



SENIORS

Pre-College Calendar and Checklist

Liberty High School
www.khsd.k12.ca.us/liberty

AUGUST

- ◆ Review your career plans and decide which type of school is right for you. (vocational college, J
- ◆ Visit some colleges campuses.
- ◆ Narrow your college list to 3-5 schools.
- ◆ Request catalogs and admissions information.
- ◆ Go to www.collegeboard.com for test dates and registration for SAT Reasoning & SAT II and/or to www.act.org for ACT.
- ◆ Sign up for Educaid's FREE monthly email for college bound students at www.educaid.com.

SEPTEMBER

- ◆ Assume leadership of at least one organization.
- ◆ Review college materials, www.californiacolleges.edu, and other resources to narrow your college list.
- ◆ Begin to finalize list of colleges.
- ◆ Consider visits, overnight stays, and interviews at your top college choices. Visit (personally or virtually) any colleges you have not already seen.
- ◆ Register for one last shot at the SAT or ACT: www.collegeboard.com and/or www.act.org. And be sure to take the SAT Subject Tests, if required. (check college website)
- ◆ Attend BC/CSU/UC application workshops (listen to LHS bulletin) to assist you in filling out the forms.
- ◆ Begin thinking about teachers who would be willing to write strong letters of recommendation on your behalf.
- ◆ Brainstorm ideas for your college essays. Start writing.
- ◆ Attend Kern County College Night and other college fairs.
- ◆ Be sure your senior year includes challenging courses.
- ◆ Attend college and armed services presentations in the College/Career Center. Listen to daily LHS bulletin and/or go to the LHS website to find the daily bulletin.

OCTOBER

- ◆ Finalize college choices to reasonable number, ideally with one or more "dream" schools and one "safety" school.
- ◆ Create a file for each college and a list of deadlines.
- ◆ Be considerate and request a Letter of Recommendation from teachers and/or counselor early so they are not rushed.
- ◆ Thank your teachers/counselor for their recommendation.
- ◆ CSU applications open October 1st w/ deadline Nov. 30th.
- ◆ UC applications open November 1st w/ deadline Nov.30th.
- ◆ Work on your college essays.
- ◆ Go on to www.bakersfieldcollege.com to research BC or www.taftcollege.edu for Taft College.
- ◆ If you have a clear "first choice" college, consider applying for **early decision**.

NOVEMBER

- ◆ Finalize your college essays, but only after numerous edits, re-writes, and reviews by people you trust (family, teacher).
- ◆ Request Letters of Recommendation from teachers and/or counselor no later than early November. As mentioned early, be sure to thank them for their help.
- ◆ Complete college applications and put packets in the mail.
- ◆ Request key financial aid and scholarship information from your list of colleges.
- ◆ Stay focused on grades.

DECEMBER

- ◆ Early decision notification this month.
- ◆ Everyone should apply to BC/TAFT as your choice or as a "fall-back" college. Take Assessment Test for English & math.
- ◆ If applying for financial aid, review with parent and get pin number for FAFSA online at www.FAFSA.ed.gov.
- ◆ Start detailed financial aid search, including outside sources for scholarship and loans.

JANUARY

- ◆ FAFSA application opens online January 1st. Apply by March 2nd to be eligible for Cal Grant.
- ◆ Attend Financial Aid night at your school & Cash for College

FEBRAURY

- ◆ Complete the FAFSA. (You'll need your family's/ guardian's tax records.)
- ◆ Keep track of your college applications. Be sure all schools have received all your materials.
- ◆ Apply to community colleges; take placement/assessment tests.

MARCH

- ◆ College decision letters begin arriving.
- ◆ Athletes must be certified by NCAA to play college athletics.
- ◆ Make BC/Taft counseling appointment after assessment results come in.
- ◆ Finalize financial aid applications.
- ◆ Continue searching and applying for scholarships and grants.

APRIL

- ◆ Make decision about college choice from among the colleges that accepted you.
- ◆ Notify all colleges that accepted you of your final decision.
- ◆ Submit tuition deposit to your college of choice.
- ◆ Continue searching and applying for scholarships and grants.
- ◆ Stay focused on grades.

MAY

- ◆ Be sure to submit paperwork for room and board.
- ◆ Register for your BC/Taft classes for Fall.
- ◆ Celebrate your high school success!

Look on Liberty's website for SCHOLARSHIPS