

# Junior & Senior Year

## Survival & Planning Guide

for Episcopal Parents  
and Students  
2019-2020

In an effort to help our Junior and Senior parents prepare mentally and financially for the upcoming year, we have consolidated and organized important school related events pertaining to your child into this concise guide. Enclosed is a list of descriptions of the events, the anticipated costs (many are optional) and the timeframes associated with the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade activities. **NOT** included are the costs and timeframes associated with activities such as athletics, cheerleading, band, dance, drama, scouting, service projects, summer camps, summer workshops, summer school-related trips, etc. since this varies with each student. Please note that these are typical costs for any Junior or Senior student, not just at Episcopal. This guide was made FOR parents BY parents and we hope that you find it a useful resource to help you prioritize for the upcoming year.

-Parents' Guild

## JUNIOR YEAR – Event Timeline & Cost Estimate

Month	Date	Description	Cost
Aug	9	First semester classes begin	
		Pay Junior Class Student Dues <b>**Billed</b>	\$50
		Pay Junior Class Parent Dues	\$125
	28	Upper School Parents' Night	
Sept	7	ACT Boot Camp	
Oct	2	Baton Rouge National College Fair (6pm-8pm)	Free
	4	Homecoming Football Game	
	5	Homecoming Dance	
	8	Balfour ring presentation to Junior Class (Ring packet to go home with Junior)	
	9	End of First Quarter	
	10-11	Fall Break (College visit opportunity)	
	16	PSAT Test at Episcopal	
	19	ACT Boot Camp	\$25
	15 or 22	Deadline to order class ring from Balfour	Optional. Traditional Episcopal rings range from \$304-684 for girls, and \$304-904 for boys.
Nov	25-29	Thanksgiving Break (College visit opportunity)	
Dec	13	End of Second Quarter	
	16-20	Exams	

## JUNIOR YEAR – Event Timeline & Cost Estimate

Month	Date	Description	Cost
<b>Jan</b>	6	Second semester classes begin	
	15	Junior Parent College Seminar (VPAC--6:30pm)	Free
	20	Martin Luther King Holiday	
	25	Sadie Hawkins Dance	\$25
<b>Feb</b>	15	SAT Boot Camp	
	24-28	Mardi Gras Holiday (College visit opportunity)	
<b>March</b>	7	SAT Boot Camp	
	10	Ring Day Ceremony (Chapel--6:00pm)	
	12	End of Third Quarter	
	13	No Classes; Teacher in-service	
	14	ACT Boot Camp	
	22	Episcopal College Fair	Free
<b>April</b>	1	AP testing fees due (for students taking AP courses; billed mid-March)	\$94/test/child
	10-17	Easter Break (College visit opportunity)	
	25	Junior/Senior Prom and Prom Breakfast	
<b>May</b>	4-15	AP Exams	
	15	End of Fourth Quarter	
	18	Upper School Awards	
	19-22	Final Exams	

## SENIOR YEAR – Event Timeline & Cost Estimate

Month	Date	Description	Cost
Ongoing		College visits	
June		SAT, SAT Subject Tests & ACT Tests (NOTE: This is the <u>last</u> time to take them until August 24)	Depends on number of tests taken
July	19	Deadline to take Senior pictures with Kleinpeter Photography	\$55
Late July- Early Aug	7/29- 30	Episcopal College Counseling Writing Workshop—Session 1	\$125
	7/31- 8/1	Episcopal College Counseling Writing Workshop—Session 2	\$125
Aug	9	First semester classes begin	
		Pay Senior Class Student Dues <b>**Billed</b>	\$50
		Pay Senior Class Parent Dues	\$190
	21	Senior College Night (VPAC--6:30pm)	
	28	Upper School Parents' Night	
Sept		Early Decision & Early Action College Applications (Start preparing)	Varies
Oct	1	FAFSA (College Financial Aid Form)	Free
		CSS Profile Financial Aid Application forms available; check specific college websites for due dates	\$25/application \$16/college
	4	Homecoming Football Game	
	5	Homecoming Dance	
	7	Deadline for Senior Yearbook Ads and Pictures	Varies; Optional
	9	End of First Quarter	

