

Senior Year Timeline Checklist:

Tips for applying to a 4 year university, community college or trade school.



- ☐ Log In California Colleges account with your student district email (ex: 12345678@student.tusd.net)
- ☐ Log in to your California Colleges account to launch the following:
 - ☐ FAFSA
 - ☐ Dream Act
 - ☐ Community Colleges
 - ☐ California State University
 - ☐ University of California
 - ☐ Common App

August - September

- ☐ **Meet with your school counselor** to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements.
- ☐ **Register for the SAT and/or ACT** Please check with individual colleges to see what testing is required, if any. Visit SAT/ACT website for updates regarding testing options.
- ☐ **Look over college applications.** Make note of all the pieces of information you will need to compile.
- ☐ **Take every opportunity to get to know colleges.** Participate in virtual college information sessions. Visit each individual college website for specific dates. Some colleges may allow in person visits.
- ☐ **Narrow down your list of colleges.** Gather information about the application and financial aid process at each school.
- ☐ **Build your list of trade school and/or apprenticeship programs.** Gather information about the application and financial aid process at each school.
- ☐ **Create a checklist and calendar** to keep track of tests dates, application due dates, and financial aid deadlines. Make note of the other materials, such as recommendations or essays you will need to complete your applications.

October

- ☐ **Log in to your California Colleges account** to launch FAFSA, Dream Act and college applications and more.
- ☐ **Launch and file your FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon after October 1st as possible. In addition to determining your eligibility for federal funds, many colleges and states use the form when distributing grants. Once submitted, watch for your Student Aid Report (SAR).
- ☐ **Complete the CSS Profile** if required. This is an online application used by certain colleges and scholarship programs to determine eligibility for aid money.
- ☐ **Review Early Decision/Early Action or Rolling Admission** options for colleges that you are interested in. Colleges may require test scores and applications to be submitted by Nov. 15th or earlier.
- ☐ **Request personal recommendations** from teachers, school counselor, etc. as most require three weeks to complete. Remember, the more time you give, the better letter they are able to provide.
- ☐ **Research scholarships.** Visit your College and Career Readiness Center, Counseling website, check the TUSD Mobile App, and the daily bulletin. You should never pay for scholarship information.
- ☐ **Get more information about the ASVAB** from the College and Career Readiness Center. This aptitude test is typically held in November.

The finish line is near!!

November - December

- ☐ Be sure to sign up for the ASVAB: To Be Determined
- ☐ The end of the semester is approaching. Be sure to stay on top of school work and finish the semester strong. Email or visit your counselor if you are in danger of failing a class and talk about options to get back on track for graduation and college entrance requirements.
- ☐ UC/CSU application deadline is November 30th. Do not wait until the last minute to complete and submit your application. Attend application workshops offered at school. Do not risk making a mistake on your application!
- ☐ Take your final SAT and/or ACT if required.
- ☐ Visit college campuses if you can during Thanksgiving break and winter break.
- ☐ Review NCAA and/or NAIA accounts to make sure your profile is up to date.
- ☐ Review Early Decision/Early Action admission deadlines as many of them are due in November and December.

February - May

- ☐ Do not slack in the classroom. Your grades still count and you do not want to put yourself at risk of not graduating and/or having your college acceptance rescinded.
- ☐ Acceptance notifications and financial aid offers will start to arrive. Review your acceptances and compare financial aid packages.
- ☐ March 2nd is the DEADLINE to submit your FAFSA and Dream Act application!
- ☐ Visit your final choices for colleges/trade schools before you commit to attend. You can also explore your school choices through online virtual tours if you can visit in person.
- ☐ If you plan to attend a community college or trade school sign up for their information and application workshops by visiting the individual campus for the new student days.
- ☐ May 1st is the DEADLINE to submit your intent to register and deposit to the college you will be attending! **Notify your counselor** of your decision.
- ☐ Complete a Final Transcript Request Form. This form is located in the counseling office.
- ☐ Stay focused on finishing the year strong and enjoy your senior activities!

Check your college student profile & student email address **often**. That is how colleges will reach out to you with important deadlines and updates.