

Senior Year Timeline

Summer before Senior Year

- Update Resume
- Know and write down Fall Application Deadlines
 - Early Action vs Early Decision
- Plan for scholarship applications (scholarship Sunday etc...)
- Start Scholarship Folder (SpongeBob SquarePants) and document community service, activities, involvements, awards, etc...
- College visits or online tours
- Request Letters of Recommendation from teachers, employers, coaches, pastors, etc...(give them your scholarship folder, resume, or some kind of “brag” sheet)

Fall

- Request Letters of Recommendation from teachers, employers, coaches, pastors, etc...(give them your scholarship folder, resume, or some kind of “brag” sheet)
- Request transcripts and/or test scores to be sent to all schools student is looking at
- Know application requirements
- Contact Admissions Counselor
 - Portal
 - Missing items?
 - Verify all applications items have been received
- Submit Applications
- File FAFSA-opens October 1
- Scholarship application deadlines (outside and school based)

Winter

- Review Acceptances
- Verify college credits transferring if necessary
- College visits if possible
- Scholarship applications both local and at the schools
- Check WUE deadline (typically February 1)

Spring

- Activate school email, student ID number, log on to portal
- Review Financial Aid Offers, accept before deadlines
- Know Housing deposit and meal plan deadlines and application process
- Know payment deadlines
- Make decision (May 1 - National College Decision Day)
- Wrap-up scholarships

Summer after Senior Year

- Make Initial Payment
- Housing deposit and application
- Register for classes, meet with an advisor
- Register for Freshman “Welcome” activities
- Many colleges have a bedding package to purchase that includes all bedding, pillows, laundry bag, and towels. Pick it up on move-in day and save time running to the local stores.
- Order or rent textbooks
- Reach out to roommates if known
- Arrange transportation (flights, vehicle, bike, bus system pass)

Parents

- Think about having your 18 year old get a \$500 two year loan. This will help establish their credit score, as long as they can pay it off. This only works if they have the money ahead of time and it is automatically paid off each month.
- College road trip tour. Visit the college your student is going to select with them. Sometimes after this visit they change their mind. You will save money and heartbreak to find this out now instead of the first semester during freshman year.
- Have your current or previous tax forms that you filed ready (clarify)
- Create and save your FAFSA username and password. You will need this every year.
- Have your student contact the college counselor with all of their questions instead of you calling for them. They can even send a text. This will get them used to reaching out to the resources they will be using.
- Be prepared to pay tuition in July
- Make sure your high school dual college credits will transfer to your college.
- Make sure your child has told the college what credits will be transferred. Then make sure they send this transcript to the college.
- Send your child a care package. Ordering something from Amazon to be delivered directly to them is usually cheaper than shipping something from Alaska. Search care package and see what you get.
- Renting books on Amazon might be cheaper than the campus bookstore. Some bookstores will price match. See the following sites for textbook rental options:
 - www.chegg.com
 - <https://www.hpb.com/textbooks>
 - www.campusbookrentals.com
 - www.textbookrush.com

Parents of Athletes

- Register on NCAA, NAIA and send transcripts
- Consider CaptainU, NCSA, and other recruiting Aps.
- Consider Junior Colleges and Community Colleges
- Make sure your student fills out the Prospective Athlete form at each school
- Make sure your student emails the coach and athletic director to indicate interest, include highlight videos and offer to send full game footage
- Attend Exposure Camps as much as possible
- Make sure your student sends a thank you email to coaches after an exposure camp
- Ask to visit schools and work out with the team on your visit
- Coaches talk to each other