



Senior To-Do Timeline

This is no time for ease and comfort. It is time to dare and endure.
Winston Churchill

August/September

- Register for the October/November SAT and/or SAT Subject Test, or October ACT.
- Review college application deadlines and special application requirements.
- Ask teachers, coaches, counselors, mentors and employers to write a letter of recommendation. Talk to your recommendation writers about your goals and ambitions.
- Develop an academic resume.
- Begin your college essay(s)
- Visit with guidance counselor to review list of colleges, making sure choices are appropriate for academic and personal requirements.
- Update any personal records.
- Visit the public and high school library, bookstore, and the internet to research any additional sources of scholarships and financial aid.
- Continue to participate in extracurricular and volunteer activities. Demonstrate initiative, creativity, commitment, and leadership in each.
- Apply for scholarships!**

October/November

- Register for the December/January SAT or December ACT.
- Plan visits, and set up interviews to those colleges not previously visited
- Develop a schedule of admissions and financial aid deadlines.
- Visit student services to submit a request to send your transcripts to your selected colleges.
- Submit applications for early decision/early action programs. Prepare applications for back-up choices. Print extra copies or make photocopies of every application you send.
- Apply for scholarships!**

December/January

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA is available online--along with additional college information at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. Complete, copy, and submit FAFSA (Don't wait for the deadline). Parents and

students should compile income tax information and complete and file income tax returns early to complete the FAFSA application.

- File all remaining college applications. Have test scores sent to those colleges. Print extra copies or make photocopies of every application you send. Follow up to make sure that the colleges have received all application information, including recommendations and test scores.
- Obtain all financial aid forms that may be required by intended colleges.
- Apply for scholarships!**

February/March

- Make sure that all required financial aid forms have been submitted.
- Send midyear grade reports to colleges. Continue to focus on your schoolwork!
- If required, send copies of income tax returns to financial aid offices.
- Receive Student Aid Report (SAR). This should occur approximately 4 weeks after you submit FAFSA. Contact school's financial aid office to ask if they need a copy of the SAR.
- Monitor all applications, and make sure that all materials have been completed, sent and received on time.
- Apply for scholarships!**

April/May

- Sign and return financial aid forms.
- Receive admissions notifications and compare financial aid packages. Send any required deposits prior to their due date.
- Request final transcript and student loan applications to chosen college. Contact financial aid office to check status.
- Complete follow-up paperwork for the college of your choice (scheduling, orientation session, housing arrangements, and other necessary forms).
- Apply for scholarships!**

June/July

- Complete any remaining financial aid forms.
- Pay all college bills due.
- Apply for scholarships!**