



THE ROAD TO COLLEGE: FRESHMAN CHECKLIST

FALL

- Meet with your counselor to make sure you are taking challenging classes that will prepare you for advanced courses in the following years.
- Get involved in extracurricular activities.
- Ask your teachers for study and note-taking tips. These skills will help you do well in your classes and will teach you how to study.
- Go to <https://www.scoir.com/> to explore careers. Complete the interest profiler on the site to help you decide which careers interest you.
- Start a list of all of your paid and volunteer work, extracurricular activities, awards, and honors. Update it throughout high school. This list will help you when you complete your college applications.

WINTER

- Continue to do well in your classes.
- Continue to explore your interests and possible careers.
- Discuss your skills and interests with your counselor.
- Consider a college savings plan and add to an existing one if you already have one started.
- Start thinking about the classes you want to take next year.

SPRING

- Get involved. Continue to build your list of extracurricular activities and community service achievements.
- Maintain at least a 2.7 GPA or higher.
- You will take the PSAT this spring. Be sure to review your score report when you get it.
- Schedule a meeting with your counselor to discuss your plans for summer and the upcoming school year.
- Search for summer opportunities.
- Meet with your counselor to select courses for the following year.

SUMMER

- Volunteer in a position that ties to your interests and field.
- Get a job and begin saving for college OR begin an internship.





THE ROAD TO COLLEGE: SOPHOMORE CHECKLIST

FALL

- Stay on track with your courses. Talk with your counselor to make sure you're enrolled in the classes you need to prepare you for college or career.
- Research colleges. Visit websites like College Board and Niche to find schools that interest you.
- Start attending college fairs in your area. Ask questions of the Admissions representatives and fill out cards to get more information sent to you.
- Explore your career options in more detail. Job shadow someone who works in a field that interests you.
- Look for an after school job.
- Start a college savings account and regularly deposit into it.
- Get involved in extracurricular activities that align with your future college/career goals.
- Volunteer with an agency in your community that aligns with your future goals.

WINTER

- Stay involved with your extracurricular activities. Work toward leadership positions in your activities.
- Meet with your counselor to review your grades, share your college list, and ask if you are on track for possible acceptance into the schools on your college list.
- Begin to prepare for the SAT and the ACT.

SPRING

- Maintain good grades and remain focused.
- Practice for and take the PSAT to predict how you will do on the SAT.
- Refine your college list, if necessary. Reach out to any/all additional colleges that interest you. Ask for information about their academic requirements and any programs that potentially might interest you.
- Attend the Brandywine School District's Early College Information Night.

SUMMER

- Continue to prepare for the SAT and ACT.
- Get a summer job to continue to save for college.
- Volunteer! Participate in activities that align with your goals.
- Go on one or two campus tours at colleges on your list.





THE ROAD TO COLLEGE: JUNIOR CHECKLIST

FALL

- Talk with your counselor to ensure that your courses will put you on the right track for college admission.
- Confirm the date for your school's free SAT.
- Start developing a resumé for your college applications. Include your accomplishments, activities, and work experience.
- Now is the time to sign up for after school activities. Consider clubs at school, team sports, leadership roles, and religious or civic community groups.
- Attend presentations by college admission representatives at your school.

WINTER

- Meet with your counselor to plan your senior schedule. Confirm your courses are in line with your potential college major.
- Explore summer opportunities on college campuses for a great way to find out what college life is all about.

