

# KELLAM HIGH SCHOOL

TIMELINES AND GUIDELINES FOR UPPERCLASSMAN STUDENTS

[www.kellamcounselor.com](http://www.kellamcounselor.com)

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a silver pen, writing in a spiral-bound notebook. The notebook is open, showing lined pages with some faint handwriting. The background is a warm, wooden surface. The image is partially obscured by a large yellow circle at the top and bottom.

# PLANNING MY CLASS SCHEDULE

## CONSIDERATIONS

- GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
  - (STUDENT VUE COURSE HISTORY, PARCHMENT)
- RIGOR: DO MY CLASSES HELP PREPARE ME FOR MY POST-SECONDARY PLANS
- BALANCE: JUNIOR YEAR VS SENIOR YEAR CONSIDERATIONS
- ELIGIBILITY/FULL-TIME STATUS
- FLEXIBILITY

# AP VS DUAL ENROLLMENT

	AP CLASSES	DUAL ENROLLMENT
IS IT WEIGHTED?	YES	SOME YES, SOME NO If the DE class has an AP equivalent, it is weighted the same as an AP course (ie: DE English = Weighted, DE Public Speaking = Unweighted)
HOW DO I GET COLLEGE CREDIT	Students pay a fee to take the College Board AP exam (currently \$99 or \$147 for AP Seminar and AP Research) and must earn a passing score of 3 or better. Colleges determine what scores they accept (3, 4, or 5) in order to grant college credit.	Students pass the course with a C or better. All courses on the approved DE list fall under the UGETC umbrella and are accepted by Public institutions (and most private)
WHAT IS THE FORMAT?	AP classes are taught year long on an A/B schedule.	Some DE classes, if paired with another DE course as a graduation replacement, are taught year long on an A/B schedule. Some DE classes are only a semester long. Courses taken at TCC can be offered in a variety of semester formats.
HOW MANY HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS ARE THEY?	AP Classes are 1 full credit.	DE classes are .5 credits each semester. Example: If I just take one semester of DE Biology 101, I get 3 college credits and a .5 high school credit. If I take DE English as a replacement for English 12, I would have DE English 111 and DE English 112 combined so Kellam can award me a full English credit. I would get 6 college credits. (SEAT HOUR POLICY)
HOW MUCH DO THEY COST?	AP Classes are free to take, but the exam to get college credit has a fee.	DE classes are currently free for the student.
HOW DO I DECIDE?	Interest in the course - is the content something I am interested in? Am I using this as a replacement for a graduation requirement or just a chance to earn college credits? Which delivery format works best in my schedule and with my other scheduling needs? Am I a good test taker?	



SAT®



# SAT VS ACT



ACT®

**Q:** Which is better?

**A:** Both tests are accepted by all universities equally. The better choice is the one that your student feels most comfortable with.

**Q:** Is it required?

**A:** Most schools are currently test optional, yet there are a few schools that are back to requiring an entrance exam. There also could be certain scholarships that require a test score.

**Q:** When should I take it?

**A:** Anytime after you've completed Algebra 2. Spring of Junior year is a popular choice because you have time to get your scores back, study, and retake it prior to college application deadlines.

**Q:** If a school says they are test optional, should I submit my SAT/ACT?

**A:** If your score falls within the average range of admitted students, consider submitting it. The absence of a score shouldn't hurt you, but the presence of a strong score could be used as supporting documentation for your application.

**Q:** How do I register?

**A:** The ACT and SAT each have their own registration site and process. You do not register through Kellam High School, although many high schools near us are a testing center.

[www.sat.org/register](http://www.sat.org/register)

[www.act.org/register](http://www.act.org/register)



# COLLEGE APPLICATION TIMELINE



## JUNIOR YEAR

Ensure you are on-pace for graduation and incorporating rigor into your schedule. Complete your Parchment account.

Think about all post-secondary education options. 2-year, 4-year, transfer agreements, tech/trade school

Decide if you will take an ACT/SAT and register during junior year

Explore potential majors/college/universities. Tour if possible and review announcements for visits to Kellam. Junior year = GPA for applications.

