



WFHS School Counseling Office
Senior Checklist for College Planning
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All Year...

- Work hard all the way to graduation! Your grades can affect scholarship eligibility.
- Stay involved in after-school activities and seek leadership roles if possible.

August – September

- Check with your school counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements.
- Check your transcript to make sure you have all the credits you need to get into the college(s) that interests you.
- Take time to get to know the colleges you are interested in. Meet with college representatives who visit your school, attend local college fairs, and visit campuses.
- Request personal recommendations from teachers, school counselor, or employers.
- Register for the SAT and/or ACT. *Check with the colleges you are interested in to see what tests they require.
- Research scholarships. Follow LOFSA on Facebook/Twitter and search Fast Web.
- Prepare for the FAFSA by creating your FSA ID.

October

- Have your counselor submit a transcript to the colleges you are applying to. Fill out the transcript request form on the school website.
- The FAFSA opens October 1st. Fill it out as soon as possible. You will need your 2021 tax return.
- If you are applying early decision most deadlines are between October 1 and November 1. Have a parent, teacher, counselor, or other adult review the application before it is submitted. Follow the instructions and PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO DEADLINES!
- Devote, time, energy, and thought to writing any required essays.
- Research scholarships. (Google should be your best friend!)

November – December

- Submit admission and scholarship applications. Follow the instructions and PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO DEADLINES!
- Well before your college application deadlines, ask your counselor and teachers to submit the required documents (e.g., transcript, letters of recommendation) to the colleges to which you're applying.
- Send your ACT score to the colleges you are applying to.
- Finalize your college essay.
- Research scholarships.

January

- Ask your school counselor to send your first semester to schools where you applied. At the end of the school year, they will need to send final transcripts. Let them know your final decision.
- Complete any last scholarship applications.

February – May

- Watch for local scholarships on the school website.
- Acceptance letters and financial aid offers will start to arrive. Review your acceptances and compare financial aid packages.
- Contact a school's financial aid office if you have questions about the aid that school has offered you. In fact, getting to know your financial aid staff early is a good idea no matter what—they can tell you about deadlines, paperwork you might need to submit, and other aid for which you might wish to apply.
- To have your scholarships announced at graduation, turn in a copy of all offers to Ms. Walker by May 5th. You may either email offers to Ms. Walker or turn in hard copies.
- May 1st is the date when the college you plan to attend requires a commitment and deposit. Let your counselor know when make your final decision.
- If you've been offered financial aid, accept the offer, and follow the instructions given. Also notify schools you will not attend of your decision.
- Request that your final transcript be sent to the college you will be attending.
- **Request all dual enrollment transcripts be sent to your final college choice. The school counseling office CANNOT do this for you!**
- GRADUATION! Congratulations!