



Senior Year Planner

Special Reminders:

- When asking for **letters of recommendation**, ask teachers, employers, and other from the community (never use family members). Give them plenty of time - several weeks - to write your letter so that they do not feel rushed.
- Fill out and return your **Senior Brag Sheet** to the Counseling Office ASAP. These forms will help your letter writes write strong letters for you.

Check off each task as completed.



First Semester:

	Keep an updated calendar - such as your student handbook - of deadlines (i.e., SAT/ACT deadlines, college application due dates, etc.)
	Register and take the SAT and/or the ACT. Recommendation - take the test early in the year so that colleges have your scores as early as possible. Consider giving yourself time to take these again in case you are not satisfied with your scores. Make sure your results will reach your school well before your college application deadlines
	Athletes - Register with NCAA Clearinghouse in the early fall
	Contact schools that you are interested in and ask for applications (if they are not available online)
	Attends college fairs and talk with college representatives about your questions
	Regularly visit the Counseling Office to pick up new monthly packets - these will have scholarship information :) Complete a search of your own as well.
	Apply for any and all scholarships for which you qualify
	Narrow college choices and make sure you meet their application deadlines (have all documents ready well before due date). Don't forget to apply for housing as well - there may be separate paperwork for dorms/apartments!
	Mail college applications by November 1st. If application is online, print off the counselor page and bring it to the guidance office several weeks before it is actually due. Applying early means an earlier decision and full consideration by your choice schools
	Do not get senioritis! Keep a challenging schedule because colleges look at the courses you take this year - grades DO matter when they look at your final transcript and see grades drop. Also, there is no second chance to fix bad grades this year - don't mess up Academic Honors, bring up your GPA this year!
	Pick up a Free Application For Student Aid (FAFSA from the Counseling Office or get one offline after December 1st at www.FAFSA.ed.gov



Senior Year Planner (cont.)

Quick Suggestion:

- As you mail in your applications, be sure to call each school to verify they have received all of your document before the final due dates - make sure you have a complete application packet - you may not be considered if they do not have everything

√ Second Semester:

	Attend College Goal Sunday in Muncie
	FAFSA application are due in early March (usually around March 10th). APPLY AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE—aid is distributed on a first-come-first serve basis. Note: Many scholarships require you to complete the FAFSA. - Even if you don't think you will qualify for state aid, submit this application in order quality for scholarships and other financial aid options
	Contact the financial aid office at your college choices and request additional forms they may require
	Some colleges will accept applications until March 15th (not recommended to wait though). If you haven't applied already, do it now!
	You should receive the results of your FAFSA (called the Student Aid Report - SAR) between February and April. Make sure you read it and follow the directions for what to do next.
	April/May: Finalize your college decision - notify the college you pick that you will be attending and also notify the schools you will not attend that you are declining their offers
	June: Confirm that your final transcript has been sent to your college. Call your college and make sure that your application packet is complete

Visit the Counseling Office if you have any questions, concerns or need help!