

Freshman Year Guide

Freshman Year Checklist

- o Develop your four year high school academic plan
- o Meet with your counselor to get to know them and how they can help you succeed at JCS
- o Become familiar with graduation and college prep requirements
- o Set goals for academic and personal success
- o Utilize Canvas accounts to check grades and to stay informed with your academic progress
- o Log in and become familiar with your Naviance account
- o Establish effective study habits and time management skills. Use study groups/tutors/Insite as needed.
- o Start a journal and record all your extracurricular activities.
- o Obtain recommendations for your sophomore classes.
- o Plan summer activities. Consider summer school courses at the community college and volunteering.
- o Access Naviance to research/track your college research

Four Year Planning

Four Year Planning Worksheet

[Click here](#) for a blank four year plan that you can fill out with your parents, teachers, counselors, or by yourself!

Julian Charter School High School Graduation Requirements

[JCS HS Graduation Requirements Check-Off Sheet](#)

A-G Requirements

A-G requirements are requirements that California State Universities (CSU's) or Universities of California (UC's) are going to look to see that students have completed in high school. If students do not fulfill all of these requirements, they will not be eligible to apply to any CSU's or UC's as incoming freshmen. To meet minimum admission requirements, you must complete 15 year long high school courses **with a letter grade of C or better** — at least 11 of them prior to your last year of high school.

[Please click here to learn about the details of A-G requirements.](#)

Please note the 4 main differences between JCS HS graduation requirements are the following:

Subject	JCS Graduation Requirements	A-G Requirements
Foreign Language	1 year of a Foreign Language OR VAPA (Visual Art/Performing Art)	2 years of the same Foreign Language at the High School level OR 1 semester of a Foreign Language at the Community College level
VAPA (Visual Art/Performing Art)	1 year of a Foreign Language OR VAPA (Visual Art/Performing Art)	1 year of the same Visual/Performing Art at the High School level OR 1 semester of a Visual/Performing Art at the Community College level
Math	3 years of math	3 years of math going up to the level of Integrated Math III. 4 years of math recommended.
Science	2 years of science (one biological and one physical, including at least one lab)	2 years of science (one biological and one physical, including at least one lab) 3 years of science recommended.

Future Planning

What do I want to do after I graduate High School?

Post Secondary Options

Employment

Career College

Military or Military Academy

Apprenticeship Program

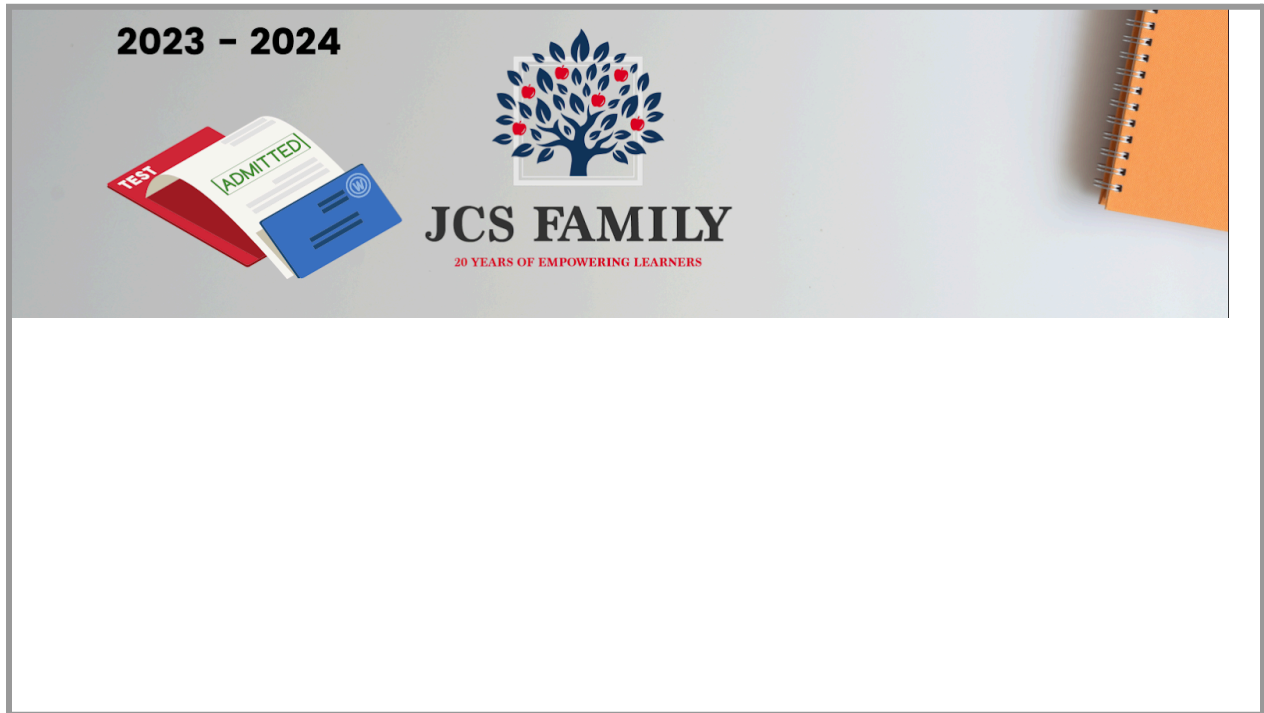
Gap Year

College (2 year and/or 4 year)



For more detailed information about all of these options, please browse through the College Readiness and Career Readiness tabs under JCS School Counseling on the JCS Website.

