

# Senior Year Timeline Checklist:

*Tips for applying to a 4 year university, community college or trade school.*



- ☐ Log In California Colleges account with your student district email (ex: 12345678@student.tusd.net)
- ☐ Log in to your California Colleges account to launch the following:
  - ☐ FAFSA
  - ☐ Dream Act
  - ☐ Community Colleges
  - ☐ California State University
  - ☐ University of California
  - ☐ Common App

## August - September

- ☐ **Meet with your school counselor** to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements.
- ☐ **Register for the SAT and/or ACT** Please check with individual colleges to see what testing is required, if any. Visit SAT/ACT website for updates regarding testing options.
- ☐ **Look over college applications.** Make note of all the pieces of information you will need to compile.
- ☐ **Take every opportunity to get to know colleges.** Participate in virtual college information sessions. Visit each individual college website for specific dates. Some colleges may allow in person visits.
- ☐ **Narrow down your list of colleges.** Gather information about the application and financial aid process at each school.
- ☐ **Build your list of trade school and/or apprenticeship programs.** Gather information about the application and financial aid process at each school.
- ☐ **Create a checklist and calendar** to keep track of tests dates, application due dates, and financial aid deadlines. Make note of the other materials, such as recommendations or essays you will need to complete your applications.

## October

- ☐ **Log in to your [California Colleges](#) account** to launch [FAFSA](#), [Dream Act](#) and [college applications](#) and more.
- ☐ **Launch and file your FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon after October 1<sup>st</sup> as possible. In addition to determining your eligibility for federal funds, many colleges and states use the form when distributing grants. Once submitted, watch for your Student Aid Report (SAR).
- ☐ **Complete the [CSS Profile](#)** if required. This is an online application used by certain colleges and scholarship programs to determine eligibility for aid money.
- ☐ **Review Early Decision/Early Action or Rolling Admission** options for colleges that you are interested in. Colleges may require test scores and applications to be submitted by Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> or earlier.
- ☐ **Request personal recommendations** from teachers, school counselor, etc. as most require three weeks to complete. Remember, the more time you give, the better letter they are able to provide.
- ☐ **Research [scholarships](#).** Visit your College and Career Readiness Center, Counseling website, check the TUSD Mobile App, and the daily bulletin. You should never pay for scholarship information.
- ☐ **Get more information about the ASVAB** from the College and Career Readiness Center. This aptitude test is typically held in November.

## *The finish line is near!!*

### November - December

- ☐ **Be sure to sign up for the ASVAB: To Be Determined**
- ☐ **The end of the semester is approaching.** Be sure to stay on top of school work and finish the semester strong. Email or visit your counselor if you are in danger of failing a class and talk about options to get back on track for graduation and college entrance requirements.
- ☐ **UC/CSU application deadline is November 30<sup>th</sup>.** Do not wait until the last minute to complete and submit your application. Attend application workshops offered at school. Do not risk making a mistake on your application!
- ☐ **Take your final SAT and/or ACT if required.**
- ☐ **Visit college campuses** if you can during Thanksgiving break and winter break.
- ☐ **Review NCAA and/or NAIA** accounts to make sure your profile is up to date.
- ☐ **Review Early Decision/Early Action** admission deadlines as many of them are due in November and December.

### February - May

- ☐ **Do not slack in the classroom.** Your grades still count and you do not want to put yourself at risk of not graduating and/or having your college acceptance rescinded.
- ☐ **Acceptance notifications and financial aid offers will start to arrive.** Review your acceptances and compare financial aid packages.
- ☐ **March 2<sup>nd</sup> is the DEADLINE to submit your FAFSA and Dream Act application!**
- ☐ **Visit your final choices for colleges/trade schools before you commit to attend.** You can also explore your school choices through online virtual tours if you can visit in person.
- ☐ **If you plan to attend a community college or trade school** sign up for their information and application workshops by visiting the individual campus for the new student days.
- ☐ **May 1<sup>st</sup> is the DEADLINE** to submit your intent to register and deposit to the college you will be attending! Notify your counselor of your decision.
- ☐ **Complete a Final Transcript Request Form.** This form is located in the counseling office.
- ☐ **Stay focused** on finishing the year strong and enjoy your senior activities!

Check your college student profile & student email address **often**. That is how colleges will reach out to you with important deadlines and updates.