

SENIOR CHECKLIST **Senior Countdown to College:**

FALL

- During your *senior transition interview* with your counselor, discuss and evaluate your plans for post-secondary education.
- Register to take or retake the SAT and/or ACT. If you are unsure of which one to take, discuss it with your counselor.
- Visit colleges, talk with admission representatives, and begin applying to all of the schools you are considering. Applications are available online. Plan to have them done by Thanksgiving.
Watch for Early Action and/or Early Decision deadlines.
- Research scholarship information in the Guidance Office and on the UCHS Guidance webpage. Note: Internet scholarship search engines are also available. However, the scholarships represented are national and therefore far more competitive than state, local, or WCHS scholarships. You will receive a better return on your time by concentrating on those that are state or local or those offered by colleges.
- If you are considering playing sports for a Division I or II college, register with the NCAA Eligibility Center and/or NAIA Eligibility Center to be sure you are certified eligible for college sports programs.
- Check college web pages, Facebook, and Twitter for up-to-date scholarship information, college representatives' visitation dates, and important deadlines.

WINTER

- Continue applying to the colleges you have selected. Some applications, such as engineering and aviation, must be in by November 1. Set Thanksgiving as the absolute final deadline for having applications completed and sent.
- If you are requesting college admission on an Early Action or Early Decision basis, be certain your applications are submitted by the deadline.
- Give recommendation forms to teachers, counselors, and other persons from whom you are seeking references ***at least two weeks before*** they are due.
- Write thank you notes to all persons writing recommendations for you.
- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Be sure you are on the right website. To qualify for Indiana-based financial aid, the FAFSA should be submitted online by March 10. If you plan to go to college in another state, check that state's deadline.
- On February 17th at 6pm, attend the Financial Aid Workshop at the high school with your parents.

- If you haven't finished the application process, don't delay any longer.
- Keep up with your class work, and study for your final exams. Remember that you will be sending your transcript to colleges again after your 7th and 8th semesters.

SPRING

- File the FAFSA by March 10th at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Most local scholarship applications will become available in March and April. Listen to announcements to avoid missing deadlines.
- Make the final decision about which post-secondary institution you will attend. Revisit schools, if necessary, before making your final decision. May 1 is the decision deadline for most colleges and universities. Decline other offers of admission in writing.
- Review your financial aid award letter with your parents; be sure you understand the terms and conditions that accompany each kind of aid.
- Sign your financial award letter and any other items requiring your signature, and return them.