

SENIOR YEAR CHECKLIST:

SUMMER BEFORE SENIOR YEAR

Your mind might be on other things right now, but Senior year is just around the corner.

Don't let it sneak up on you! Take action! Here are some things to do before you begin your final year in high school!

- ☐ Contact colleges to ask about financial aid, admission requirements, and deadlines.
- ☐ Investigate college costs.
- ☐ Narrow down the list of colleges you are considering
- ☐ Visit the schools that interest you.
- ☐ Decide whether you are going to apply under a particular school's [early decision or early action program](#).
- ☐ Create a [resume](#) or update and finalize your resume. Use [this](#) free site.
- ☐ Get a professional e-mail address. ex: [FirstName.LastName@emailaddress.com](#)
- ☐ Work on your college application essay.
- ☐ ATHLETES: Register with the [NCAA](#)!

FALL: AUGUST-DECEMBER

- ☐ Keep your grades up Senior year. You still have to PASS to graduate. So make sure you're doing your [homework](#), even if you have applications and college essays to complete.
- ☐ Complete college applications.
- ☐ Talk to your counselor to ensure you're on track to graduate and meet college admissions requirements.
- ☐ Keep a calendar, schedule or agenda for all the upcoming deadlines.
- ☐ Ask for transcripts and other important documents way before the deadline!
- ☐ If you haven't done so, register and take tests such as the [SAT](#), [SAT Subject tests](#), and [ACT](#). Check with the colleges to see which one they require for admission.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION: THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Think ahead! Ask for letters of recommendations way before the deadline.
- ☐ Provide a [Resume](#).
- ☐ Give your recommender enough time to complete the letter. (Don't expect them to

write it over night!).

SPRING: JANUARY-MAY

Stay on track to graduate and get into the college of your choice. You're almost there!

- ☐ Keep a calendar, schedule or agenda for all the upcoming deadlines.
- ☐ Take the [Accuplacer](#) /[THEA](#) /[Compass](#) if you have to! Check with your university to make sure you need this.
- ☐ Minimize the amount of loan funds you borrow—apply for more scholarships.
- ☐ If you're taking an AP class, study and TAKE the AP Exam!!!
- ☐ **Graduate!** 😊

A CHECKLIST OF FINAL THINGS TO DO ONCE THE ACCEPTANCE LETTERS START ROLLING IN, BUT BEFORE YOU WALK ACROSS THE STAGE AND ACCEPT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA!

- ☐ Review your college acceptances and compare the colleges' [financial aid packages](#) and your aid offers.
- ☐ Decide which school you want to attend. Notify the school of your choice and submit any required financial deposit. ***Many schools require notification/deposit by May 1.***
- ☐ Make all of your deposits on time: class spot, housing, etc.
- ☐ Send final high school transcript to your college. If you took dual credit, request college transcript.
- ☐ Make sure [verification](#) documents for FAFSA are submitted.
- ☐ Submit all FAFSA required documents, loans, work study, other worksheets.

COLLEGE BOUND: SUMMER AFTER GRADUATION

- ☐ ***Tuition is due tomorrow and you don't have the money!***
What to do:

- ❖ • **Meet with a college financial aid advisor/counselor**
- ❖ • **Ask about installment payments**
- ❖ • **LAST RESORT: Take out an emergency loan**
- ☐ Your college might request additional information and documents. *Respond by all deadlines or you will not receive federal student aid!*
- ☐ Accept your financial awards or contact a school's financial aid office if you have questions about your financial aid.
- ☐ Update your required immunizations shots.
- ☐ Register for college classes.
- ☐ Attend [College Orientation](#).

You're a COLLEGE KID now. Attend class every day: Your freshmen year is the most important year of college! **Keep a high GPA throughout college to continue to qualify for financial aid, scholarships, and to get into graduate school, law school, or medical school. Employers look at your GPA too!**