



College-Bound High School Seniors Planning Calendar

September

- Review college materials, college guidebooks, college websites, and other resources to narrow your potential college list
- Begin to finalize a list of colleges you are seriously interested in attending
- Make plans to visit as many college campuses as you can. Also attend events at the colleges you are interested in attending.
- Begin to collect letters of recommendation. Choose people who know you and can attest to your strengths. Give them plenty of time to write a letter.
- Check with your guidance counselor to ensure you are taking the correct classes and that you are on the right track to graduate.
- Log on to the website www.collegeincolorado.org and create a new or update your existing account
- Begin to search for scholarships
- Sign up to take or retake the ACT and/or SAT

ACT: www.actstudent.org/start

SAT: www.sat.org/register

October

- Begin to gather applications to the schools you are considering applying for admittance. Note the deadlines for admissions, scholarships, housing, etc.

- Learn the admission criteria for the schools you would like to attend. Know where you stand in relation to these criteria and begin to work toward ensuring you can meet these requirements.
- Start filling out applications for the schools you are interested in attending
- Continue to search and apply for scholarships
- Begin to write a first draft of your application essay. For tips on how to write your essay, follow these links:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays/tips-for-writing-an-effective-application-essay-college-admissions>

<http://www.nacacnet.org/studentinfo/articles/pages/top-ten-tips-for-writing-a-college-essay-.aspx>

November

- Finish all applications and schedule more visits to college campuses, if necessary
- Complete your college application essay
- Continue to collect letters of recommendation
- Continue to search and apply for scholarships
- Sign up to take/retake the ACT and/or SAT



December

- Continue to search and apply for scholarships
- Sign-up to take/retake the ACT and/or SAT

January

- If applying for financial aid, get started by obtaining a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. This form can be found on the FAFSA website @ <https://fafsa.ed.gov>
- If applying for financial aid, it is important that you file for aid as soon after January 1st as possible. You will need your parents/guardians tax return information for this process.
- Make your mid-year grades available to the schools you have applied for as soon as possible.
- Continue to search and apply for scholarships

February

- Ensure all your admissions applications have been completed and submitted. February is the deadline for many colleges' admissions applications.
- If you haven't done so yet, complete the FAFSA as soon as possible
- Continue to search and apply for scholarships

March

- Finalize your financial aid application and submit it before the deadline.
- Arrange final visits to any college campuses you are still considering but are undecided about.
- Continue to search and apply for scholarships

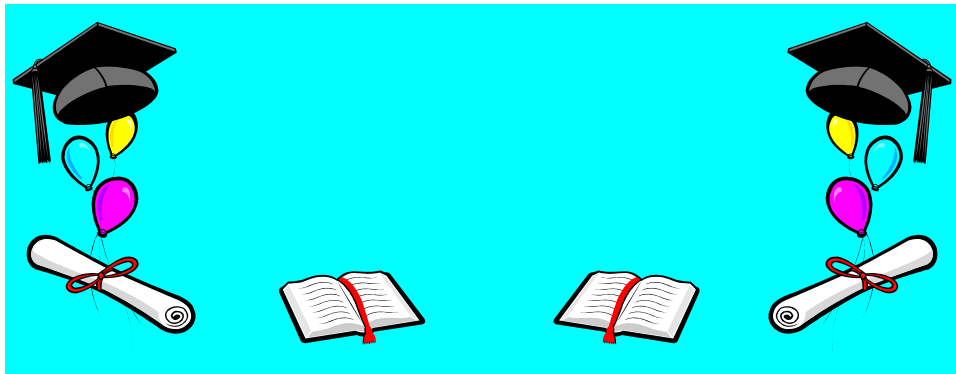


April

- If you haven't done so, it is time to decide which school you will attend and let them know you have accepted their offer. Also let the schools you decided not to attend know your decision, as well.
- Accept any financial aid you were offered and send in housing and tuition deposits.
- Continue to search and apply for scholarships

May

- Congratulations on making it successfully through your senior year-celebrate your success!
- Ask your registrar and/or school guidance counselor to send your final transcript to the school you will be attending.



Summer before going to college:

- Be aware of all deadlines at the college of your choice
- Attend a summer orientation program
- Make time to get to know your academic advisor at the school you will be attending
- Enroll in classes as early as you possibly can
- Become familiar with the college campus and where your classes will be held



