

### COLLEGE ROADMAP

November

Time to start almost wrapping up those college applications! It's never a bad idea to have a running list of deadlines for schools you are applying to because a lot of schools have different deadlines based on whether you're applying for merit scholarships or not. Try to have someone proofread your application before you submit so you can be sure to correct any errors!

Thanksgiving is a great time to schedule any last college tours you want to do before you finish your applications! Visiting campuses can help you decide if you think the school is a good fit for you and give you more to highlight in your application.

December

Use winter break to finish up any last college applications and scholarship applications! This is a great time to finalize all of your applications and double-check them before you submit! After submitting, take a deep breath and relax for a little! You did it!

Winter break is also a good time to start thinking about your last semester of high school. Are there any goals you hope to achieve? Any last projects you want to finish or classes you need to take? The last semester of high school can be bittersweet so think about what you can do to take full advantage of it and be present in each and every moment before high school graduation.

January

Keep an eye out on scholarship websites! There are many scholarships available for students, but it can be tricky to find them sometimes! You can use search engines, such as [Fastweb](#), that can identify lesser-known scholarships that you can apply to and help ease your tuition worries for college.

You can also explore scholarship opportunities at your local organizations! Many hospitals and local business offer scholarships for high school students in the area and can be important sources for scholarships that are often overlooked.

### WELLNESS CORNER

Finals can be both physically and mentally exhausting for a high school student. There are many ways you can maintain a healthy and happy lifestyle while keeping up with the pressures of school!

As you gear up for finals, remember to give your brain a break during studying! If you feel yourself getting tired or losing focus, take a short 20 minute break and then get back to studying. **You can take a walk during that break, meditate, or even hang out with your family!**

In order to best maximize your studying time, try to stay off your phone and avoid social media on your computer. If you're one of those people that gets distracted easily, you can download [Self Control](#) on your computer or [Flora](#) on your phone to help keep you productive and off your phone! Try them out and see if they help you focus!

### Reach, Target, and Safety Schools

As a high school senior, you may be faced with many different options for prospective colleges to apply to. Make sure you are applying to the right Safety, Target, and Reach schools based on your transcript, test scores, and experiences. The Princeton Review recommends you start with applying to 2 schools in each of these categories. [Check out this article to learn more tips on how to choose a school!](#)

### Staying Involved In Jamatkhana

While it may seem difficult to balance school and stay involved in seva, it can easily be done! Volunteering at Jamatkhana or through I-CERV are activities that may be counted as extracurriculars in your college applications when it comes time to apply.

### Scholarships

AXA Achievement Scholarship - up to \$25,000 - due December 14

Burger King Scholars Program - up to \$50,000 - due December 15

Digital Privacy Scholarship - \$1,000 - due January 30

I Have A Dream Scholarship - \$1,500 - due January 31

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

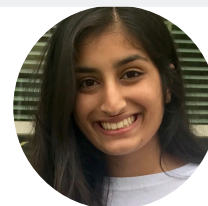
#### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO SENIORS APPLYING TO COLLEGES RIGHT NOW?

“Don't apply to too many colleges and especially not ones where you don't see yourself enjoying your time and growing in. Apply to those that you care about, feel happy pursuing, and aspire to reach (as well as one safety school).

Then, focus your time on making these applications solid. Do not let yourself procrastinate - as tempting as it may be. Don't beat yourself down on which schools you didn't make it to, everything happens for a reason and I can assure you there is something better out there for you. Finally, as surprising as it may seem, you will miss high school so make the most of your final year, create memories, and have fun.”

#### DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS FOR SECURING FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS?

“College IS expensive, so take hold of every opportunity you have to receive scholarships. Treat these applications with the same dedication as a college application to get the best results. If it gets too stressful, don't be afraid to ask your counselor, teachers, and even other Jamati members for ideas and guidance. There are some really useful programs such as Questbridge which help students afford the tuition of pricey colleges - just be sure to do your research and start applying!”



Sahar Momin

College Freshman - Rice University