



Senior College and Career Planning

AUGUST/ SEPTEMBER • Research colleges by looking up their website, using resources like SCOIR, CFNC and Big Future • Start working on your college essay • Most applications open Aug 1 • The most competitive full ride scholarships usually have early deadlines & may need counselor nomination • Take or retake ACT/ SAT • College Essay Assistance (Tuesdays during lunch) & Application Help (Thursdays during lunch) • Set up a senior meeting with your school counselor • Request letters of recommendation from teachers (ask 2 weeks before the deadline. Send "brag sheet" with request)	SEPTEMBER/ OCTOBER • Continue working on college applications. • Check the scholarship pages of the colleges where you plan to apply. • Make a list of scholarships you want to apply to and their deadlines - many colleges will give you access to their scholarship portal after you've applied • Complete your RDS if you are applying to an in-state public college • Request letters of recommendation from teachers (ask two weeks before the deadline & include your resume) • College Essay Assistance (Tuesdays during lunch) & Application Help (Thursdays during lunch) • Attend your senior conference	OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER • Submit applications -check early action deadlines (Chapel Hill is 10/15, and many other schools' early deadlines are 11/1). • Check the scholarship pages of the colleges you applied to and start applying to institutional scholarships. • Make a list of scholarships you want to apply to and their deadlines. • The FAFSA has historically opened in October. Delayed again this year until December for most students • If you plan to apply to colleges after Thanksgiving, please request those transcripts BEFORE break! • Attend your senior conference
December • Wrap up/Submit applications for Regular Decision. Most deadlines are in January/February • Apply for scholarships • CFWNC scholarships are usually due in January • Complete the FAFSA - expected to be widely available by December • If you're taking AB Tech courses, finish strong! • Check your email for important messages from the colleges you've applied to • If you're interested in the military, schedule a time to meet over winter break with a local recruiter to map out next steps that you can complete before graduating. Ask your counselor for contact information, if needed	January • Complete the FAFSA! • If you're applying regular decision, submit those applications • Start your ABTech application • Apply for scholarships • CFWNC scholarships are due • Last semester of high school! • Check your email for important messages from the colleges you've applied to • If you applied EA or ED, you may start to receive decisions! • If you were deferred to regular decision, discuss sending a midyear grade report with your counselor • Check your email! If you've decided on a college, you can likely start signing up for housing, dining, and orientation	February • Review all college applications for regular decision deadlines. Most Regular Decision deadlines are in January/February. • Interested in a trade or skilled certificate? Meet with our AB Tech Rep to learn more • Apply for AB Tech Scholarships. • Continue looking for scholarships through college scholarship portals & other reputable search tools • If you applied EA or ED, you may start to receive decisions! • If you were deferred to regular decision, discuss sending a midyear grade report with your counselor • If you've been accepted to college(s) and have received a financial aid award letter, review them with your family & reach out to Financial Aid Office with questions

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March	April	May/June
• Check attendance and grades • Stay focused! Your college will receive your final high school transcript & they won't want any bad surprises • Apply for scholarships • ABtech scholarships are due April 1st. • Complete attendance make-up (if necessary) • Check your email for important messages from the colleges you've applied to • If you applied regular decision, you may start to receive decisions! • If you were deferred to regular decision, discuss sending a midyear grade report with your counselor • If you've been accepted to college(s) and have received a financial aid award letter, review them with your family & reach out to Financial Aid Office with questions	• If you still haven't done so, complete the FAFSA & RDS! It's not too late • If you still haven't applied to college & want to, it's not too late! Ask your counselor about colleges with rolling admissions • If you have decided on a college, accept their offer by submitting your enrollment deposit • Check your email! If you've decided on a college, you can likely start signing up for housing, dining, and orientation • Complete attendance makeup, if needed • If you've been accepted to college(s) and have received a financial aid award letter, review them with your family & reach out to Financial Aid Office with questions • You can continue to accumulate scholarships through summer when your first tuition bill is due	• May 1st - Commit to the college you will attend in August. • Most college housing deposits are due. • Schedule summer orientation • Stay FOCUSED! • Make sure you have made up any absences and are in good shape for graduation • Attend College Signing Day! • Attend mandatory senior checkout: Monday, June 9th • Attend mandatory graduation rehearsal: Friday, June 13th • Graduation: Sunday, June 15th

Other Important Websites:

To apply to most colleges use The Common Application: <https://www.commonapp.org> (Opens August 1st)
 SCOIR: www.scoir.com college & career planning website used at IC Imagine (students login using Google/Clever)
 RDS: <https://ncresidency.org> for instate residency determination (Can apply 15 months before college)
 FAFSA: <https://studentaid.gov> The Free Application for Federal Student Aid- grants and loans (Opens Oct-Dec)
 CFNC: <https://www.cfnc.org> College Foundation of North Carolina - College & scholarship search and helpful info
 Big Future College Search: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>
 SAT & ACT: www.collegeboard.org & www.act.org
 Community Foundation of Western NC: www.cfwnc.org local scholarship search
 Counselor Contact: April Vernau (aprilvernau@icimagine.org)



← Transcript Requests



Schedule your senior conference →