Perkins High School
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Sandusky, Ohio 44870
www.perkinsschools.org
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Jeff Harbal: Principal Drew Davie: Assistant Principal
Counselors: Cortney Feige ext. 2022 and Mary James ext. 2021

Timeline for seniors:

ALL YEAR:

- ☐ Students identified as male at birth are required to register for Selective Service during the age 17 years and 3 mos to 18 years and 30 days of age. If you do not receive a mailing, a form can be found on Google Classroom. See https://www.sss.gov for specific information and to register online.

- ☐ If you are planning to earn a Diploma of Distinction or an Honors Diploma, or want to make sure you are receiving the Seals you intended to receive, please review the Perkins High School Course Selection Guide, and make sure you are on track.

- ☐ *Letters of Recommendation* and *Student Resumes* will be needed for college applications and scholarships. You will give a Student Resume to anyone you are requesting to write a letter. Three requests are common, with one being ***outside*** of Perkins Local Schools or coaches. While the deadlines might be a few months away, do not get lost in the rush of requests teachers, coaches, employers, counselors, and community members will receive. Choose individuals who know you best and can share your most valuable qualities. Get organized ahead of time!

- ☐ See the main office for college visit forms and guidelines. Each senior will be able to take two excused days for college visits. The earlier you visit, the more prepared you will be to select a school that fits your needs and goals.

- ☐ Senior year schedules and grades will show a college that you are ready to work hard and achieve your goals. Do not get too relaxed this year, stay on top of your grades and practice your time management skills.

- ☐ Practice being assertive and resourceful. While your parents/ guardians can be awesome helpers and supporters, please have conversations with your teachers and counselor to build connections and strengthen your skills as a communicator. *Read through directions and requirements carefully* so you are not surprised if there is a challenge or disappointment. There are always multiple paths to success, so be an advocate for yourself and help find yours!

- ☐ Be sure to sign up for leadership opportunities such as the Lions Club, Rotary, teen advisory boards, Elks Student of the Month. Forms will be available in the School Counseling office as they are received.

- ☐ If you are planning to apply for scholarships, start looking now. Local scholarships will be available after the first semester, but information that comes into the Counseling Office before then will be posted on your Graduation Year Google Classroom. Keep an eye out for local scholarships outside of Perkins Local Schools. Many businesses and organizations in Erie County, and beyond, have scholarships that may be due as early as October. Don't miss out on an opportunity to be awarded money for continuing your education. Erie County Community Foundation also posts scholarships throughout the year.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

- ☐ Your school counselor will be available for individual meetings for advising with academics, social and personal support. You will need a credit audit, review of test scores, and confirmation of the two graduation seals you are earning.

- ☐ A copy of your Senior transcript will be handed out in Senior Class Meetings in early September. Review your transcript to ensure that your address is correct. Check to make sure that you are on track with graduation requirements, including a year of fine arts, two PE classes or waivers, health, and financial literacy course. Make sure that you have (or will have) earned two seals and that you have scored 684 or higher on your Algebra and English 10 end of course tests. Set up an appointment with Mrs.James or Mrs.Feige if you are missing something needed for graduation.

- ☐ After school begins, please sign up in the School Counseling office or scan the QR to set up an appointment for individual senior meetings that ***ARE NOT DURING A CLASS***. **QR Codes coming soon!

- ☐ Finalize your list of colleges, including safety schools, possible schools, and reach schools. Begin the application process early! Use this tracking sheet (you will be prompted to make a copy) to help you track your research.

- ☐ Set up your Common App (commonapp.org) account if you are applying to three or more colleges. If you have Mrs. James, use mjames@perkinsschools.org. If you have Mrs. Feige, use cfeige@perkinsschools.org

- ☐ Consider who you will ask to write recommendation letters. These may be needed for college applications and scholarship applications. They may also come in handy for references for jobs. Ask those individuals in advance, preferably in person, to give teachers, community members, and counselors plenty of time to write a good letter. ***Follow up with an email right away so you stay on their radar.*** Typically, at least a ***two week timeframe*** is a good standard, but some may take longer. ***Provide a Student Academic Resume to anyone who agreed to write a letter for you.***

☐ Take the ACT and/or SAT (and SAT II Subject Tests if applicable) if you haven't already done so or if you are looking to improve those scores. See registration deadlines and test dates.

