

College Checklist: Senior Year

August/September

- Register for the ACT/SAT.
- If you already took either test, review your results and find ways to improve your score.
- STUDY! STUDY! STUDY! for the ACT/SAT.
- Make a list of the four to six colleges that you plan on applying to.
1. _____ 4. _____
2. _____ 5. _____
3. _____ 6. _____
- Check with your College Now advisor to determine if the colleges you have selected are a “good fit” for you.
- Visit with your school counselor to make sure that you have the credits you need to graduate.
- Update your resume. You will need the information when filling out college applications.
- Don't let your grades slip. Higher grades help show colleges that you are serious about academics.

October

- Start to fill out college applications (either online or a paper copy).
- Research scholarships at the schools to which you are applying as well as private scholarships.
- Begin writing rough drafts for college application essays and private scholarships (if applicable).
- Ask for recommendation letters from teachers, school counselors, employers, pastors, etc. Ask them for the letter at least two to three weeks before you need it. When you ask, make sure you have the recommendation form other information ready.
- Register to take the ACT/SAT one last time (if needed).
- Pass all parts of the OGT (if you have not done so already).

November

- Finish and submit college applications by Thanksgiving. Follow your school's procedure for sending official transcripts to colleges. *Have a College Now advisor review your completed applications to obtain application fee waivers.*

December

- Contact the admissions' offices to ensure that they have received the application, references, transcript and test scores.
- Apply for a FAFSA PIN before the winter break. Gather the necessary paperwork to complete your FAFSA.

January/February

- Visit with your College Now advisor for help in filling out the FAFSA. Invite your parents/guardians as needed. *For early consideration, the FAFSA must be filled out by February 15th.*

March/April

- Look for your Student Aid Report (SAR) in the mail or your email.
- Try and visit the schools to which you have applied. Arrange for a second visit or an overnight stay at the schools where you've been accepted.
- Compare the financial aid Award Letters from different college with your College Now advisor.
- Decide which college to attend and notify the school of your decision. Pay your housing or matriculation deposit by May 1st.

May/June

- Keep track of deadlines for financial aid, scholarships and the housing deposit. Your housing deposit must be in by May 1st to secure housing for your first year.
- Send the college your final transcript.
- Notify the college of any external scholarships you may have received.

