

COLLEGE PLANNING

Tips On Getting It Together for College

(NAPSA)—Applying to college is a big project with lots of tasks and deadlines, and high school juniors and seniors often feel overwhelmed by it all. “We hear that a lot from students,” says Laura Barnes of collegeboard.com. “They need help getting organized.” That help comes in a new book from the College Board, a national not-for-profit membership association whose best-known programs are the SAT®, the PSAT/NMSQT®, and the Advanced Placement Program® (AP®).

The book is called “Get It Together for College,” a planner that is based on the rich resources of the college-planning Web site www.collegeboard.com. The book includes clear and simple tips, checklists and timelines for students who plan to go on to college. It takes the entire college application process and separates it into just a lot of little jobs spread out over a long period of time.

The Big Calendar

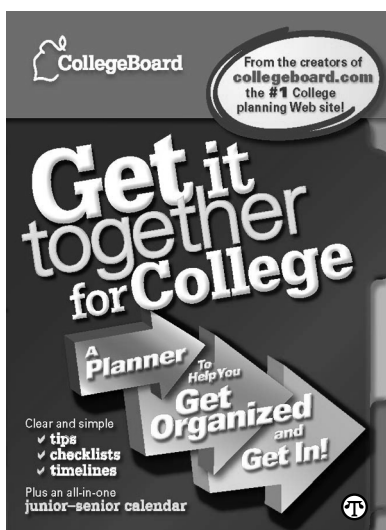
For example, in “The Big Calendar” section, all the college application “to do’s” are laid out month-by-month for both junior and senior year.

The calendar suggests that students read some interesting books the summer before their junior year (a separate reading list is provided).

By September, juniors should meet with their school counselor to make sure they are taking the courses that colleges look for. September for seniors is a time to meet with their school counselor to finalize their list of colleges and to start a checklist of all application requirements.

Seniors should ask teachers for letters of recommendation in October and draft application essays in November.

The book also includes a sample letter requesting a recommen-



There's less stress in the college application process when you know what to do, how to do it and when to do it.

dation, and strategies for success in both the multiple-choice section and essay section of the SAT and ACT.

Whether you'd like to brush up on those essay-writing do's and don'ts or need help in going through financial aid forms, “Get It Together for College” helps you avoid being overwhelmed and helps you pull it all together.

Get Alerts on What's Next

Collegeboard.com, the College Board's Web site, also makes it easier to get organized online, stay on top of those college-planning milestones and make smart choices. With My Organizer, you get alerts, such as being told the moment your SAT scores are released or the next crucial step in your college planning. The site lets you check your My Calendar to see upcoming dates and deadlines for tests, your college applications and other milestones.