☐ College Board

August 2025–June 2026 Test Dates

These test dates and deadlines apply to all students—U.S. and international—taking the SAT:

SAT Test Date*	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes, Regular Cancellation, and Late Registration**
Aug. 23, 2025	Aug. 8, 2025 Register	Aug. 12, 2025
Sept. 13, 2025	Aug. 29, 2025 Register	Sept. 2, 2025
Oct. 4, 2025	Sept. 19, 2025 Register	Sept. 23, 2025
Nov. 8, 2025	Oct. 24, 2025 Register	Oct. 28, 2025
Dec. 6, 2025	Nov. 21, 2025 Register	Nov. 25, 2025
March 14, 2026	Feb. 27, 2026 Register	March 3, 2026
May 2, 2026	Apr. 17, 2026 Register	April 21, 2026
June 6, 2026	May 22, 2026 Register	May 26, 2026

*Students who need to borrow a device from College Board will need to register and request their device earlier than the registration deadline—at least 30 days before test day.

**Late registration is available worldwide. Additional fees apply.

☐ https://www.act.org/

2026 National Test Dates Schedule

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline Late Fee Applies After This Date	Late Registration Deadline	Photo Upload and Standby Deadline
September 6, 2025	August 1	August 19	August 29
October 18, 2025	September 12	September 30	October 10
December 13, 2025	November 7	November 24	December 5
February 14, 2026	January 9	January 23	February 6
April 11, 2026	March 6	March 24	April 3
June 13, 2026	May 8	May 29	June 5
July 11, 2026*	June 5	June 24	July 3

*No test centers are scheduled in New York for the July test date.

- ☐ Begin writing ideas for your college and scholarship essays, using prompts from your chosen schools or from the Common Application. For 2025-2026 Common App prompts, click here.

- ☐ Develop a calendar for important dates and deadlines for both scholarships and applications.

- ☐ Register with the NCAA Clearinghouse (www.eligibilitycenter.org) or NAIA (https://www.naia.org/student-athletes/index) if you are considering becoming a student-athlete in college and did not already register as a junior.

- ☐ Create your Academic Resume- See Google Classroom for Resume Help.

- ☐ Pay attention to announcements from the *Main Office* about ordering senior grad gear, senior pictures, etc.

OCTOBER

- ☐ Attend local college fairs and sign up to talk to college admissions representatives that visit PHS. Listen to announcements and check Graduating Year Google Classroom for information. (Information will be given at your start of the year Classroom Meetings for Google Classroom).

- ☐ Submit Transcript Request Forms to the school counseling office *once applications have been submitted* to colleges or to Common App. Make sure you submit these forms well before deadlines. Transcripts sent in the USPS mail can take up to two weeks to be processed by the college.

- ☐ File the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov ***after October 1st***. You must apply for a PIN number in order to submit your application.

- ☐ Turn in community service hours to the School Counseling Office.

- ☐ If you are using a Phys. Ed. Waiver instead of taking .5 credits (2 semesters) of Phys. Ed., make sure this shows up on your transcript. You would qualify for a waiver if you have completed two seasons of band, cheer, drill team, or approved sports and activities. If it does not show on your transcript, pick up a Phys. Ed. Waiver Form outside the Counseling Office, have it signed by your parents, and give it to Mrs. Schweinfurth in the Counseling Office.

- ☐ Watch early application deadlines for selective programs and scholarship opportunities (many Early Decision deadlines are in November).

NOVEMBER

- [ ] Review your quarter 1 grades. See your teachers and counselors if you need suggestions on new study habits.

- [ ] Continue to submit college and post-secondary applications and turn in Transcript Request Forms.