## SENIOR YEAR – Event Timeline & Cost Estimate

Month	Date	Description	Cost
	10-11	Fall Break (College visit opportunity)	
	8	Balfour presentation to Senior class (Graduation Announcement Packet goes home with Senior)	
	15 or 22	Graduation announcements/Balfour orders due	
<b>Oct-Nov</b>		Early Decision & Early Action College Applications (start preparing)	Varies
<b>Nov</b>	25-29	Thanksgiving Break (College visit opportunity)	
<b>Nov-Jan</b>		Prepare Regular Decision College Applications. Check college websites for specific due dates.	Varies
<b>Nov-Mar</b>		Plan Senior trip (Optional); Consider AP exam schedule	Varies
<b>Dec</b>	13	End of Second Quarter	
	17-20	Exams	
<b>Jan</b>		Graduation dress; begin shopping. Girls need long (to the floor), white formal gown. Boys wear traditional tuxedo.	Varies
		Regular Decision College Applications. Submit by deadline.	\$25-75
	6	Second semester classes begin	
	25	Sadie Hawkins Dance	
<b>Feb</b>	24-28	Mardi Gras Break	
<b>March</b>	10	Ring Day Ceremony--6:00pm	
	12	End of Third Quarter	

## SENIOR YEAR – Event Timeline & Cost Estimate

Month	Date	Description	Cost
	13	No classes; Teacher in-service	
<b>April</b>	1	AP testing fees due (for students taking AP courses; billed mid-March)	\$94/test/child
		Mail graduation announcements	1 <sup>st</sup> class postage/announcement
	8	Senior Sensation Luncheon	
	9	Senior Skip Day	
	10-17	Easter Break	
	25	Junior/Senior Prom and Prom Breakfast	
<b>May</b>		College deposit deadlines	\$500 approx.
	4-15	AP Exams	
	7	Last Day for Seniors (Senior Walk Out)	
	8 & 11	Senior Exams	
	13	Senior Awards Ceremony—4:30pm Reception—5:30pm Baccalaureate—6:00pm	
	15	Graduation Rehearsal—3:00pm	
	16	Commencement at 7:00pm, followed by reception in Webster Refectory	
	16	Post-Graduation Activities for graduates – Dinner & Casino Knight (immediately following Commencement)	Covered by Senior Parent Dues
		Senior Trip	Optional

<b>ACT Testing</b>		
<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Cost</b>
September 14, 2019	August 16, 2019	\$50.50 - no writing \$67.00 - writing
October 26, 2019	September 20, 2019	
December 14, 2019	November 8, 2019	
February 8, 2020	January 10, 2020	
April 4, 2020	February 28, 2020	
June 13, 2020	May 8, 2020	
July 18, 2020	June 19, 2020	

<b>SAT Testing</b>		
<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Cost</b>
August 24, 2019	July 24, 2019	\$46 - no writing \$60 – writing
October 5, 2019	September 5, 2019	
November 2, 2019	October 2, 2019	
December 7, 2019	November 7, 2019	
March 14, 2020	February 14, 2020	
May 2, 2020	April 3, 2020	
June 6, 2020	May 8, 2020	

# **BASIC COLLEGE COUNSELING INFORMATION**

**(For parents by parents)**

College preparation is a big reason why we chose Episcopal for our children. The College Counseling Department does a great job of giving you and your child all the information that you need or want to know in a timely fashion so as not to overwhelm parents. Alphabetically listed below are some of the important college related items that we felt needed a little more explanation. Seniors and senior parents should attend College Counseling Nights and read the College Word to be best informed.

## **ACT & SAT TESTS**

The ACT and SAT tests are the two college entrance exams all colleges will accept. ACT and SAT testing is held at various testing centers in the city, and students must register themselves for the test. Strict registration requirements (including uploading a photo ID) must be adhered to. Students can and are encouraged to take the ACT and/or SAT test as many times as they would like, and these tests are offered several times throughout the year. For more information and schedule of test dates, go to [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) and [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). NOTE: Some highly selective colleges require SAT subject tests be taken.

