

Senior Year Pre-College Calendar & Checklist

August	September	October
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Review your career plans and decide which type of school is right for you. ⇒ Visit some college campuses. ⇒ Narrow your college list to approximately five schools. ⇒ Request catalogs and admission information. ⇒ Contact your high school counselor for registration materials and test dates for the ACT and SAT. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Meet with Admissions representatives are visiting your school. ⇒ Make a list of test names, dates and fees, registration deadlines, college application deadlines, and financial aid applications and deadlines. ⇒ Remember that you must take tests like the SAT and ACT at least six weeks before scores must be submitted to colleges. ⇒ For your admissions and/or scholarships applications, begin asking teachers, guidance counselors and employers for letters of recommendation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Take SAT I and/or SAT II exams, if necessary. ⇒ Work on application essays. ⇒ Visit your top school choices. Interview some students, faculty and staff if possible. ⇒ Attend special programs such as college fairs and financial aid nights. ⇒ Find out which financial aid applications your colleges choices require and when the forms are due.
November	December	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Take SAT I and/or SAT II exams, if necessary. ⇒ Obtain financial aid application from your Guidance Office or college choice. Read carefully to determine what information is required and when the applications are due. ⇒ Begin preparing your college applications. Check with the colleges to find out when materials must be postmarked. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Look for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at your high school counseling office and/or local library. Begin working on it. DO NOT SUBMIT BEFORE JANUARY 1. ⇒ Apply for outside funding or scholarships. ⇒ PARENTS: Save your year-end payroll stub if it shows your earnings for the year. 	

January	February	March
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Submit your completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the processor as soon after January 1 as possible. ⇒ KEEP COPIES OF ALL FORMS YOU SUBMIT. ⇒ January is Financial Aid Awareness Month. Look for special programs in your area. ⇒ PARENTS: Get your income tax returns prepared early -- schools may request them to prove eligibility for financial aid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Check to see if your mid-year transcripts have been sent to the schools to which you have applied. ⇒ Make sure your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) has been mailed. ⇒ Research taking Advanced Placement (AP) or College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams. ⇒ Rank your finalized list of colleges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Look for your Student Aid Report which contains Federal Pell Grant Program information. ⇒ Submit tax forms, if requested, to the financial aid office. Contact each office to make certain that your application is complete. Find out what else you need to do to establish and maintain your eligibility for financial aid. ⇒ If you have not received your Student Aid Report after four weeks have passed since you sent in your FAFSA, contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center at (319) 337-5665.
April	May	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Watch the mail for college acceptance letters. Compare the financial aid awards you receive. ⇒ Make your final decision and send in a deposit by the deadline. ⇒ Check with your college of choice about the details of signing and returning financial aid award letters. ⇒ Notify the other schools that you will not be attending. ⇒ Watch for important deadlines at your college of choice (housing, financial aid, etc.). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ AP examinations are given in high schools nationwide. ⇒ Finalize summer school or summer job plans. 	