



## 10 Tips to Jump Start Your College Plan!

Greetings Students and Parents. EDFIN Cash for College would like to take this opportunity to assist in your college planning endeavors. Listed below are ten tips that will aide in guiding you along your journey to college enrollment and acceptance. Over the course of the next five weeks we will expand upon each tip, providing greater insight and preparation. Visit our [website](#) for additional information or call us at [951-261-9799](tel:951-261-9799).

Your Expert College Planner,  
Shelly Rufin

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[Click on photo to watch Shelly Rufin's interview on the 10 Tips for College and Financial Aid Planning.](#)

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## Junior Year Preparations

1. Explore careers and their earning potential in the



Occupational Outlook Handbook. Alternatively try the U.S Department of Labor's career Search.

2. **Fall:**  
Take the Preliminary SAT/PSAT. You must take the test in the 11th grade to qualify for scholarships and programs associated with the National Merit Scholarship Program.
3. **Spring:** Register for and take exams for college admission. The standardized test that many colleges require are the SAT, the SAT Subject Test and the ACT.

4. **Summer{Pre-12th Grade}**

Narrow down the list of colleges you are considering attending. If you can, visit the schools that interest you.

Occupational Outlook Handbook  
U.S Department of Labor

## Senior Year - Preparedness

1. Work hard all year. Second Semester grades can affect scholarship eligibility.
2. Stay involved in after-school activities and seek leadership roles when possible.
3. Fall: Meet with your school counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements. Well before your application deadlines; ask your counselor and teachers to submit required documents (e.g, transcript, letter of recommendation) to the colleges to which you're applying.
4. If you haven't done so already, register for and take the required test for college admissions and pay close attention to deadlines!
5. Winter: Encourage you parent(s) to complete income tax forms early.
6. Spring: Review your college acceptances and visits institutions that have invited you to enroll.