## **BATON ROUGE NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR**

College counselors from local area schools organize this college fair which will be held in the Baton Rouge River Center on October 3, 2019. Students from all local area schools and their parents are invited to attend this free fair. Several workshops on topics such as TOPS/financial aid, the college application process, and SAT vs ACT are covered. Representatives from colleges across the country, but especially the Southeast, will be present to talk one-on-one with interested students and parents.

## **COLLEGE APPLICATIONS**

Episcopal's college counselors should review students' applications, essays, and resumes prior to submission. When students apply, make sure that SAT and ACT scores have been sent to the colleges of your choice from the ACT/SAT testing agency. This is done electronically for approximately \$10 per school. Application fees vary from college to college (\$25-75), and fees are paid online. Early Decision and Early Action College Applicants need to be aware of deadlines, and Regular Decision Applicants need to be aware of earlier deadlines!

## **COLLEGE COUNSELING NIGHTS**

Episcopal's College Counseling Department hosts a series of informative meetings that address a wide variety of topics that pertain to the college application process. Students and parents will receive emails and flyers with information regarding these meetings.

## **COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING WORKSHOP**

A two-day intensive workshop run by our college counseling department designed to help rising Episcopal Seniors with their application process including emphasis on the college admission essay. Details will be sent in the spring to rising Seniors and their parents.



## **COLLEGE VISITS**

Visits to colleges can begin anytime but should have occurred by the latter part of the junior year. The best time to visit colleges is when the students are on campus and school is in session. A great time to take advantage of this opportunity is during our fall, Mardi Gras, and Easter breaks. Summer is a convenient time to incorporate visits during family vacations, but summer school sessions are not a full representative of campus life during the school year. Parents cover the cost of transportation, lodging, meals, etc. and students are responsible for booking their own tours with the individual college admission offices. Another option to college visits is virtual tours, for example [www.collegeclicktv.com](http://www.collegeclicktv.com).

## **CSS PROFILE FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION FORMS**

This is a financial aid application form required by certain private colleges. Visit [www.profileonline.collegeboard.com](http://www.profileonline.collegeboard.com) for more information.

## **FAFSA**

Complete the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) and submit it to the colleges of your choice and TOPS. The application is available online October 1, and you can apply at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

## **PSAT TEST**

Students are preregistered and testing is paid for by Episcopal. Students can take the test twice, once during their sophomore year and again during the fall of their junior year. (Junior year testing is optional.) The test is administered during the school day at Episcopal. National Merit Awards are based on the results of the October PSAT taken during the junior year.

## **TEST PREP**

Test prep for the ACT is provided on campus during a student's free period, for a fee. There are also numerous individuals, organizations, and online options available for students to prep for both the ACT and SAT.

# JUNIOR & SENIOR EVENTS

Listed below alphabetically are most of the important Junior and Senior events that were placed on the cost and event timeline that we felt needed brief explanation. Episcopal does inform the students about these events, but sometimes this information does not trickle down to parents. Episcopal's Upper School office does email detailed information regarding Graduation and the Commencement Ceremony. The school does NOT sponsor some of the events listed below; therefore, you will receive information about these events from parent volunteers.

## AP TEST FEES

For each Advanced Placement (AP) class your child takes, Episcopal will assess \$94 per test. You will receive a bill in mid-March for each AP exam your child takes in May. Your child must score at least a 3 out of 5 to receive college credit. College placement is at the discretion of the college.

## CLASS RING

An official class ring can be ordered from a Balfour representative who comes to school and makes a presentation to Junior students. Balfour sends home a catalog or you can view their products at [www.balfour.com](http://www.balfour.com). Episcopal does have a traditional class ring, unique to our school, or students may design their own ring. A deposit is expected when the ring is ordered, and the balance is due in February. Some students choose to purchase a ring from a jewelry store, use a family ring, or use a ring they already have that has special significance to them (State Champion ring, etc) that they are calling their "class ring." It is brought to the Ring Day Ceremony and will be presented to them by a Senior just as a ring from Balfour would be. Some students choose not to have a class ring and still participate in the ring ceremony by receiving an Episcopal pin in place of the ring.

