COLLEGE TIMELINE FOR SENIORS

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

____ Plan to attend College Night in the fall semester.
____ Submit your Brag Sheet in Naviance
____ Register with NCAA Clearinghouse if you are planning to play college sports.
____ Register for the ACT or SAT tests if necessary. (If you miss the first fall test date, your next opportunity may be too late to send scores to your college choices. Review using prep materials in Naviance.
____ Make sure you have completed your Brag Sheet and Resume in Naviance so that they may be used for recommendations. Contact your teachers or counselors to request that they write a recommendation for you.
____ Narrow college choices to a few schools. Your selection should include at least one that you feel will definitely accept you.
____ Complete college applications through www.ApplyTexas.org and/or www.commonapp.org.
____ Send for or download application materials/financial aid information.
____ Apply for any and all scholarships for which you qualify. Check Naviance weekly for additional scholarship opportunities.
____ If your college or scholarship applications require essays, GET STARTED. Choose an English teacher to help you critique your work.
____ Check college websites for deadline dates for application for admissions, housing, financial aid and required entrance exam (SAT. ACT) and financial aid form (FAFSA)
____ Begin submitting college application forms.
____ If you are a candidate for early decision, file your application in time to meet that deadline. Also be sure to check the LAST acceptable test date for an early decision candidate.
____ Continue preparation for SAT or ACT tests
____ Schedule college tours. Call or write ahead for an appointment.
____ Meet with college representatives when they visit your high school.
____ Maintain good grades.

OCTOBER

____ Continue processing applications and recommendation forms to guidance counselors and teachers for completion of their sections. Always allow at least 20 working days for teachers and counselors to complete recommendations. Follow your Counseling Center procedure.
____ Arrange for transcripts and recommendations to be sent to colleges through Naviance Transciprts must be paid for ($2 each) before they are sent to the college
____ Continue to complete application forms. Be sure to meet all deadlines.
____ Take/retake the STA/ACT, if necessary.

NOVEMBER

____ Continue to study hard because your first semester senior year grades are very important. Most colleges request a copy of your 1st semester senior grades for admission consideration.
____ Continue to follow-up on college applications, recommendations and transcript requests.
____ Take/retake SAT/ACT tests if necessary.
____ It's a plus to have college applications submitted before Thanksgiving.

DECEMBER

____ Look back over your timeline to be sure you have completed each step in the college admissions process.
____ Most applications should be submitted before the end of the first semester.

____ Request that SAT or ACT scores be sent to all colleges to which you have applied.
____ Ask your parents to begin gathering their financial information.
____ The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be filed beginning January 1st or later (www.fafsa.gov).

JANUARY
____ Complete financial aid forms as needed.
____ Research scholarships and loans.
____ If required, complete and return any mid-year reports to colleges which request them. Request a mid-year transcript through Naviance.

FEBRUARY
____ Keep your grades up…finish strong…remember that you will be accepted to college "Pending the successful completion of your 12th grade coursework".
____ Check deadline dates for financial aid/scholarships/grants. Many forms are due March 1st.

MARCH
____ Register for AP tests as appropriate.

APRIL
____ Look for acceptance notices. April 1st is the most popular date for colleges to notify students.
____ Carefully choose your college and write the college a letter of acceptance, which the college should receive before May 1.
____ Write other colleges to decline their acceptance (also by May 1).
____ If you are wait-listed and wish to be kept in consideration, be sure to advise the college in writing.
____ If all colleges send rejections, don't panic! There are several alternatives. See your counselor immediately to explore other possibilities.
____ Finalize plans for housing, financial aid, and/or scholarships.
____ Make any deposit required by the institution you plan to attend. May 1st is the generally accepted nationwide deadline for deposits for fall term. Be sure to check with your college for their exact requirements.

MAY
____ Make final choice of college or university, if you have not already done so. Complete all details concerning college admissions.
____ Notify your counselor of your final college choice and whether you have been awarded any scholarships (not loans)
____ Complete the Graduation Survey in Naviance.
____ Take AP test(s) as previously decided.

JUNE
____Attend graduation ceremonies and celebrate! **HAVE A HAPPY GRADUATION!**
____ When you receive your Advance Placement Test grades, if you have not already requested that the scores be sent to the college that you will be attending, request the College Entrance Exam Board to do so.
____ Participate in the orientation program of the college you will attend. This may have already occurred in the spring or occur during the summer or just prior to the fall term.