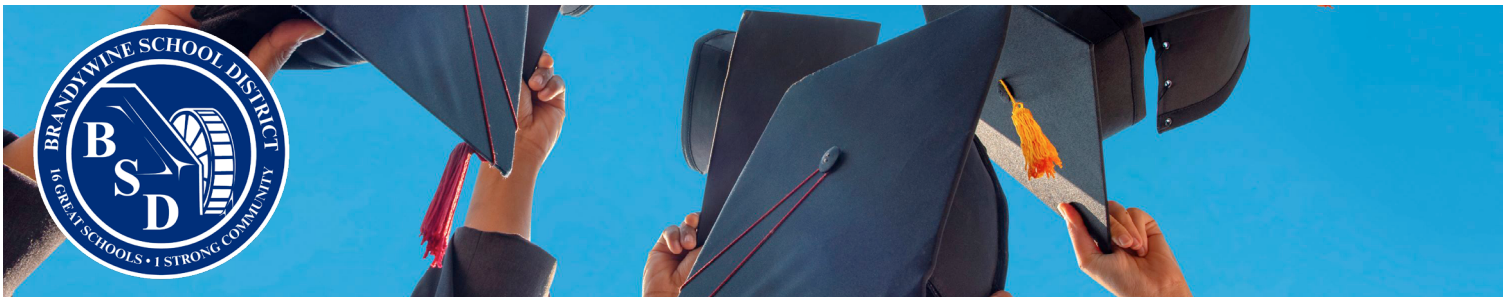
SPRING

- Begin visiting colleges. Include a large, medium, and small-sized campus. Spring break is a great time to visit. Remember to send a thank you e-mail to admissions following your visit.
- Take a look at some college applications. Make a list or graphic organizer of the pieces of information you will need to compile. Make a list of teachers, counselors, employers, and other adults who could write letters of recommendation.
- You will take the SAT this spring. Register for the ACT (if needed). You will need to register up to six weeks ahead.
- Consider lining up a summer job or internship which relates to the subject area you want to study.
- Select and speak with the teachers from whom you will request a letter of recommendation (if needed). Update the teachers once you become aware of the deadlines for the letters and email your teachers immediately.
- Update Scoir account.

SUMMER

- Select the colleges to which you will apply. Write on the calendar the due dates for applications.
- Schedule campus visits at the schools that you interest you most (if you have not already visited).
- Start developing your college essay.





THE ROAD TO COLLEGE: SENIOR CHECKLIST

FALL

- Schedule an appointment with your counselor to plan for your college applications.
- Determine application options (early decision, early action, or regular decision).
- Examine college applications and record application deadlines in your agenda/planner.
- Fill out college applications early! Some colleges need applications in by October or November for certain housing and scholarship options.
- Keep your grades up and stay in challenging courses! 75% of revoked acceptances are because students slack off senior year.
- Complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after it opens on October 1.
- Revise college essays for submission.
- Request application fee waivers from your counselor (if applicable).
- Submit college applications by the school's deadlines for early decision, early action, or regular decision.
- Be sure to contact colleges early if there are changes to your class schedule.
- Begin filling out scholarships, with a minimum of three applications in November and December.
- Update Scoir account.
- Attend college visits at school.

WINTER

- Check on testing websites to make sure all test scores have been submitted to your colleges (if needed).
- Continue filling out scholarships: minimum of two for the month of January, three for February and March.
- Enroll and take English, Math, and World Language Placement Tests for colleges if needed.
- Research housing applications and deadlines.
- At the end of March, follow up with colleges that you haven't heard from to be sure they have everything they need for your application.
- Complete Diploma Verification Form.

SPRING / SUMMER

- Continue applying for scholarships, with a minimum of two scholarships for April and May.
- Be sure to submit your housing application and deposit to the school that you plan to attend by May 1.
- Were you denied admission? Contact the admissions office and ask if there is an appeal process.
- Finish strong. A drop in grades is the number one reason that colleges revoke admissions.
- Take AP exams. Be sure test scores are sent to the appropriate colleges.
- Make a decision and notify the college that you will attend by May 1.
- Update Scoir account and complete Senior Survey.
- Graduate and Celebrate!

- Notify schools that you are not attending.
- Sign up and attend Freshman orientation. Some will take place during summer, others at the beginning of the school year.
- Continue to apply for scholarships.
- Once you've learned who your roommate will be, contact them to get to know them and plan.
- Accept financial aid and determine if you need to accept student loans (tuition, housing, books). If your financial aid package includes work study, you'll have to apply for a specific job. Contact the College Career center for openings.
- Contact financial aid office at the college that you plan to attend to be sure they have everything they need.
- Find out how to log into your campus website and student email. A lot of important emails may come to the new college email, and you will miss it if you aren't checking.
- Log into Housing and Residence Life to find out what you will need for your room. Many have checklists and shopping suggestions.
- Pack and leave for college! Mission Accomplished!