## COMMENCEMENT FEE

Assessed by Episcopal to defray commencement costs such as: overtime, air conditioning, security, caps and gowns for baccalaureate ceremony, video equipment, outdoor lighting, student flowers, etc. This fee also helps defray cost of special events during the year for seniors.

## GRADUATION / COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Graduation activities take place over a two-day period. Times are TBD and detailed information from the Upper School Office will be emailed to parents. These activities include:

- **Senior Awards Ceremony** – held the Wednesday afternoon before Graduation at 4:30 pm. Students wear nice dress, with graduation gowns.

- **Baccalaureate Ceremony** – held following the Senior Awards Ceremony at 6:00 pm. If you want to have a family graduation dinner, it is a good time to do it after this ceremony before graduation day. Students wear graduation gowns at the Baccalaureate also.

- **Commencement** – Graduation takes place in the Chapel at 7 pm. See Graduation Dress below for dress code. Following the ceremony, graduates, parents and guests are invited to a Graduation Reception in the Webster Refectory hosted by Parents' Guild. Immediately following the reception, graduates board the bus for their special dinner, dance and Casino Knight (see Post Graduation activities). Only graduates (and chaperones) attend these events.

## GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Balfour representative visits campus with information on official Episcopal graduation

announcements and lots of graduation extras for Seniors. Package options abound with a quick turnaround to get orders placed. In the past, announcements have cost \$0.95 each and name cards were \$29.00 per box of 100, but prices will vary depending upon the chosen package. A deposit must be put down with the balance due upon delivery in February or March. It is also important to remember that there is limited seating during graduation exercises so an announcement is just an announcement – it is not a ticket in the door. Information regarding seating will be given to parents and students by the Upper School Office in plenty of time before May.

### **GRADUATION DRESS**

Detailed dress instructions for commencement will be sent out by the Upper School office. Girls wear a floor length, white gown. This dress does not have to be wedding gown or debutante gown quality. Many girls have had success at local bridal shops (for example David's Bridal). Boys will be required to wear a traditional black tuxedo with black cummerbund, bow tie and white shirt. Boys may wear their own tux or rent from any of the local formal shops. The school provides the red rose bouquets for the girls, and the boutonnieres for the boys.

### **HOMECOMING**

Weeklong event in which Upper School students follow a theme (set by the Seniors) and decorate a designated section of the school, wear costumes, and create/wear a class t-shirt (cost \$10- \$15). A pep rally and alumni events are held on Friday of that week. The varsity Homecoming football game is held that Friday night and during halftime, the Homecoming Court is presented. The Homecoming Dance is held on campus the next night (Saturday), and usually requires a special outfit and dinner. Girls usually wear a tasteful short dress while boys wear a coat and tie or a suit. Many parents host a group of students for a nice dinner at home to help with the costs. It is very acceptable for groups of students to attend these dances without dates. Tickets can be purchased prior to the dance at school or at the door. School provides chaperones and security. Students bringing guests (non-Episcopal students) MUST obtain a guest pass in ADVANCE from the Head of Upper School.

### **JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM**

The prom dance is usually held one Saturday night in April and is only for Junior and Seniors and their guests. This dance is held off campus. The Junior Class pays for prom costs by fundraisers throughout the year. Girls wear long dresses and boys wear tuxes (does not have to be black tie – some color is accepted). Many parents host a group of students for a nice dinner at home to help with the costs, or students choose to go to a restaurant prior to the dance. School provides chaperones and security. Students bringing guests (non-Episcopal students) MUST obtain a guest pass in ADVANCE from the Division Head.

### **JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM BREAKFAST**

Parents of the Junior Class (NOT THE SCHOOL) sponsor a "Safe Home" (substance-free) breakfast from 11 pm until 1 am immediately following the Junior/Senior Prom. Parents are asked to strongly encourage their children to attend. It is a very fun, elegant, entertaining, and safe way for prom-goers to cap off a special evening. The prom party is held at the home of a Junior student. There are parent chaperones and security, so it doesn't get much safer than this for post-prom activities. We ask parents to please not hold any post-prom parties that evening so that our "Safe House" party is well attended and fun for ALL students. Prom Breakfast dues are assessed to only Juniors, which covers the cost of the party for both Juniors and Seniors and their prom guests. The 11th

grade reps form committees of interested parents to help with food, decorations, security, and set up/clean up, so please contact them if you are interested in helping.

