

SJAS College Readiness Guidelines

Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can. *Arthur Ashe*

In order for a student to be considered college ready there are skills, content knowledge and behaviors that must be acquired before leaving high school.

The core areas of college readiness are:

- Strong intellectual growth throughout the primary and secondary years fostered by increasingly challenging content in the four core subjects and beyond.
- The ability to think critically and problem solve in the context of a continuously changing set of circumstances and realities.
- The advancement of reading, writing, and numeric skills that enable success in all college courses.
- The capacity to communicate effectively with individuals from a variety of cultural and professional backgrounds.

Knowledge and Skills:

- The school must organize the curriculum in each subject area to teach students how to develop specific knowledge within the structure of the curriculum horizontal and vertical mapping.
- Students need to understand information about procedures of applying at different universities, requirements, documentation, fees, learning styles, and interests.
- Teach students to focus on developing key cognitive strategies necessary for college success.

Students can develop their college readiness by:

- Constructing proper planning
- Meeting and fulfilling admission requirements
- Knowing how to utilize information

Begin the path to readiness when stepping to High School (Grade 9 till 12):

- Know how to calculate the GPA.
- What is meant by Grading Scale.
- Know obligatory and elective subjects.
- General knowledge about SAT tests, requirements, learning abilities and requirements.
- Plan for SAT test dates.
- Practice for the SAT.

- Work on improving academic challenges.
- Meet deadlines without fear or tension.
- Avoid absence, laziness, lack of studying, loss of interest.

Begin the path to choosing your future: (Grade 9 till 12):

- Eliminate your interests.
Advice to parents: Don't ask your teenager what he/she wants to become, rather ask them what problems they would want to solve when they grow up.
- Narrow your list based on your SAT scores.
- Investigate different colleges with similar degrees.
- Compare requirements, benefits, and outcomes.
- Keep your parents informed with your route of thoughts.
- Ask for advice.
- Accept criticism and advice.

High School Transcript:

- Usually issued at the end of Grade 12 academic year.
- Includes all scores of all subjects covered during the last 4 years in school.
- If a student is transferred to Grade 10 from a national/language, he will be obliged to submit his Grade 9 official end-of-year report issued by the Ministry of Education.
- If a student is transferred to Grade 10 from an international school, he will be obliged to request his Grade 9 official transcript from the previous school and stamped from the accreditation authority.
- If a student is transferred to Grade 10 from a national/language, he will be obliged to submit his Grade 10 official end-of-year report issued from the previous school.
- If a student is transferred to Grade 10 from an international school, he will be obliged to request his Grades 9 & 10 official transcript from the previous school and stamped from the accreditation authority.
- Transfers from Grades 11 and 12 are completely rejected.

SAT Scores Report:

It is essential to add the Code for Ministry of Higher Education is 6134 and Amideast code 5027 to be able to collect your score report from the Amideast.

Basic College Requirements:

- High School Transcript that includes academic scores of the last 4 High School years.
Minimum GPA is 2.00

- Stamped SAT scores report (minimum scores are announced by the college)
- College admission application
- Personal photos (count varies from one college to another)
- Essay writing (count varies from one college to another)
- Recommendation letters (may be required)
- TOEFL or IELETS (may be required)

Admitting for Abroad:

- Some colleges require a list of all subjects taught and during High School years.
- Some colleges require recommendation letters from at least two teachers of core subjects.
- Some colleges require evidence of sharing in extracurricular activities or community series.

Financial Aid:

- Need-based financial aid: When the student cannot afford to pay the total amount of annual fees. The college might grant him/her full aid or a certain percentage of aid upon based on request and evidence.
- Merit-based financial aid: When the scores of a student are high to the extent of granting him aid as a part of the significant encouragement plan of the college to identify talented and unique students. In this case, the student has to submit a document from school stating his Class Rank in addition to all the above mentioned requirements.

College Interviews:

Tips to help students pass the interview:

- Respect the college by being punctual.
- Respect the interviewer by telling the truth.
- Respect yourself by being honest about the information you give.
- Wear a formal outfit.
- Show interest in the field you are applying for more than talking about personal experiences unless asked to.
- Be confident
- Be realistic
- Be motivated
- Keep a role model figure in your thoughts.
- Be proud of your strengths if asked to identify them.
- Face your weaknesses if asked to identify them.
- Show willingness in learning and benefiting for the sake of a better future.