

# Senior Year Information Guide

## Fall (August-November)

- Decide post-high school direction
  - College, Trade, Military, Work Force
- Research options via online websites or personal visits
  - Choose 4-6 colleges/universities to apply to
  - Review application process on website
  - Learn application options (e.g., Common Application or college website)
- Register for early SAT Reasoning and/or SAT Subject tests or ACT to increase your scores
  - Remember: You receive 4 **free** score reports at the time of registration (or up to 9 days after the test date). Afterwards, you must pay for **each** score report sent to a college.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss the college process
- Attend local and national college fairs and open houses at your desired colleges
- Register for college representative visits in the Counseling Office
- From your list of colleges, find the following information for each school:
  - Application deadline and application options
  - Financial Aid deadlines
  - Institutional scholarship deadlines
  - If needed, other supporting documents (e.g., secondary school report, teacher recommendations, writing supplements, test score submission requirements, etc.)
- Start writing your college essays - Ask your English teacher or another qualified individual to review your essay before submission.
- Prepare your resume - All seniors are required to submit their resume to their school counselor for scholarship consideration and letters of recommendation
- Ask your teachers and counselor for letters of recommendations (LOR's)
  - \*Not all schools require LORs – please check the colleges' admission requirements before asking!
- Begin applying to colleges – check their websites for application instructions
  - \*Take note of early deadlines for applications and financial aid (CSS Profile)! Most Early Action/Early Decision application deadlines are in November. Priority scholarship and certain programs/majors deadlines may be as early as December 1st (even for rolling admission schools!)
  - Request for transcripts to be sent to your colleges through your counselor
- Send official score reports from your College Board or ACT Student accounts to your colleges and/or NCAA
- Apply for outside scholarships and college-specific scholarships

### **Transcript Request Process**

- Add schools to Naviance under the “Colleges I’m Applying To” tab
- Request teacher recommendations in Naviance only if required
- Complete online application and submit on the college website or via the Common App.
- Request transcripts in Naviance via the google form (for each college applied to).

### **Winter (December-February)**

- Attend Financial Aid Night to learn about paying for college (November)
- Complete the FAFSA to apply for federal aid and loans and other supplemental financial aid applications
  - \*You may now begin to apply as early as October 1st with an earlier tax year’s information, referred to as prior-prior year (PPY)
- Continue applying to colleges and check that each prospective school has received all of your materials
- Continue applying for outside scholarships and college-specific scholarships
- Prepare for college interviews

### **Spring (March-June)**

- Review all of your responses and financial aid packages from colleges
- Take the ASVAB (free) to help with career planning
- Take the AP exams if you are enrolled in an AP course (May)
- Send Intent to Register to desired college and then withdrawal notification to colleges you are not attending
- Send deposit to matriculating college
- Sign and send in a promissory note if you are borrowing money
- Notify your college about any outside scholarships that you have received
- Request for final transcript to be sent to your matriculating college
- All male U.S. citizens and male immigrants, who are 18 through 25, are required to register with Selective Service

### **Summer (June-August)**

- Prepare for matriculation into your selected college by attending summer orientation programs, applying for student housing, and registering for courses
- Learn about useful resources at your college and the surrounding community, such as the campus police, tutoring centers, mental health centers, clubs, and cultural centers.