

# SHS College/Career Planning “TO DO LIST” for SENIORS

## 1. Register/retake the ACT and/or SAT if you would like to try to raise scores:

- Register early – sites will fill quickly.
- **SEND YOUR TEST SCORES** to colleges from the testing companies. Use your ACT and/or SAT online accounts to complete this process.
- **There is no special testing for the SAT at Solon High School. Additionally, Solon High School does not offer ACT special testing in December or June.**

***TEST DATES FOR 2025-2026 School Year***			
ACT: <a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>		SAT: <a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a>	
Test Date	Register By	Test Date	Register By
September 6*	August 1	August 23**+	August 8
October 18*	September 12	September 13+	August 29
December 13+	November 7	October 4+	September 19
February 14	January 9	November 8+	October 24
April 11*	March 6	December 6+	November 21
June 13*+	May 8	March 14+	February 27
July 11+	June 5	May 2+	April 17
		June 6*+	May 22

\*Tests offered at SHS  
+No Special Testing at SHS

## 2. Submit required forms to SHS School Counseling Office or to Recommending Teachers:

- Submit the TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM to Mrs. Rooney electronically (<https://sites.google.com/solonschools.net/shsschoolcounseling/transcripts>).
- Update your SchoolLinks’ “Profile/Resumé.”
- Ask teacher(s) if they can write a recommendation letter either verbally or via email.
- **If the teacher accepts, you must submit an electronic request via SchoolLinks.**

## 2. Apply to colleges or other post-secondary choices:

- Counselors will meet with all seniors in groups in early September to review the college application process, then meet individually with each student to provide specific advisement for future planning.
- If you have not yet determined the list of colleges to which you will apply, use the “School Search” feature in SchoolLinks.
- Instructions for creating a parent/guardian account can be found here: <https://sites.google.com/solonschools.net/shsschoolcounseling/college/schoollinks>.
- Use SchoolLinks to find information on **college representative, trade union, and military visits to SHS.** Use SchoolLinks to register to attend presentations in the fall of your junior & senior years. In-person visits will run during the school day for the 2025-2026 school year.
- **Make time to visit college campuses.** Go to the college websites to register for virtual tours and/or in-person tours and info sessions.
- **Update/use your account on SchoolLinks** to keep track of your college application process.
- The ASVAB CEP (Career Exploration Program) is an optional career assessment that will be offered on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Scores are not reported to the military and can be used to help align academic strengths with related careers.

## 3. Explore Financial Aid Resources:

- Complete the FAFSA as soon as it opens according to the federal government (December).
- Parents/seniors may make an appointment to meet with our Financial Aid Advisor from *College Now Greater Cleveland* through the School Counseling website (<https://sites.google.com/solonschools.net/shsschoolcounseling/financial-aid-scholarships/college-now-financial-aid>).
- Apply for local scholarships. Information will be posted on our website and mailed to all seniors at the end of January. Be sure to adhere to the deadlines for all scholarship applications.
- Use the School Counseling webpage for more financial aid resources.
- Make an appointment with the financial aid offices at the colleges you are considering.

## 4. Continue to strive for your academic best:

- College admissions use a holistic review which considers GPA, rigor of curriculum, ACT/SAT scores, contributions to the community, and extracurricular activities.

- Be sure to earn solid grades in the senior year and take a core course load. Colleges will request mid-year and final grades in the senior year which could change admission decisions.