

SENIOR CHECKLIST

September

- ___ Create or buy a master calendar to record important application deadlines, test dates, etc.
- ___ Check your transcripts to ensure all of your graduation requirements are complete.
- ___ Narrow your list of colleges / technical schools and request their application materials and financial aid information.
- ___ Register for the ACT or SAT. You can register online at www.act.org for the ACT and at www.collegeboard.org for the SAT this is the preferred method of registration. A limited number of registration packets are also available in the counseling office to register by mail. Waivers are available for students that need assistance paying the exam fee. Check with your counselor to see if you qualify.

THS school code is 490-435.

October

- ___ If you are applying for early decision, pay attention to admission deadlines.
- ___ Begin your scholarship search. Pay attention to deadlines!
- ___ Submit transcript request in counseling office at least two weeks before due to college.
- ___ Go to college/career fairs and make plans to visit your target schools. THS allows one college visit day, which will be counted as a field trip day if pre-approved.

November

- ___ Complete all enrollment and available scholarship applications and review them with a parent, teacher, or counselor.
 - ___ Ask teachers/counselor to write letters of recommendation if necessary for admission. Allow at least two weeks to complete an adequate recommendation. Provide information about yourself that may be used in the letter such as interests, strengths & weaknesses, club participation, and work/volunteer work.
 - ___ Sign up and take the ACT/SAT, if you have not already.
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December

- ___ Try to wrap up applications before winter break.
- ___ Transcript requests that need to go out before the holidays should be turned in by December 12 to the counselors' office.
- ___ Apply for your pin number for your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The FAFSA cannot be completed until after January 1. Go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov to familiarize yourself with the website and for more information.
- ___ Enjoy the holidays and your time off!

January

- ___ Ace your exams—they matter!
- ___ Request mid-year transcripts to be sent to the schools you have applied, if needed.
- ___ Financial Aid Night is in January at THS. Make plans to attend with your parents. Information will be given regarding financial aid and scholarship opportunities.
- ___ Complete your FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1. Financial aid is distributed on a first come, first serve basis.
- ___ Continue to watch deadlines for scholarship applications and get them turned in on time.

February

- ___ Make certain FAFSA is completed by February 14th. What better way to say I love you than by getting free money?

- _____ If you haven't already done so, visit schools to which you have applied.
- _____ Make sure you make copies of all applications and financial aid forms for your records before you mail them out.
- _____ Check with schools to make sure all necessary documentation has been received.
- _____ Continue to watch deadlines for scholarship applications and get them turned in on time.
- _____ Wait...

March

- _____ Decision letters may begin arriving. Read everything carefully and respond, if necessary.
- _____ Review your SAR (Student Aid Report), a report of all the data submitted through your FAFSA, for accuracy. The SAR should arrive anywhere from 2-4 weeks after the FAFSA is submitted. If the SAR has not been received 4 weeks after submitting the FAFSA, call 1-800-FED-AID.
- _____ Continue to watch deadlines for scholarship applications and get them turned in on time.

April

- _____ Most admissions decisions and financial aid award letters arrive this month. Notify all colleges that accepted you of your final decision.
- _____ Don't give in to "senioritis." Your admission may be contingent upon your final grades.
- _____ Continue to watch deadlines for scholarship applications and get them turned in on time.

May

- _____ Pay the required deposit to the final choice of college/career school. This is usually due by May 1, so continue to be aware of due dates.
- _____ Sign and return your financial aid award letter. If it will be difficult for your family to pay the Expected Family Contribution for the semester, it's time to start pursuing alternatives such as parent loans or private loans to close the financial aid gap.
- _____ Fill out a final transcript request for the college you will attend.
- _____ Thank your parents, teachers, counselor, and anyone else who helped you through this process (written notes are a plus!)

GRADUATE!