

Preparing for College: Senior Checklist

- □ CREATE AN APPROPRIATE EMAIL ADDRESS Use this email address for all your college and scholarship communications.
- PREPARE A PERSONAL FILING SYSTEM for college information. You can use a crate with folders, an accordion file, or file folders, however it makes sense to you, but you must have some kind of system so applications, scholarships, financial aid, grades/transcripts, resume information, etc., are organized. Update files at the end of each semester.
- **CREATE** a personal calendar of important events and deadlines.
- □ **BEGIN/UPDATE A RESUME** Create a record of activities and/or community services projects, including recent accomplishments and awards.
- □ ATTEND College Fair at UNT in the fall.
- VISIT college campuses. Most schools have a webpage that outlines their tour times, on-campus events, and other visitation options. You have two college visits available as excused absences your senior year. You must get a form from the attendance office before you leave.
- □ APPLICATIONS Apply early. Many deadlines are January 15, but you have a better chance of getting into the college if you apply by the early admission deadline, usually around November 15.
- □ ASK people to write reference letters. Give them at least 2 weeks to write the recommendation. Provide them with a stamped, addressed envelope for each school. Don't forget to write thank you notes.
- □ SCHOLARSHIPS See your counselor, visit the CATE center for a list, and continue to visit websites for information. Make note of deadlines.
- □ **FINANCIAL AID** Attend a financial aid workshop with your parents. Many priority financial aid deadlines fall in February. Watch deadlines.
- FAFSA. Submit your FAFSA as soon after January 1 as possible. Men 18 years or older must register for the selective service to receive federal financial aid. Watch for Student Aid Report (SAR) in mail/ email.
- □ **TEST** Retake the SAT or ACT.
- MAKE YOUR DECISION Notify the schools where you were accepted and let them know whether or not you plan to attend. Follow up with the school you plan to attend and make sure they have all of your information.
- **REMEMBER!** Make a copy of EVERYTHING you submit.

PLANNING FOR COLLEGE WEBSITES

College Information/Searches:

www.act.org www.cappex.com www.college.gov www.collegeanswerguy.com www.collegeboard.com www.collegedata.com www.collegefortexans.com www.collegefortexans.com www.collegeview.com www.collegeview.com www.gocollege.com www.gocollege.com www.knowhow2go.org www.mymajors.com www.nces.ed.gov/ collegenavigator

College Applications:

www.applytexas.org www.commonapp.org

Scholarship Searches:

www.collegeboard.com www.dentonisd.org www.fastweb.com www.fanaid.org www.petersons.com/finaid www.princetonreview.com www.scholarships.com www.schoolsoup.com

Financial Aid:

FAFSA – <u>www.fafsa.gov</u> FAFSA4caster – <u>www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov</u> Federal Student Aid -<u>http://studentaid.ed.gov</u> The Smart Student Guide to Financial Aid – <u>www.finaid.org</u>

Naviance login:

Username - student id Password - birth date month, day, year; no spaces use all numbers: (April 3, 1994 = 04031994; October 18, 1994 = 10181994)

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