



Senior Year Planning Calendar

2026-2027

August/Sept

- Make decision about post-secondary education goals
- Review your fall schedule, ensure it includes college admission requirements
- Register early for SAT and/or ACT
- Work on college applications!
- Research scholarships and sign up for internship opportunities
- Meet with your Counselor about Letter of Rec at least **FOUR weeks** before your first deadline.
- Request Teacher letters

October

- File **FAFSA**, beginning October 1st: www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Take SAT and/or ACT (make sure all scores are sent directly to the colleges)
- Many **“Early Action”** and **“Early Decision”** deadlines are this month
- Fill out **UC/CSU applications**
- Work on College Essays
- Update your college portfolio / resume
- **Request letters of recommendation** at least 4 weeks before the deadline!
- Plan College Visits
- Attend OCSA's **College Fair & College Night!**

November

- **UC/CSU applications due between November 30.**
- Many **“Early Action”** and **“Early Decision”** deadlines are this month (Nov 1st)!
- Take SAT or ACT
- Last chance to register for the ACT / SAT
- Continue applying to colleges and universities

December

- Last time to take the SAT or ACT for the many 4-year schools
- Visit college campuses over the winter break
- Apply to Community Colleges of choice
- Apply for scholarships!
- **CSS PROFILE** (financial aid form for private colleges) should be sent by the end of the month

January

- Make sure your spring schedule of classes includes college admission requirements
- Apply for CSF, if eligible
- Continue to check and apply for scholarships!
- Apply to Community College(s) of choice

February

- Check that all schools have received all materials — applications, test scores, financial aid forms, etc.
- Check your College Email! Carefully read all information from colleges
- Continue to check for scholarships!
- Update your resume of your accomplishments and activities

March

- **UC/CSU decisions** will be sent out this month
- If colleges request additional information, send it to them immediately
- Register for AP Exams
- Continue to check for scholarships!

April

- All colleges should respond to you by this month
- Financial Aid offers will begin to arrive
- Decide where you wish to attend college!
- Once you have committed, order mid-year CSU/UC transcripts if you have not already done so through Parchment.

May

- Make final decision on college: May 1st!
- If waitlisted, still be sure to still commit to a college you were accepted to
- Let your colleges know your decision to attend or not
- Continue researching scholarship opportunities
- Complete housing applications for your college
- Placement testing as needed

June

- **Graduation!**
- Make sure you have responded to all requests from your college
- Write “Thank You” cards to scholarship donors, teachers, and others who have written letters of recommendation
- Order your FINAL transcripts for CSU, UC, or Community College through Parchment.com

Summer Months

- Try to prepare yourself for the expense of college by saving and working summer jobs
- Work on a financial plan with your parents
- Register for college summer orientation programs
- Enjoy your summer!

Reminders

- **SENIOR GRADES ARE IMPORTANT!**
- **CREATE A NEW EMAIL RESERVED FOR COLLEGE APPS & CHECK IT OFTEN.**
- **PAY ATTENTION TO ART ATTACK FOR SENIOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**