



GEHS School Counseling Senior Checklist

Step 1: Attend Senior Fall Meeting (September-October)

- ☐ Sign up for an appointment with your School Counselor—check your August email for the link
- ☐ Complete GBE Senior Fall Survey in SchoolLinks
- ☐ Attend Senior Fall Meeting appointment (reschedule, if needed)
- ☐ Review RAM Time presentation (Fall of Senior Year)

Step 2: Apply to at Least 3 Post-Secondary Options (September-December)

- ☐ Investigate *multiple* options based on your goals (college, [trades](#), apprenticeships, [military](#))
- ☐ Check 'To Do List' in SchoolLinks and complete important action items
- ☐ Create application account on [Common App](#)
- ☐ [Sign up](#) for College Rep Visits at East in SchoolLinks under School Events ([schedule](#))

Step 3: [Using SchoolLinks for College Applications](#)

- ☐ Watch [SchoolLinks Video](#) on College Application Manager
- ☐ Update college favorites list in SchoolLinks
- ☐ Update College Application Manager in [SchoolLinks](#) - View [slide show](#) for step-by-step instructions
- ☐ Link SchoolLinks & [Common App](#) accounts in SchoolLinks College Application Manager
- ☐ If a transcript is required, it will automatically be requested via SchoolLinks
- ☐ Send [ACT/SAT](#) scores on your own, if needed (check with college)

Step 4: Request Teacher | Counselor Recommendations (***ONLY*** if required)

- ☐ Check in [SchoolLinks](#) to see if a *teacher/counselor* letter of recommendation is required
- ☐ If required, request a teacher rec in-person or via email (2-3 weeks *prior to deadline*)
- ☐ Update Profile/Resume under Students icon in SchoolLinks if Teacher or Counselor Rec is required
- ☐ Invite your teacher via SchoolLinks

Step 5: Finances

- ☐ Create your [FSA ID Account](#) (student and parent) and gather [required documents](#)
- ☐ Complete the 2026-27 [FAFSA](#) beginning in October to satisfy graduation requirement and gather [required documents](#)[Create Account | Federal Student Aid](#)
 - ☐ If not [eligible to complete](#) the FAFSA, fill out [Alternative App for Illinois Financial Aid](#)
 - ☐ If you are not planning on filing for financial aid, complete the [FAFSA Nonparticipation Form](#)
- ☐ Use the [Net Price Calculator](#) to get an estimate of the potential cost for each college
- ☐ Apply for scholarships through SchoolLinks, including the GEHS Local Scholarship

Step 6: Finalize Post-High School Plans (May 1st deadline)

- ☐ Complete the mandatory Post High School Survey in SchoolLinks under April's 'To Do's'
- ☐ Schedule Senior Exit Meeting with School Counselor (April)
- ☐ Update your [Enrollment Decision in SchoolLinks](#) to request Final Transcript
- ☐ Compare Financial Aid Award Letters/ [SchoolLinks Resource](#)

Resources:

Please know that your [School Counselor](#) is one of your best resources and is here to help both you and your family throughout your senior year. Listed below are additional resources that can be of assistance.

These resources and more can be found on the [School Counseling](#) website.

Academic Program Guidebook	College of DuPage Checklist	Graduation Requirements	SchoolLinks
Athletics (College)	College Award Letter Comparison Tool	Military	Testing
Career Advisor	Financial Aid Scholarships	Ram College Report	Trades/Apprenticeships
College	Free College Applications	Resources for Undocumented Students	Español