

SENIOR YEAR CALENDAR - PREPARING & PLANNING FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

September

<input type="checkbox"/>	Visit nextsteps.idaho.gov for information about getting students ready for life after high school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make sure you have all applications required for college admission and financial aid. Write, phone, or use the web to request missing information.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check on application and financial aid deadlines for the schools to which you plan to apply. They may vary and it is essential to meet all deadlines!
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meet with your school counselor to be sure your list includes colleges appropriate to your academic and personal record. Review your transcript and co-curricular records with your school counselor to ensure their accuracy. Schedule this meeting in September.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Register for the October/November SAT Reasoning Test and/or SAT Subject Tests, or September/October ACT.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If the colleges require recommendations, ask the appropriate people to write on your behalf. At least three weeks before the due date, ask your counselor and teachers, employers, or coaches to write letters of recommendation. Provide recommendation forms, any special instructions and a stamped, addressed business envelope to the people writing your recommendation. Be thoughtful! Write thank-you notes to those who write recommendations and keep them informed of your decisions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plan visits to colleges and set up interviews (if you didn't get to them during the summer or if you want to return to a campus for a second time). Read bulletin boards and the college newspaper. Talk with current students and professors.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Even if you don't think you will qualify for financial aid, fill out a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid); some colleges use these to award scholarships. Check to see if the colleges to which you are applying require any other financial aid form. Register for the CSS Profile if required and obtain the college's own financial aid forms, if necessary. You will learn more about the FAFSA on Financial Aid Night so make sure to attend.
<input type="checkbox"/>	You and your parent need to apply for a FSA ID. You need to do this to complete the FAFSA. The link to create a FSA ID is: https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete scholarship applications. You may be eligible for more scholarships than you think, so apply for as many as you can.

October

<input type="checkbox"/>	Visit nextsteps.idaho.gov for information about getting students ready for life after high school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue doing research on schools you are interested in. There are national college fairs; more information is available at http://nacacnet.org .
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parents and students, you will need your income tax returns to fill out the FAFSA. Complete and return your FAFSA as quickly as possible after October 1. Check to make sure your college or state does not require any other financial aid forms. If they do, consult your school counselor or contact the college's financial aid office.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Mail applications in time to reach the colleges by the deadlines. Check with your school counselor to make sure your transcript and test scores have been/will be sent to the colleges to which you are applying, at least 2 weeks before the due date.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If applying for early decision or early action, send in your application now. Also prepare applications for back-up schools. Remember, if you are accepted under the early decision option, you are expected to enroll at that college and to withdraw all other applications. Submit financial aid information if requested from early decision/action candidates.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Register for the December/January SAT and/or SAT Tests, if you have not completed the tests yet or if you are not happy with your previous test scores and think you can do better.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Have official test scores sent by the testing agency to colleges on your list.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete scholarship applications. You may be eligible for more scholarships than you think, so apply for as many as you can.

November

<input type="checkbox"/>	Visit nextsteps.idaho.gov for information about getting students ready for life after high school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Take the SAT or ACT if appropriate. Don't forget to have test scores sent to colleges on your list.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Be sure your first quarter grades are good.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you completed a FAFSA, you should receive your Student Aid Report (SAR) within four weeks after submitting the FAFSA. Review the SAR carefully and check for any inaccuracies. If necessary, correct any items on the SAR and return it to the FAFSA processor (if a college transmitted your data directly, notify the college of any change).
<input type="checkbox"/>	If more than four weeks have passed after sending in your FAFSA and you have not received an acknowledgment, contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center at (319) 337-5665. To identify you, they will need your name, social security number, address, and date of birth exactly as it was written on your FAFSA.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue completing applications to colleges. Make copies of all applications before mailing the applications.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keep all records, test score reports and copies of applications for admission and financial aid. Do not throw anything away until at least the end of your first year in college. Having detailed records will save you time and effort should anything be lost or should you decide to apply in the future to other colleges and scholarship programs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete scholarship applications. You may be eligible for more scholarships than you think, so apply for as many as you can.

December

<input type="checkbox"/>	Visit nextsteps.idaho.gov for information about getting students ready for life after high school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Have official test scores sent to colleges on your list if you have not done so.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Consult your school counselor again to review your final list of colleges. Be sure you have all bases covered. It is a good idea to make copies of everything before you drop those envelopes in the mail. If for some reason your application gets lost, you will have a back-up copy. Submit your last college application.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you applied for early decision, you should have an answer by now. If you are accepted, follow the instructions for admitted students. If the decision is deferred until spring or you are denied, submit applications now to other colleges.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete scholarship applications. You may be eligible for more scholarships than you think, so apply for as many as you can.

January

<input type="checkbox"/>	Visit nextsteps.idaho.gov for information about getting students ready for life after high school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keep working in your classes! Grades and courses continue to count throughout the senior year.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request that your counselor send the transcript of your first semester grades to the colleges to which you applied.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete scholarship applications. You may be eligible for more scholarships than you think, so apply for as many as you can.

February

<input type="checkbox"/>	Visit nextsteps.idaho.gov for information about getting students ready for life after high school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remember to monitor your applications to be sure that all materials are sent and received on time and that they are complete. Stay on top of things and don't procrastinate; you can ruin your chances for admission by missing a deadline.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete scholarship applications. You may be eligible for more scholarships than you think, so apply for as many as you can.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enjoy your final year in high school, but don't catch senioritis!

March

<input type="checkbox"/>	Visit nextsteps.idaho.gov for information about getting students ready for life after high school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stay focused and keep studying-only a couple more months to go!
<input type="checkbox"/>	Keep your counselor posted on scholarships you receive and on your decisions about post-high school plans

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April

<input type="checkbox"/>	Visit nextsteps.idaho.gov for information about getting students ready for life after high school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do not take rolling admission applications for granted. (Some colleges do not have application deadlines; they admit students on a continuous basis.) These schools may reach their maximum class size quickly-the earlier you apply, the more availability there may be.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review your college acceptances and financial aid awards. Be sure to compare financial aid packages in your decision-making process. If you are positive you will not enroll at one or more of the colleges which accepted you, notify those colleges that you have selected another college. Keeping colleges aware of your plans might enable those colleges to admit someone else. If you know which college you will attend, send your tuition deposit, if required, and follow all other instructions for admitted students. You should decide which offer of admission to accept by May 1 (postmark date)

May/June

<input type="checkbox"/>	Visit nextsteps.idaho.gov for information about getting students ready for life after high school.
<input type="checkbox"/>	By May 1, decide on the one college that you will attend and send in your tuition deposit, if required. Notify the other colleges that accepted you that you have selected another college
<input type="checkbox"/>	If your first-choice college places you on their waiting list, do not lose all hope. Some students are admitted off the waiting list. Talk with your counselor, and contact the college to let them know you are still very interested. Keep the college updated on your activities.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Take Advanced Placement examinations, if appropriate and request that your AP scores be sent to the college you will attend.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Request that your counselor send your final transcript to the college you will attend. Also make sure to request transcripts from colleges where you have received dual credit be sent to your college. Notify the college of any private scholarships or grants you will be receiving.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Know when the payment for tuition, room and board, meal plans, etc., is due. If necessary, ask the financial aid office about a possible payment plan that will allow for you to pay in installments.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Congratulations, you've made it through high school! Enjoy your graduation and look forward to college.

July/August

<input type="checkbox"/>	Look for information in the mail from the college about housing, roommate(s), orientation, course selection, etc. Respond promptly to all requests from the college.
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