- [ ] Consider taking the ASVAB-Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (a career exploration test) and explore military options. See your school counselor for help setting up an appointment if needed.

- [ ] Watch early application deadlines for selective programs and scholarship opportunities (many Early Action deadlines are in December).

DECEMBER

- [ ] Take the End of Course Make Up tests if you have scored lower than a 684 on Algebra 1 and/ or ELA 2.

- [ ] Prepare thoroughly for mid-term exams. If you need help with this, stop by the Counseling Office. Organize study groups with friends and classmates!

- [ ] Join winter school activities, including athletic teams, clubs, the musical, and service organizations.

- [ ] Monitor your Honors Diploma and Diploma of Distinction requirements. The end of the third quarter is the deadline for all community service hours counted for the Diploma of Distinction. Your unweighted GPA at the end of the first semester will be your final GPA considered for your diploma. See the Course Guide to review criteria.

JANUARY

- [ ] Pay attention to Final Forms announcements and your Google Classroom to hear about the Local Scholarship informational meeting, when the application will be released, and when applications are due. If you do not have an Academic Resume prepared, or have not asked for Letters of Recommendation, you will have a lot of work to do.

- [ ] Review your quarter 2 and semester grades. See your teachers and counselor if you need suggestions, tutoring, etc. Remember that colleges will receive your final grades after you graduate. College acceptances are conditional based on those grades. Plan on finishing your year strong.

- [ ] Consider visiting colleges that you have not yet visited or that need a second look. Check out potential overnight opportunities and class visits for your top schools.

FEBRUARY

- ☐ Follow-up with your colleges to see if they have all of your materials. Some colleges provide the ability to check on the progress of an application on their website.

MARCH

- ☐ Colleges will be notifying you of your acceptance status and financial aid awards. Keep your counselors aware of acceptances and discuss your options. Some colleges require you to commit during this month. Some college-specific local scholarships will be waiting to hear where you have chosen to attend.

- ☐ Prepare for EOC Make Up tests if you have not passed or taken a state required test. Discuss the RISE Up credential with your counselor if you have attempted the EOC for ELA 2 and Algebra 1 at least two times, but have not achieved a score of 684.

- ☐ Join spring school activities, including athletic teams, clubs, and service organizations.

- ☐ Continue to check for other scholarships on Google Classroom or on the Perkins Local Schools website.

- ☐ Local Scholarships due.

- ☐ Review your quarter 3 grades. See your teachers and counselor if you need suggestions, tutoring, etc. Remember that colleges will receive your final grades after you graduate. College acceptances are conditional based on those grades. Plan on finishing your year strong.

APRIL

- ☐ Review your college acceptances and compare financial aid packages. Some colleges require you to commit this month. Once you make your final decision, be sure to send your deposit for housing to the school you will attend.

- ☐ Take EOC exams if needed.

MAY/JUNE

- ☐ Pay attention to all of the deadlines and senior events that will occur in May.

- ☐ Many colleges require a decision by May 1st, which you must confirm with an acceptance letter and usually a deposit.

- ☐ Take the Advanced Placement Exams for any AP courses you are taking.

- ☐ Prepare thoroughly for final exams.

- [ ] Finish strong in the fourth quarter. Remember that school counselors will be sending final transcripts to the school you will be attending.

- [ ] Be sure to complete the Senior Exit Survey. Your college choice will not be printed in the graduation program unless you complete the survey by the deadline. You will need to complete the survey in order to be checked off to participate in the graduation ceremony.

- [ ] If you earned credit through the University of Findlay dual-credit program, Ashland University, BGSU-Firelands CCP Program, or any other CCP school you participated with, you must request a final transcript FROM THAT SCHOOL. There is typically a small fee from the CCP college.

Important Dates (Tentative):
Monday, May 11, 2026 PHS Scholarship Night (invitation only)- The Chapel
Sunday, May 31, 2026 Graduation- Firelands Health Stadium

Perkins High School Counseling Office Staff:
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