



COLLEGE APPLICATION Checklist



SUMMER BEFORE 12TH GRADE

- ☐ Strengthen your college list: Use [BigFuture](#) to identify schools that are a good fit for you based on your GPA, test scores, major of interest, etc.
- ☐ Visit colleges. Be prepared to [ask questions](#)!
- ☐ Decide if you want to take the [SAT](#) and/or [ACT](#). If you already did, decide if you want to take them again.

FALL

- ☐ Start your college applications: Use [Common App](#) (can apply to most colleges) or [SUNY App](#) (go directly to websites to apply to community colleges - the application is free that way! Just make sure you let your Counselor know, or fill out a [Transcript Request form](#).)
- ☐ Ask for [letters of recommendation](#). You'll get one from your counselor, and then ask for 2 more (1-2 teachers, coach, boss, etc.)
- ☐ Continue your connections with colleges. If you visited, follow-up with any questions you have to show continued interest. Meet with reps at school.
- ☐ Be aware of deadlines (Early Action/Decision deadlines are typically in the beginning of November)
- ☐ Start the [FAFSA](#) application as soon as it is available. Make sure to also apply for [TAP](#) if staying in New York for school.

WINTER

- ☐ Finish submitting your applications if you haven't already done so.
- ☐ Apply for scholarships. Make sure to check the page on the [school website](#) regularly as it is constantly getting updated throughout the school year. Read submission directions carefully.

SPRING

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- ☐ Start reviewing acceptance letters. Revisit schools for another look if needed.
 - ☐ Continue to apply for scholarships. When it becomes available, apply for the [Excelsior Scholarship](#) if you qualify.
 - ☐ Make your decision: National Decision Day is May 1st. Celebrate! Let Student Support know where you are going.
 - ☐ Write thank you cards to your recommenders as well as any outside scholarship organizations if you were a recipient.
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