

## 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](http://www.ApplyTexas.org) and/or [www.commonapp.org](http://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. Transcripts 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 SAT/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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> or later ([www.fafsa.gov](http://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 12<sup>th</sup> grade coursework".

\_\_\_ Check deadline dates for financial aid/scholarships/grants. Many forms are due March 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **MARCH**

\_\_\_ Register for AP tests as appropriate.

#### **APRIL**

\_\_\_ Look for acceptance notices. April 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.