



College Planning: Senior Year

All year:

- Challenge yourself academically; take AP, IB, and Honors courses.
 - Most colleges require:
 - 4 years of English
 - 4 years of math
 - 3 years of different lab sciences
 - 2 years of social studies
 - 2 years of the same foreign language
 - 1 year of fine art or CTE (for in state)
- Get and stay involved in activities and community service projects that interest you and seek leadership roles in those activities. You can look outside of school as well.
- Maintain a strong GPA (Grade Point Average) throughout the next two semesters of high school.
- If you start struggling in a class, be sure to talk to your teacher and get a tutor list from your counselor. If you fail or get low grades in any classes, make plans to retake them now.

August - September:

- Make certain you are registered for the courses required for your post-secondary goals.
- Meet one-on-one with your counselor to ensure you are on track to graduate and discuss college admission requirements.
- Start filling out admission applications.
- Ask teachers and counselors for letters of recommendation if needed for applications. Use your **Naviance Resume** to help share information.
- Update your **Infinite Campus 4 year Academic Plan**.
- Use the **College search** in Naviance Student to narrow down the **list of colleges you are interested in**.
- Check the **Scholarship List** in Naviance Student and search for scholarships which you feel are a good match for you. Read the criteria to see if there is anything that you need to complete, or participate in prior to applying.
- Review your career interests and make sure the colleges or vocational programs you are interested in have applicable degree programs.
- Start reviewing what you need to submit your FAFSA by October 1st (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). You and your parents will need to apply for a FAFSA Pin #.
<https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>

- ❑ To find the FAFSA form, and more information about completing the FAFSA, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov
- ❑ Update your electronic profile in Naviance Student.
 - ❑ **Resume**- helps you track the classes and activities you have participated in; such as Honors, AP classes, GPA, Clubs/Organizations, Leadership positions, sports, performing arts, speech and debate, community service, volunteer work, awards, etc. (this information will be needed when you complete your Personal Statement and Letters of Recommendations during your junior or senior year).
 - ❑ **Game Plan**- is your goals, plans and personal information.

October:

- ❑ Finalize your college choices on Naviance Student.
- ❑ OCTOBER 1st- submit FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). You and your parents will need to apply for a FAFSA (FSA) ID: <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>
- ❑ To get to the FAFSA form and to get further information about completing the FAFSA go to: www.fafsa.ed.gov
- ❑ Retake SAT/ACT (if necessary)
- ❑ If you have not done this yet, set up a college specific email that you can receive information without overwhelming your pvlerners email. You will also lose access to pvlerners in July, so you will want to transition your email to the new email you set up.
- ❑ Complete your college essay, if required.
- ❑ Notify the counselor if you have submitted a Common Application.
- ❑ Request your transcripts to be sent to the colleges on your list under the College tab in Naviance Student.

November-December

- ❑ Have a serious discussion with your family about how you will pay for college and look up scholarships. Find **Scholarship List** on Naviance Student, under College tab.
- ❑ Finish you application essays.
- ❑ Complete applications completely and carefully, submit to meet university deadlines.
- ❑ Contact College Board or ACT to have your scores sent to the college(s) to which you are applying
 - ❑ SAT- www.collegeboard.com
 - ❑ ACT- www.act.org
- ❑ Write thank you notes to your counselors, teacher or anyone else that wrote you a letter of recommendation.

The bolded items are an ECAP (Education and Career Action Plan) requirement through the AZ State Department of Education. Paradise Valley School district provides Naviance/Family Connection for all of our high school students to have a digital portfolio of the required items and provide students and parents with a tool for career and college planning and research. Method Test Prep is an online test preparation program provided to the students of Paradise Valley Unified School District.

January:

- Meet one on one with your counselor to ensure you are still on track.
- Request your mid-year transcript be sent to all colleges on your list.
- Ask your counselor to complete and submit your Common-App mid-year report if you are completing an application through Common App.
- Add awards, honors and accomplishments on your **Resume**.
- Take another look at **Scholarships** that are available at the college(s) you applied to, and apply for all that are appropriate.
- Make your final college decision, update Naviance Student.
- Stay focused so you can graduate.

February-March

- Register for AP tests (if applicable).
- Carefully review your Financial Aid packages. You should receive them from the colleges you were accepted to.
- Send in college deposit and dorm reservations.
- Begin applying for summer employment.
- NO SENIORITIS!!!

April-May

- Complete all tasks on Naviance Student.
- Turn in all the information for scholarships you received to your counselor.
- Make sure all books are returned and fees are paid.
- Take AP exams (if applicable).
- Take Exit Survey
- Complete Senior Check out form
- Study for final exams.
- Enjoy your graduation and the next phase of your life. Life's a journey, so do your best and enjoy your travels and experiences!