

Pre-College Calendar & Checklist

August

- Verify scheduled courses and credits that reflect graduation and college entrance requirements.
- Register to take ACT/SAT if necessary.
- Review your career plans and decide which type of school is right for you.
- Visit some college campuses, narrowing your choices or plan trips for the fall.
- Request catalogs and admission information
- Make plans to attend a college fair.

September

- Meet with admission representatives who are visiting your school
- Ask teachers, guidance counselor and employers for letters of recommendation for you activities and employment.
- Create separate file for each college. Get organized! Create a personal calendar of events and deadlines.
- Ask your guidance office about tests for which you will need to register (ACT, SAT). These scores must be sent to colleges where you are applying.

October

- Work on application essays.
- Review for SAT/ACT
- Visit your top school choices. Interview some students, faculty, and staff if possible.
- If you are applying for 'early decisions' submit your application and high school transcripts.
- Attend college fairs and financial aid nights in your area.

November

- Take SAT/ACT or Achievement Tests.
- Find out which financial aid application is required by the college to which you are applying and the deadlines for filing.
- Read carefully to determine the information required.
- Obtain a financial aid application from your Guidance Office or college choice. Do not submit before January 1!
- Early admission deadlines are usually this month.

December

- Apply for outside funding or scholarships.
- Attend college fairs and financial aid seminars.
- Be sure your applications for admission are mailed.
- If necessary, check into SAT/ACT testing.
- PARENTS: Save your year-end payroll stub if it shows your earnings for the year. You may need it for financial aid eligibility reviews by schools.

January

- Submit your completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to processor as soon as January 1. See if your college of choice requires additional forms.
- Keep copies of all forms you submit.
- PARENTS: Get your income tax returns prepared early – they may be requested by schools to prove eligibility for financial aid.

February

- February is Financial Aid Awareness Month. Look for special programs in your area.
- Check with your college for special deadlines.
- Check to see if your mid-year transcripts have been mailed to the school to which you have applied.
- Make sure you FAFSA has been mailed.
- Watch the mail for 'early decisions' results.

March

- Register for AP tests if applicable.
- If requested, submit copies of completed tax forms to the Financial Aid Offices of the colleges to which you have applied.
- Look for Pell Grant Program information in your Student Aid Report.
- Watch the mail for college decisions.
- Wait to hear from all colleges before making a decision.
- Start looking for a summer job. You'll need the money!

April

- Watch the mail. Compare financial aid awards you receive.
- Make your final decision and send in a deposit by the deadline. National reply deadline is May 1.
- Check with your college of choice regarding financial aid award letters being signed and returned to the institution.
- Notify the other schools that you will not be attending.

May

- Submit Student Aid Report to the Financial Aid Office.
- Make and keep copies of ALL FORMS YOU SUBMIT to the Financial Aid Office.

June

- Finalize summer school or summer job plans.
- Other: _____

- Other: _____

July

- Important telephone numbers:
 - o Educational Talent Search:
(903) 838-4541