

# Senior Checklist

## August

- Review your career plans and decide which type of school is right for you
- Visit some college campuses
- Narrow your college list to 3-5 schools
- Request catalogs and admissions information
- Sign up for SAT (I and II) at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) and/or ACT at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

## September

- Meet with admissions representatives who are visiting your school
- Make a list of test names, dates, fees, registration deadlines, and deadlines for collage admissions and financial aid applications
- Begin asking teachers and guidance advisors for letters of recommendation

## October

- Take the SAT or ACT exam if necessary
- Work on admissions applications essays
- Apply to the CSU system (Oct 1 – Nov 30)
- Visit schools
- Attend information nights
- Attend college fairs and financial aid nights
- Find out which financial aid applications your college choices require and when the forms are due. Many private schools require the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, which can be found on [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

## November

- Take the SAT or ACT exam if necessary
- Begin preparing your college applications
- To apply for federal and state financial aid, you will file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in January. This is best done online. To file your FAFSA on-line, both you and one of your parents must have a PIN code. Apply for a PIN now by visiting [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)

## December

- Apply for outside funding or scholarships
- PARENTS: Save your year-end payroll stub if it shows your earnings for the year. You may need it for financial aid eligibility reviews by schools

## January

- Submit your FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). (Jan 1 – Mar 2)
- Submit the Cal Grant GPA verification form to your guidance advisor
- PARENTS: It's helpful to get your income tax returns prepared early

## February

- Check to see if your midyear transcripts have been sent to the schools to which you have applied
- Submit your FAFSA if you have not already done so

- Submit the Cal Grant GPA verification form to your guidance advisor, if you have not already done so

March 2

- March 2 – Submission deadline for FAFSA
- Look for the Student Aid Report (SAR) after your FAFSA has been submitted
- Contact Financial Aid offices to make certain that your application is complete
- Contact FAFSA at 1-800-433-3243 if you have not received your SAR four weeks after sending in your FAFSA

April

- Watch the mail for college acceptance and financial aid award letters. Compare the financial aid awards you receive
- Watch for important deadlines (housing, financial aid, etc) at your chosen college

May

- Take AP examinations
- If you have not received a notice regarding your Cal Grant application from the California Student Aid Commission, contact them at 1-888-CAGrant, as soon as possible.