

Senior Year - "To-Do List"

September - December

- **Register to retake the SAT and/or ACT, if necessary.** You can take these tests as many times as you want through the April testing date in your senior year. You should take these exams at least six weeks before your earliest college admissions.
- **Request letters of recommendation.** Obtain letters from teachers, coaches, and other adults who are familiar with your accomplishments.
- **Meet with your guidance counselor.** Review your final list of colleges.
- **Make sure you have all the applications.** Have the required forms for financial aid and admission, and make a list of deadlines.
- **Fill out your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>).** Starting in 2016, parents may begin submitting the FAFSA on October 1st. The previous year's tax return will be utilized. You may also want to ask your college about its definition of an application deadline - whether it is the date the college receives your FAFSA, or the date your FAFSA is processed.
- **File early decision applications.** Now is the time to file if you have made a decision.
- **Have official test scores sent.** Make sure the testing agency sends your official test scores to the colleges on your short list. Complete and submit your college applications.

January

- **Request grade reports/transcripts.** Have your school send your grade reports and/or transcript to the colleges where you applied.
- **Contact the colleges.** Confirm that all application materials (transcripts, recommendations, and financial aid forms) have been received.

February

- **Be on the lookout for your Student Aid Report (SAR).** After completing the FAFSA, you will be receiving the SAR. Now's your chance to make any corrections, if needed.
- **Finish scholarship applications.** Now is the time to complete any outstanding scholarship applications.

April

- **Review documents.** Review all acceptances and compare financial aid packages.

May

- **Decide which college you will attend.** By May 1st, you should decide on a college. Notify other prospective colleges that you have selected another school.

- **Talk to the admissions staff.** If your first choice college placed you on a waiting list, you should let the admissions staff know that you are still interested in attending.

June

- **Talk to your counselor.** Ask your counselor to forward your final transcript to the college.
- **Contact the college.** Determine when fees are due for tuition and room and board.