

# SENIOR YEAR COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

## What should seniors be doing right now?

- Continuing to work diligently in school—first quarter grades and semester grades can play a role in the admission decision.
- Finalizing college list.
- Updating resumes to include summer activities/senior year activities.
- Following up with the teachers regarding requested letters of recommendation.
- Meeting with college representatives in the fall through college lunch visits. These meetings are important as usually, the college admission representative who visits with our students is the person who will review their application file and present it to the admission committee. Be sure to make a good impression in these visits by being personable, interested and engaged. [View the calendar on the College Planning website.](#)
- Determining whether your college is SAT optional and taking the SAT or ACT if needed.
- Staying on top of admission and financial aid deadlines. These are published on each school's website or in their admission materials.

## Senior Year Timeline:

### October

- Create a chart to keep track of your colleges' application and financial aid deadlines (deadlines vary by college, so this is important to keep track of. Some colleges ask that students apply by a certain date to be considered for scholarships. (Ex. Towson requires that students apply by December 1 to be considered for scholarships) [A chart template is located in the Documents and Forms section of the College Planning website.](#)
- Complete/start to finalize college applications.
- Have someone proofread your college essay!
- Follow up with your teachers about your teacher recommendations.
- Be sure to forward your resume to Mrs. Filippou. She is often required to submit a counselor letter of recommendation, especially if you are using the Common Application.
- **Contact Mrs. Filippou regarding your college plans—let Mrs. Filippou know by October 15 if you are planning to apply to colleges by November 1.**
- Check your emails for important reminders about the college process.
- Submit applications if you have November 1 deadlines.
- Check each college's website to see which forms they require for financial aid.
- Create your FAFSA account and CSS Profile (if necessary). The FAFSA opens October 1.
- Look for scholarships—FastWeb.com is a great place to look. Also, be sure to check with employers, local organizations, recreation centers, etc. for other scholarship opportunities.

### November

- Continue to monitor your college application and financial aid deadlines.
- Be sure you receive confirmation that your application was received.

- If you are sending an SAT or ACT score to any of your colleges be sure to send the scores through College Board or ACT. These scores are not a part of your transcript.
- Check to see if your colleges are offering in person tours—some are beginning to allow these events on campus.
- Once your applications have been submitted be sure to monitor your emails and any application portals you may have created with the college.

#### **December**

- Continue to monitor college application and financial aid deadlines.
- Communicate with Mrs. Filippou **before December 10** if you will be sending any college applications over the Christmas break.

#### **January**

- Contact your local legislators about college scholarship opportunities and how to apply.
- Continue your scholarship search.
- Submit your financial aid applications if you haven't already. **To be eligible for state/local aid, you must submit your FAFSA by March 1.**

#### **February-April**

- Begin to compare your acceptance letters, scholarship awards and financial aid information.
- If possible, take advantage of the welcome events the colleges will host in the spring either virtually or in person.
- Provide a copy of your acceptance and scholarship letters to Mrs. Filippou.

#### **May**

- Tuition Deposit/Enrollment Decision is due to college of choice by May 1.