

TIMELINE for SENIOR YEAR

On a large calendar, preferably one on which all the months of the year can be seen, keep track of what has to be done and by when – deadlines for applications, essays, scholarships, tests, interviews, and personal reminders! This list will help get the process started.

September

- Register for the ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests (if needed).
- Request admission, scholarship/financial aid, and housing applications from colleges of choice.
- Take advantage of college visitation schedules and visits by college admissions representatives on our high school campus.
- Check the scholarship information in the Guidance Office for scholarship opportunities and their qualifications.
- Pick up the CSS Profile registration form in the Guidance Office if this financial aid form is required by the private college(s).
- Review for the college admission tests if the need be to take/retake them. (ACT and SAT offer study guides for purchase.)
- Stay focused on academic excellence. Colleges do take note of the academic commitment made in the senior year.

October

- Photocopy the admission application and use the photocopy as a worksheet.
- Note college admission and scholarship application deadlines.
- Always ask for recommendations four weeks in advance of their due date.
- Make sure to send ACT/SAT scores to the colleges of choice.
- Mail in-state university/college applications to meet November 1 priority deadline date.
- Athletes, or students thinking about sports participation in college, must complete NCAA Clearinghouse Registration form.

November

- Request recommendations by November 15 in order to meet December through February deadlines.

December

- Complete Community Service requirement.
- Finalize college essays – quality time must be spent on the essays.
- Finalize out-of-state college applications and make copies of everything.
- Verify with the high school counselor that school documentation – i.e. transcript, secondary report – will also be sent to colleges.

- File scholarship/financial aid applications for specific colleges by the required deadlines.
- Include a resume with college scholarship applications.
- Pick up the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) information in the Guidance Office or go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- Verify with the counselor that a midyear report has been sent to every college that requires one.

January

- Prepare FAFSA and, if needed, the supplemental PROFILE. (FAFSA requires Income Tax information, so figure taxes early. Mail FAFSA as soon after January 1, as possible, and before February 15.) Photocopy the FAFSA before sending it off.
- Pay attention to various state and local scholarship opportunities. Many have deadlines between January and April.

February

- Review any materials that have been received and act upon them.

March

- Continue to explore scholarship opportunities and complete applications.
- Review the Federal Student Aid (SAR) Report for accuracy when it is received in the mail.

April

- Review acceptance and financial aid packages. Visit colleges again, if need be, before making a final decision. Accept offer from college of choice by notifying them of the desire to attend. Notify other schools of the decision not to attend.

May

- Take Advanced Placement tests, if that applies, and final exams.
- Thank parents, teachers, counselor, administrators, other school personnel, employers, friends, and other family members who have helped complete this entire educational journey.
- Request final transcript to be sent to chosen college.
- Enjoy the Prom.
- Attend Senior Awards Night.
- Graduate!