



# Senior Timeline

## Ongoing Throughout the Year

- Select a rigorous class schedule while also exploring areas that interest you. Stay focused on your schoolwork and resist the temptation to slide. Senior year rigor and grades still count!
- Use a planner, calendar, or other organizational tool to keep track of important dates, deadlines, and events.
- Continue to participate in extracurricular activities and volunteer in your community. Demonstrate initiative, creativity, commitment, and leadership when possible.
- Apply for scholarships. Check your high school scholarship listings and the schools you're applying to and find out if they have any special scholarships for which you may qualify. Your parent/guardians' employers may also offer scholarships so be sure to ask. Scholarships are available for vocational and apprenticeship training as well.
- Important note for male students: you must register for selective service within 30 days of your eighteenth birthday to be eligible for federal and state financial aid. Males may register by checking the appropriate box on the FAFSA Application.

## Fall

- Attend **Senior Application Night** in September in the RHS Auditorium.
- **Schedule an individual meeting with your College & Career Counselor** to review your post-secondary plans.
  - For Early Applications (rolling admissions or Oct/Nov deadlines), schedule your appointments no later than October 1st.
  - For Regular Decision (Dec/Jan/Feb deadlines), make your appointment prior to November 15th.
- If you are applying to four-year colleges, now is the time to narrow your college list to 6 to 8 colleges you plan to apply to, if you haven't already. Consider career and potential college majors as well as finances when creating your college list. Use the Net Price Calculator to discover the potential for financial aid and the true out-of-pocket cost - or net price - for each college.
- Complete your last campus visits and/ or revisit schools that are high on your interest list.
- Attend college and career visits at RHS as well as fairs in the community.
- Register for any final SAT or ACT you plan to take. If applying early decision or action, plan to have your final ACT taken by the end of September and SAT by October. Colleges with regular decision deadlines generally accept test scores through December test dates.
- Write first drafts of your college essays/ personal statements/ personal insight questions if you haven't already and ask teachers and others to read them. Visit the Writing Center for help with the editing process. If you're applying for early decision or early action, finish the essays for that application now.
- Confirm recommendations (if required) from teachers, who can comment on your abilities and talents. Provide each recommender with their requested documentation.
- Update or create your resume and brag sheet with your academic, athletic and work activities as well as other achievements. Prepare a portfolio if you're interested in the arts. Update your e-portfolio if you have one.
- If you are applying Early Action/Early Decision, most deadlines are Oct 15th, Nov 1st, or Nov 15th. If you are applying for regular admission, it is recommended to have applications submitted by Thanksgiving or Winter Break. Refer to our **College Application Checklist** for a detailed list of action-steps needed to apply to college. **Please note that transcript requests must be made 10 school days prior to any deadline.**
- Complete your Self Reported Academic Record (SRAR/SRAR) for any university that requires it. See our SRAR Tip Sheet for more help.
- Request your first quarter grades to be sent to any Early Action, Early Decision, or Rolling Application college to which you have already applied. Before requesting, make sure you review your first quarter report card for accuracy.
- Complete any institutional financial aid applications by the deadline, if applicable. The FAFSA will not be available until mid-December, but colleges may require other financial documentation by Fall deadlines.

## Winter

- Complete any Regular decision applications. Most deadlines are in January and early February.
- Apply to community college if that is one of your post-secondary options.
- Complete the FAFSA (fafsa.gov), which is available mid-December. Certain colleges also require the CSS Profile or institutional financial aid forms in addition to the FAFSA. Be mindful of institutional deadlines.
- Attend the FAFSA completion event at RHS in January with your parent(s) for extra support completing the application.
- Write thank you notes to the teachers who provided a recommendation on your behalf.
- If you are considering the military, register to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB). You can schedule this exam with a local recruiter.

## Spring

- Compare financial aid packages from the colleges to which you have been accepted.
- Provide a copy of any acceptance or scholarship letter to Ms. Johnson in the Counseling Office.
- Make your final choice and notify all schools of your intent by May 1 (or by each college's deadline). If possible, do not decide without making at least one campus visit. Send your nonrefundable deposit to your chosen school by their commitment deadline as well.
- Keep active in school. If you are waitlisted, the college will want to know what you have accomplished between the time you applied and the time you learned of its decision.
- Complete your Senior Survey in Naviance to indicate your post-secondary plans and request a final transcript to your college/university of choice. Counselors will visit English classes to assist students in completing the survey.
- Complete follow-up for the college of your choice:
  - Send in required forms or deposits.
  - Sign up for your college's orientation.
  - Learn the process for housing and roommate selection.
  - Learn about the process for applying for accommodations, if applicable.
- Graduate!

## Quicklinks for Seniors

- [Common Application](#)
- [www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/](http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/)
- [srar.selfreportedtranscript.com/generic.aspx](http://srar.selfreportedtranscript.com/generic.aspx)
- [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
- [cssprofile.collegeboard.org/](http://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/)
- [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)
- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) – Scholarship Search
- [www.pheaa.org](http://www.pheaa.org) – Financial Aid Information
- [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) – Financial Aid Information
- [www.secondarytransition.org](http://www.secondarytransition.org) – Student Services and Transition Planning
- [web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/](http://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/) – College Athletes
- [myscholly.com](http://myscholly.com) – Scholarship Search
- [www.goingmerry.com](http://www.goingmerry.com)