

Junior/Senior To-Do List

- **May & June of Junior Year:**
 - Create a list of 4-8 colleges that you would like to attend.
 - Create a master list or calendar with application fees and deadlines, test dates, and your school's application processing deadlines.
 - Plan to visit these colleges, or at least some of them.
 - Talk to your counselor to see if you are eligible to receive fee waivers for applications and tests
 - Register for a college entrance exam : SAT or ACT (Last one is June 6 - register by May 8)
 - Search the Mead HS scholarship website (under student services → college and career readiness) to see which scholarship could apply to you. Check with parents to see if they have work or organization/club scholarships you could apply for.
- **August of Junior Year:**
 - Find Common App essay available August 1st.
 - Research other schools who don't use the Common App to see what their essay questions are and start formulating your response to these.
- **September of Senior Year:**
 - Finalize your short list (the schools to which you will apply) - utilize WOIS to narrow your options.
 - Download college applications - Common App, Send EDU, etc.
 - Register for a college entrance exam to improve your scores if necessary in October, November, December, or January.
 - Maintain a rigorous academic schedule and involvement your senior year.
- **October of Senior Year:**
 - Attend to "early action" or "early decision" deadlines. *Many are due in November*
 - Arrange for on and off campus interviews if necessary.
 - Arrange for teachers/counselors to write recommendations if needed. Give at least two weeks notice to the people you're asking. Send thank you notes for those recommendations.
 - Prepare required essays if you are applying to selective schools. Proofread!
 - Attend College Fair at the Spokane Convention Center in early November.

- **November of Senior Year:**
 - Begin submitting college applications. If the application requires a counselor component, provide this to your counselor with advanced notice.
- **December of Senior Year:**
 - Go to www.pin.ed.gov and get PINs for the FAFSA for both yourself and your parents.
 - Withdraw other application if you receive binding Early Decision acceptance.
 - Apply for housing where specified.
- **January and February of Senior Year:**
 - Submit your FAFSA directly to Federal Student Aid Programs as soon after January 1 as possible, to be received no later than June 30. (Many colleges set earlier deadlines).
 - Encourage your parents or guardians to file income tax returns early. Some colleges want copies of your family's returns before finalizing financial aid offers.
 - Meet January, February, and March application deadlines.
 - Maintain a rigorous academic schedule and involvement in your 8th semester. If you are wait-listed, the college will want to know what you have accomplished since you applied.
 - Investigate thoroughly your choices by carefully considering costs, major, living arrangements, etc.
- **March and April of Senior Year:**
 - Expect to receive acceptance letters and financial aid offers by mid-April. See your counselor or the college and career coordinator to analyze the options.
 - If you haven't visited the college you've decided to attend, do so before accepting.
 - Prepare for any AP exams you plan to take.
- **May of Senior Year:**
 - Inform all colleges which accept you, whether you plan to attend or cancel; final date to reply is the National Candidate Reply Date, May 1.
 - Take AP exams; have scores sent to the college you have selected.
 - Tell Renee Anderson in the counseling office where you want your final transcript sent.