## SUMMER

Continue researching schools/options. Create an account through common application. Make an appointment for senior photos.

Relax. Trust the process. Comparison is the thief of joy. It will all be ok. We are here to help.

## SENIOR YEAR

**FOLLOW SENIOR SCOOP!!**

Attend senior meeting with your school counselor. Discuss common app and other application related processes. **FOLLOW SENIOR SCOOP!!**

Be aware of early action/decision deadlines. October 15th, November 1st, November 15th, December 1st are most common. **DO NOT APPLY BEFORE HAVING ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION.** (school profile and rank)

After applications are submitted, make sure FAFSA is complete and begin/continue applying for scholarships.

Once your acceptances come in, make thoughtful decisions. Keep up with corespondances from your school and don't miss deadlines.

Keep up with the senior scoop. All things for seniors will be shared here. (graduation info, scholarships, prom, pictures, etc)

REPEAT: Relax. Trust the process. Comparison is the thief of joy. Enjoy graduation, BE PROUD!



# APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS

- ADVANCED VS STANDARD DIPLOMA – GUIDEMAP, NOT A REQUIREMENT
- RIGOR > GPA – BOTH MATTER, BUT FIND THE BALANCE.
  - MORE IS NOT NECESSARILY BETTER
- UNDERSTAND ALL OF THE OPTIONS, PATHWAYS, AND WAYS TO REACH YOUR GOAL
  - TIMES HAVE CHANGED FOR THE BETTER IN THIS REGARD!
- DO NOT DISMISS SCHOOLS WHO ACCEPT A WIDER VARIETY OF STUDENTS AS “SLACKER” OR LESS THAN SCHOOLS. CHECK ACCREDITATION AND COMPLETION RATES
- STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSES MOUTH: THE PERSONAL ESSAY MATTERS MOST!



# SENIOR SCHEDULE OPTIONS

OPTION	CONSIDERATIONS
SUMMER AUGUST GRADUATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Only an option if they need one or two credits to graduate</li><li>● Does not have a “traditional” senior year</li><li>● Does have a graduation Ceremony</li></ul>
1ST TERM JANUARY GRADUATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● An option if a student needs 4 or less courses to graduate</li><li>● Not eligible for year long courses</li><li>● Not eligible for spring sports or winter postseason play</li><li>● CAN complete credits, but not GRADUATE until June and stay eligible and enrolled for Dual Enrollment courses at TCC</li></ul>
TRADITIONAL JUNE GRADUATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Eligible for yearlong and 4 x4 courses</li><li>● Can be part-time or full-time status (ie: Stay in school until June, but have shortened days)</li><li>● Most traditional option for those participating in VHLS sports and applying for 4 year colleges</li></ul>

# FULL-TIME STATUS/ELIGIBILITY

- VHSL, Social Security, Certain Military Benefits
- Students must be enrolled/pass at least 5 “points” the semester prior to their season, and enrolled in 5 “points” the semester of their season.
  - One 4 x 4 class = 2 points (most classes)
  - One yearlong/AB class = 1 point (AP, DE, some fine art classes, some math)
  - Half day programs = 3 points (brock, tech center, atc)
  - study block classes = 0 points; resource bells = 1 point

SAMPLE:

## FALL

1 – Honors English11 (2)  
2– Chemistry (2)  
3A– AP US History (1)  
3B– AP Precalculus (1)  
4– study block (0)

= 6 points

## SPRING

1 – Adv. Personal Fitness (2)  
2 – Finance/Econ (2)  
3A– AP US History (1)  
3B– AP Precalculus (1)  
4– Culinary (2)

= 8 points





# MILITARY RECRUITMENT

- Junior and Senior students are eligible to take the ASVAB. This is given here at Kellam. See your school counselor or Mr. Beacham for more information.
- We have a great relationship with our military recruiters from every branch. Ask Mr. Beacham for opportunities to meet with them.



## EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION

- English classes will work on resume writing and job interview skills
- please visit [www.kellamcounselor.com](http://www.kellamcounselor.com) and our Course Registration Hub for excellent resources for resumes and gaining employment experience



**THANKYOU**