### **PARENT DUES**

JUNIOR PARENT DUES- these dues are collected in the fall of the school year. These dues are used for the Junior/Senior Prom, which cover food, security, DJ, and decorations. Any leftover funds will be applied toward Senior year activities. Dues can be paid online at the Episcopal Store or by check.

SENIOR PARENT DUES- these dues cover the Senior Sensation luncheon, post-graduation dinner at the City Club, DJ for dancing at the City Club, bus transportation from Episcopal after graduation to the City Club, and Casino Knight (including a prize for every Senior, food/beverages, party tent/tables/chairs' rental). Any remaining balance will be used to help the Senior class with their class gift to Episcopal. Dues can be paid online at the Episcopal Store or by check.

### **POST-GRADUATION ACTIVITIES**

Post-graduation activities are sponsored by Senior Class parents, and costs are covered by Senior parent dues. Following graduation and the graduation reception, graduates board a bus to a catered dinner and dance. After dinner and dancing, they board the bus to a Senior parent's home for Casino Knight, where they will change into provided T-shirts and play casino-like games. Each student will win a nice prize with their winnings. Prizes vary from electronics to small appliances to dorm room accessories. Attending these activities is optional, but it is a fun filled time for these graduates to spend one last time together in a safe, supervised environment.

### **JUNIOR RING DAY CEREMONY**

An hour-long traditional ceremony that is conducted in the Chapel, in which parents are invited to attend. A "Save the Date" will be sent via email, and an invitation mailed to families. Juniors typically wear nice dress – nice pants with shirt/tie for boys (coat not required), and nice dresses for girls. As each Junior's name is called out, each Junior will be presented his or her ring by a Senior (or a couple of Seniors). This year the Junior Ring Ceremony will be an evening event in the chapel at 6:00pm.

### **SADIE HAWKINS DANCE**

Sadie Hawkins is typically held on a Saturday night in February/March from 7:00 to 10:00pm in the Greer Center. Girls traditionally ask boys to the dance. Dress usually follows a theme. It is very acceptable for groups of students to attend the dance without dates. Tickets can be purchased prior to the dance at school or at the door. The Sophomore class hosts this dance as a fundraiser. School provides chaperones and security. Students bringing guests (non Episcopal students) MUST obtain a guest pass in advance from the Division Head.

### **SENIOR ADS FOR YEARBOOK**

Senior ads are special pages in the yearbook dedicated to Seniors by family members. Photos and payment deadline is usually in September. An email with details and prices is sent at the beginning of the school year.

### **SENIOR SENSATION LUNCHEON**

This special catered luncheon honoring the Seniors is usually held in April in the Alumni House Dining

Hall. It is for Seniors only and serves to kick-off the countdown to Graduation, and the Seniors also select their menu choice for the post-Graduation dinner and dance.

### **SENIOR PICTURES**

Kleinpeter Photography is the official photographer for yearbook pictures. They are located at 8336 Jefferson Highway, 70809 (Phone: 225-928-7596). The \$55 sitting fee will cover the cost of the yearbook photo; additional photo packages are optional. The tuxedos for boys and drapes for girls are provided by Kleinpeter. Only Kleinpeter photos can be used for yearbook photos and official Episcopal photos. Parents will receive an email from school at the beginning of summer with detailed information regarding portraits. The deadline for pictures is July 19th.

### **SENIOR RETREAT**

The Senior Class along with the Senior class advisors have an annual retreat at an off-site location at the beginning of the school year. The class participates in a number of bonding and spiritual activities. Under their leadership, the class creates a plan and direction for their Senior year and student community. All members of the Senior class are expected to attend, as a portion of the school requirements leading to graduation.

### **SENIOR TRIP (Optional)**

This is not an Episcopal sanctioned trip. Usually groups of students and parents plan these Senior trips. Details are coordinated among individuals. Students must be aware of potential conflicts with AP testing and late testing schedules.