

Movind Forward with College
College Application & Admissions Timeline Checklist

Timeframe: Before Senior Year

- Research Colleges-** Start researching colleges and universities. Make a list of potential schools based on location, size, majors, and other preferences.
- Research Colleges-** Visit college campuses if possible or take virtual tours.
- Create a College List-** Finalize a list of reach, match, and safety schools.
- Create a College List-** Note each school's application deadlines and requirements.
- Research & Create Scholarships-** Note each application deadlines and requirements.
- Register for Standardized Tests-** Register for SAT/ACT if needed and plan to take them in early fall if retaking.
- Register for Standardized Tests-** Prepare for the tests using study guides or prep courses.

Timeframe: August

- College Application-** Decide if you're applying Early Action (EA), Early Decision (ED) or Regular Decision (RD)
- College Application-** Create an account on the Common App or other application platforms and start filling out your profile.
- College Application-** Request your high school transcript (if needed) to be sent to the colleges you're applying to. If transcripts are sent
- College Application-** Begin working on the Common App essay and any other required essays.

Timeframe: September

- College Application- Create a calendar** with all deadlines for applications
- College Recommendation Letter-** Send emails to start collecting letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, or employers.
- FAFSA- Create your FAFSA** account and request your FAFSA ID

Timeframe: October

- College Application-** Early Action/Early Decision Complete and submit any Early Action (EA) or Early Decision (ED) applications by the deadline, often November 1 or 15.
- College Recommendation Letter-** Follow up on letters of recommendation and ensure they are sent.
- FAFSA-** Complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon after October 1 as possible.
- CSS Profile-** If required by your colleges, complete and submit the CSS Profile for financial aid.

Timeframe: Based on Application Deadline

- Finalize Essay-** Continue to work on and finalize essays for regular decision applications. Have someone proofread your essays and provide feedback.

- Standardized Tests-** Take any final SAT/ACT tests if necessary(Take a few months before application deadline).

- College Application-** Submit all regular decision applications by their deadlines, typically in early January.

- College Application-** Confirm that all parts of your applications have been received by the colleges (transcripts, test scores, recommendations, etc.).

- Scholarships:** Apply for scholarships offered by colleges, local organizations, and national programs. Look for scholarships with December or January deadlines.

Timeframe: January

- College Application-** Mid-Year Reports: Request that your counselor send mid-year reports to colleges if required.

Timeframe: February - March

- College Application- Interview-** Prepare for and attend any college interviews if required or recommended.

- College Application- Follow Up-** Check the status of your applications and ensure all documents have been received.

Timeframe: April

- College Application- Decision Letters:** Review acceptance letters,

- College Application-** Attend admitted student days or campus visits to help make your decision.

Timeframe: May

- College Admissions-** Make a Decision: Decide which college to attend and submit your enrollment deposit by May 1. Notify other colleges that you will not be attending.

- FAFSA-** Finalize Financial Aid. Review financial aid and scholarship award letters. Complete any remaining financial aid paperwork.

- College Admissions/FAFSA-** Pay required fees/deposits.

Timeframe: June

- College Admissions-** Make Request for your final transcript to be sent to your chosen college.

- College Admissions-** Confirm college report times. Register for Fall semester courses.

By following this timeline, you can stay organized and ensure you meet all necessary deadlines for a smooth college application process.