

Sidwell Senior Summer Checklist for the Class of 2021

- Continue to research colleges by virtually attending various college programs. Attend virtual tours and information sessions, and schedule virtual personal interviews, if possible.
- Continue to shape your college list. You will receive a Summer Follow-up letter in mid-June. The college office will review all schools that you are currently considering and place them on a “probability chart” along with any additional suggestions we may have to balance out your list. Remember that your working list can and will likely shift over the next few months. With that being said, we believe a healthy, well-balanced list can be created with 8–12 schools, and must contain at least 2–4 likely options.
- Senior Autobiography: Complete this mandatory summer assignment by July 6 and email your completed assignment to Ms Morillas, morillasj@sidwell.edu. Do not procrastinate and write thoughtfully.
- SAT/ACT Registration: Register for any future SAT and/or ACT exams, if needed. Registration and updates can be found at [College Board](#) and [ACT](#).
- SAT/ACT Preparation: Summer is a good time to prepare for any upcoming exams. Free SAT preparation can be found [here](#) and free ACT resources can be found [here](#).
- If you believe you may play Division I or II sports in college, register for the National Collegiate Athletic Association ([NCAA Clearinghouse](#)).
- College Essay/Personal Statement: Your college essay is an important part of your application and also one of the most time consuming tasks. Begin to brainstorm ideas and even create a draft. Here are the 2020-2021 [Common Application essay prompts](#).
- Common Application: Log on to the [Common App website](#) and establish an account, the 2020-2021 version will be available August 1. Try to complete the Common App before school resumes in the fall. The college counselors are here to help you and can offer you additional assistance.
- By summer’s end, determine whether you will apply to any college(s) under a binding Early Decision or non-binding Early Action plan(s).

- Once the August 1 Common App is live - prioritize completing any Early Decision, Early Action, and/or Rolling Admission supplement forms/applications once your list becomes more finalized. If you are considering colleges with EA/ED or rolling admission, you should plan to complete those applications/forms first.