

- A student must earn a minimum of 22 high school credits to receive a diploma.
- Physical education is required at each grade level and counts as 0.50 credit each year of high school.
- Each student is expected to carry a minimum of five courses each semester plus physical education.
- A student who pursues an accelerated course of study, which enables him or her to complete high school level work prior to entering ninth grade, will be granted high school credit.

Regents Examinations

The New York State Education Department requires that students successfully pass the following Regents examinations to graduate from high school with a Regents diploma:

Algebra	(8 th or 9 th grade)
Science (Earth Science)	(8 th or 9 th grade)
Geometry	(9 th or 10 th grade)
Global History and Geography	(10 th grade)
English Language Arts	(11 th grade)
United States History	(11 th grade)

- Students in the graduating Class of 2012 and beyond must score a minimum of 65 on all the five required Regents exams.

- **Multiple Pathways to Graduation:** The Board of Regents approved regulations establishing multiple, comparably rigorous assessment pathways to graduation for all students. Under the new “4+1” pathway assessment option, students must take and pass four required Regents exams or department approved alternative assessments (one in each of the following subjects: English, math, science, and social studies) and a comparably rigorous assessment for the fifth required exam to graduate. The fifth assessment required for graduation may include one additional Regents examination in a different course in mathematics, science, social studies or a CDOS (Career Development Occupational Studies) Pathway.
- Some students with an **Individualized Education Plan (IEP)** are eligible to satisfy graduation requirements **for a local diploma** by earning a grade of 55 or higher on the five required Regents exams (Safety Net): OR
 - The student scores 45-54 on one or more of the five required regents exams other than English or math, but scores 65 or higher on one or more of the other required exams, thus compensating for the lower scores; **provided that**
 - Each exam for which the student earned a score of 45-54 must be compensated by a score of 65 or higher on a separate exam, **and**
 - The student has earned a passing grade that meets or exceeds the school standard for passing the course in the subject of the exam for which the score of 45-54 was received, **and**
 - The student has a satisfactory attendance rate for the school year in which the student took the exam and scored 45-54

Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS)

Students will be able to earn a New York State (NYS) Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential. This credential will recognize each individualized student’s preparation and skill for post-school employment. Information about this option may be obtained in consultation with your child’s school counselor.

Additional Social Studies Requirements

All students must complete a ½ credit in Economics and a ½ credit in Participation in Government during senior year.

Individual High School Scheduling Plan

Subject	Required	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
English	4 credits	English 9	English 10		
Social Studies	4 credits	Global History 9			
Math	3 credits				
Science	3 credits				
World Language	1 credit				
Fine Arts	1 credit				
Elective #1			Health ½ credit		
Elective #2					
Elective #3					
Physical Education	2 credits	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education

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College Admission Tests
(PSAT/NMSQT, SAT & Pre-ACT, ACT)

Students who will be applying to college should consider taking the SAT and/or ACT in the spring of junior year and the fall of senior year. The SAT and ACT are offered at John Jay. The Pre-ACT is a practice ACT. John Jay offers the Pre-ACT in March/April of sophomore year. The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a practice SAT, which is also used as the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship Program for juniors only. Most juniors take the PSAT in October of their junior year.

Testing accommodation approval must be granted by both the College Board and ACT for a student to receive them for these exams. Note: Prior approval is not required for the Pre-ACT, but it is a requirement for the PSAT.

If you have any questions about testing, please consult your school counselor. Information regarding the exams, including dates, registration guidelines and scoring, can be found at www.collegeboard.com and www.act.org.

Many colleges do not require college admissions tests. To confirm requirements, please check the college websites directly.



AFTER SCHOOL “EXTRA HELP” from 2:50PM – 3:25 PM

TUESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art• Social Studies• World Language
WEDNESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business / Tech• Science• Music• English
THURSDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health• Physical Education• Math

Stages to Successful Academic and Career Planning



1. Know

Who am I? Get to know your interests, skills, and strengths.

2. Explore

Where do I want to go? Explore career pathways and education opportunities.

3. Plan

How do I get there? Set goals, choose courses, join clubs and activities

4. Research

Identify possible occupations:

- Career Zone: www.careerzone.ny.gov
- Career Outlook: www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/
- SCOIR (Individual student accounts provided at the start of 10th grade)
- Occupational Outlook Handbook: www.bls.gov/ooh/home.htm?view_full

5. GO!

Revisit plan as needed.

Helpful Hints and Guidelines for Parenting a High School Student

- Social and Emotional Guidelines for Parents and Caregivers:
https://casel.org/sp_faq/guidelines-for-parents-and-caregivers-2/
- Be aware and mindful of an appropriate balance for your child (academic, social, and extra-curricular)
- Resist trying to “fix” everything. Your child needs to learn to successfully get through many difficult situations
- Have clear expectations of what you want your child to do or not to do and communicate them clearly and consistently – DO NOT hesitate to set limits regarding cell phone use, screen time and social media
- Help your child find interests and activities that enrich their life (Importance of community/volunteer service – Don’t be afraid to try something new and have them step out of their comfort zone - Discuss why volunteerism is important to the greater good)
- Assist your child in creating a schedule in which to do their schoolwork
- Encourage and expect your child to take responsibility for their actions, resist blaming others
- Allow your child to experience disappointments, this will help build resiliency
- Try to instill a sense of satisfaction and confidence in your child – standing up for what is right even if they must stand alone
- Discuss the importance of developing empathy

***PLEASE VISIT THE COUNSELING CENTER’S WEBSITE FOR RESOURCES
ON TESTING TIMELINES, STUDY SKILLS, AND MUCH MORE!***

<http://jjhs.klschools.org/groups/4743/counseling/Home>