General timeline for college bound students

Remember that this timeline is just a guide, and your specific circumstances may vary. Stay organized, manage your time effectively, and don't hesitate to reach out to teachers, college counselors, or college admissions advisors if you need assistance along the way.

August-September:

- **Finalize your college list** Research colleges by using Xello, consider factors such as location, majors offered, campus culture, and affordability. Narrow down your list to a manageable number (Anywhere from 2-10) of schools to apply to. Start deciding how you want to apply by using Early Decision, Early Action, Rolling Admission, etc.
- **Consider standardized testing**: If you haven't taken the SAT or ACT or want to improve your scores, register for upcoming test dates.
- **If needed, request letters of recommendation:** Approach teachers, counselors, or mentors who know you well and can write strong letters of recommendation. Provide them with any necessary information or forms.
- **Begin working on your college essay(s):** Start brainstorming topics and drafting essays for the Common Application. Some institutions may have individual college writing supplements. College Essay Guy has some great advice and feedback to help with college specific supplements! Continue to seek feedback from teachers, counselors, or trusted advisors.
- **Start filling out the Common Application or individual college applications.** Double-check all information for accuracy and completeness.
- Research scholarship deadlines.
- Meet with your college counselor to receive help with your timeline, applications, essays, etc. Taylor Sebestik Students with last names A-K Abby Peterson Students with Last Names L-Z

September-Late October:

- **Complete and submit your application(s)**-October 15th is one of the first deadlines for certain colleges and universities!
- For students applying to an institution that has a priority, early action, or early decision deadline, **make sure to submit your application by the specified deadlines.**
- **Check which schools (if any) require the STARS/SSAR/Self-reported grades.**
- **Send standardized test scores** if they are required or if you want to include them.

- Take standardized tests (if needed): Sit for any SAT or ACT exams you're registered for. Consider retaking the test if you're not satisfied with your scores.
- **Continue refining your essays, revising** and polish your college essays. Make sure they reflect your voice, experiences, and aspirations.
- **Follow up on letters of recommendation** Ensure that your recommenders have submitted their letters on time. Send gentle reminders if necessary.
- **Start the FAFSA process** by creating a StudentAid.gov account (if you don't have one)
- Determine your dependency status. This will let you know if your parent(s) or guardian will be required to add their information to your FAFSA form.
- If you are a dependent student, identify which parent(s) will be required to add information to your form with the Who's My FAFSA Parent? Wizard.
- Learn about the documents you may need to fill out the FAFSA form.

November -December

- Continue working on **regular decision applications**: Complete any remaining applications for colleges with regular decision deadlines.
- Students may be still completing and submitting applications. Some students may need to start filling out the Common Application or individual college applications, double-checking all information for accuracy and completeness.
- **Continue to monitor deadlines** when applying to schools, always making sure to submit applications by the specified deadlines.
- Begin or continue to work completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid **(FAFSA)** and any required financial aid forms for the colleges you're applying to.

January

- **Submit regular decision applications**, Finalize and submit all remaining college applications by their respective deadlines.
- For some, beginning or completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid **(FAFSA)** and any required financial aid forms for the colleges you're applying to.
- **Confirm receipt of application materials,** Check your common application to ensure that each school has received all required application materials, including transcripts, and letters of recommendation.
- **Continue researching scholarship opportunities,** Explore scholarship options and submit applications for any scholarships you're eligible for.

February - March:

- **Await admissions decisions:** Expect to receive admissions decisions from colleges between February and April. Stay patient and try to remain positive during this waiting period.
- **Compare financial aid offers:** Review financial aid packages from colleges and compare them to make an informed decision about where to enroll.

April - May:

- **Complete the KHS senior survey** to request where the final transcript needs to be submitted. Also, all admission decisions and scholarship information will be needed when completing the survey.
- **Make your final decision:** Decide which college to attend and submit any required enrollment deposits by the May 1st deadline (commonly known as National College Decision Day).
- **Notify other colleges:** If you've been accepted to multiple colleges, notify the schools you won't be attending (via email) so they can offer admission to students on their waitlist.
- **Complete any remaining tasks**: Take care of any remaining tasks, such as housing applications, orientation registration, and finalizing financial aid paperwork.

June - August:

- **Request transcripts** from institutions in which you have received **dual credit** from, have your transcript sent to your future institution.
- **Send your Dual Credit Transcripts and/or AP scores** to your future institution, any AP scores reported from senior year will be available in July.
- **Enjoy your summer!** Take some time to relax and enjoy your last summer before college. Prepare for the transition by attending orientation programs and completing any required summer assignments.