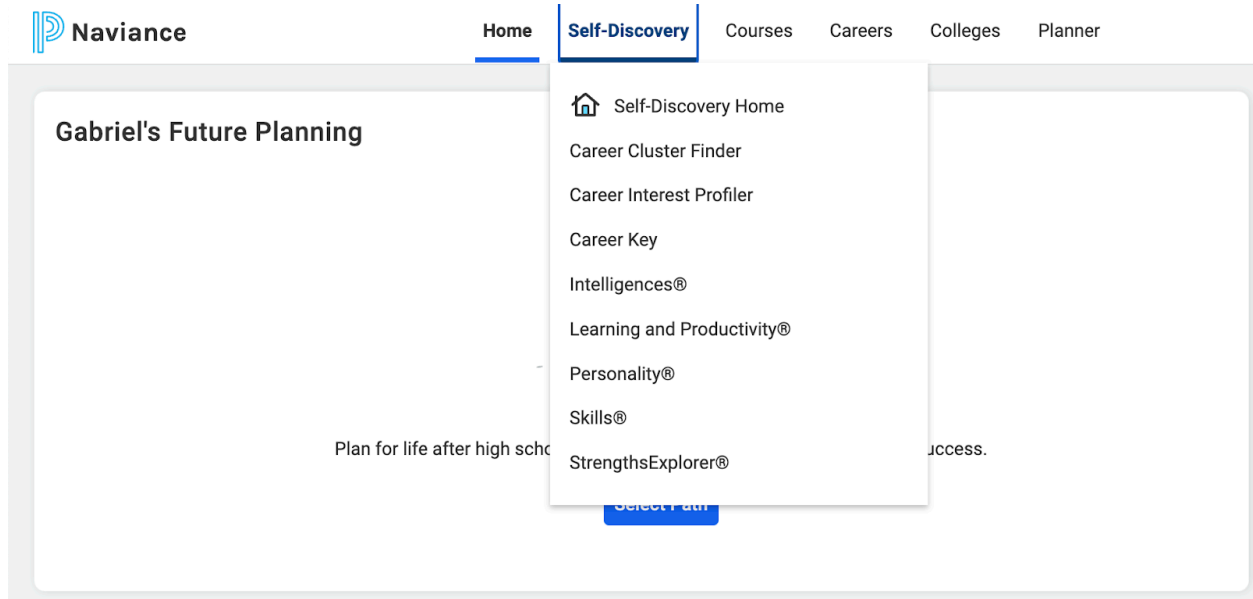
If I go to college, which college is right for me?



Which career is right for me?

Log into [Naviance](#) using your Clever ID.

Once you are in Naviance, click on Self-Discovery and fill out the Career Cluster Finder and the Career Interest Profiler.



PSAT

JCS Family of Schools offers the PSAT for 8th and 9th grade students once per year, at varying JCS campuses.

Why take the PSAT in 8th or 9th grade?

- Set a Baseline: You'll know your strengths and what skills you'll need to practice so you can continue to improve. Then you can track your progress when you take the PSAT 10, PSAT/NMSQT, and/or SAT.
- Explore College and Career Options: With your scores, you'll get customized guidance to help you explore careers that match your interests and skills and information to help you search for colleges. Then you can save your favorites to your own lists.

If you plan to take the SAT, or think you might in the future, the Practice SAT is a great way to practice and learn what to expect on the SAT. You are also able to take this through JCS in 10th and 11th grade.

This year the PSAT is in March of each year and will cost roughly \$20 per student to sign up.

When the dates get closer, more detailed PSAT 8/9 information will be emailed to you, as well as posted on ParentSquare, and added to the monthly newsletter. This information will include confirmation of the date and time, the exact price to register, the various locations we will be offering the test, the EventBrite link to sign up, and the sign up deadline.

Please Note:

UC or CSU schools no longer require students to take the SAT or submit any SAT scores. However, there are still many colleges/universities that do. In addition, there are many colleges/universities that may not require SAT scores, however they could help your chances of being accepted. Please make sure to research the schools that you are considering applying to and see what their SAT requirements/recommendations are.

They offer the SAT many times throughout the year, and College Board recommends that students who are planning to take the SAT, take it for their first time during the Spring semester of their Junior year. You can take the SAT as many times as you would like, and it is recommended that you take it at least twice.

Naviance

Please make sure that you are taking advantage of JCS's college and career platform: [Naviance](#). Every JCS student has a Naviance account, which is provided for them with no cost to the student. Please note that you will no longer be able to access your account after you graduate high school.

Naviance allows you to explore colleges and careers, and help you find what the best colleges/universities/careers for you could be! In addition to that, it allows you to apply to colleges, compare college pricing, see access to scholarships, and even calculate how likely you are to get into your dream schools!

In addition to that, there are lessons assigned to every grade level that students are encouraged to complete each school year. It allows you to learn more about yourself and better prepare for your future. Also, students are able to receive 5 credits in "Life Skills" if they complete every lesson that is assigned to their grade level. Life Skills is a JCS graduation requirement. Even if students do not need the credits, they are still highly encouraged to complete the lessons.