

# SENIOR YEAR COLLEGE PREP CHECKLIST

## 8 AUGUST

- Build your college list.** Include safety, target and reach schools.
- Start your application essays** by brainstorming and writing first drafts.
- Register and study for SAT® or ACT® exams** if you're taking them again this fall or winter.
- Apply for scholarships.** Visit [DiscoverStudentLoans.com/Scholarship](https://DiscoverStudentLoans.com/Scholarship) to search over 3 million options.

## 9 SEPTEMBER

- Create a spreadsheet** to track application deadlines and requirements.
- Talk with your high school counselor** to finalize your college list.
- Attend a financial aid workshop** if your school offers one, and bring a parent or guardian if you can.
- Ask for letters of recommendation** from teachers and mentors.
- Prepare for the FAFSA®.** Gather tax information, SSNs and federal school codes.
- Tour schools where you're considering applying** in person or online.
- Decide if you're applying early decision or early action** to any schools.

## 10 OCTOBER

- Complete the FAFSA®** as early as possible as some aid is offered on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Review your SAR** (Student Aid Report) to make sure all information is correct.
- Complete the CSS Profile™.**
- Request transcripts** be sent to the colleges on your list.
- Finish your application essays** and get them proofread.
- Fill out applications.**

## 11 NOVEMBER

- Submit early applications.**
- It's National Scholarship Month!** Continue to research and apply.

## 12 DECEMBER

- Accept early admission** and financial package, if applicable.
- Submit applications** to your regular admission schools.

## 1 JANUARY

- Make enrollment deposits for early admission,** if applicable.
- Submit any outstanding applications.** This is the last deadline for most schools.

## 2 FEBRUARY

- Continue applying for scholarships.**
- Write thank-you notes** to people who helped you with applications.

## 3 MARCH

- Receive your notifications** of admission, waitlist or rejection.
- Compare financial aid award letters.** Visit [CollegeCovered.com/Award-Letter-Tool](https://CollegeCovered.com/Award-Letter-Tool) for a free comparison tool.
- Appeal your financial aid offers** if your financial situation has changed.
- Tour schools you're considering attending** by visiting in person or online.

## 4 APRIL

- Make a final decision** and send in your deposit.
- Notify other schools** that you won't be attending.
- Accept your financial aid and scholarships.**

## 5 MAY

- Submit enrollment deposit** by May 1.
- Send final transcripts,** if required.
- Submit housing, meal plan and roommate selections,** if needed.

## 6 JUNE

- Apply for private student loans** if you need to cover gaps in college costs.
- Register for freshman orientation** if your school offers one.

## 7 JULY

- Compare private student loans** and select the loan that's best for you.
- Make your first tuition payment.**