

SEPTEMBER

- Get a file "bin" and set up - Obtain FAFSA forms - you a file for each target school. can file in October using - Attend all high school last year's tax return: college-related meetings. - Take SAT/ACT as needed - Meet with counselor and (register for Nov/Dec). ask questions. - Work on applications. - Identify all the application - See if college applications deadlines for your schools are on the internet vet and fill out checklist. (be sure they are for the - Get vour school's CEEB right admission term) If so. download & print them for code and have it handv along with your SS#. practice and/or get the - Finalize your resume. essavs. - Prep for final SAT/ACT - Think about essay topics. testing and register. Brainstorm. - Ask teachers for letters of - Keep grades up - senior grades count! recommendation if your colleges want them. - Are you taking the SAT - Request interviews at again? privates whenever they are - Did you obtain all letters of available. recommendation needed? - Get a good senior picture, - Decide about applying formal or informal early decision - you can - Print practice apps for all only do one! your schools even if you will - If you're an athlete, talk to coach(es). be doing them on-line. -Review your Handbook - Polish your resume for the carefully. last time! -Are any of your target schools visiting your high school?

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER - Attend any workshops/ meetings offered by your high school.

- -think about financial aid needs
- Work on essays and applications. (many early applications are due in November!)

- Watch deadlines! - Don't procrastinate with your apps! The earlier the better

- Want to take the SAT one more time?

- Have your high school send transcripts to colleges that want them. - Send thank you notes to anyone who helped you (letters of recommendation etc)

- Be sure your SAT/ACT scores have been sent to all your colleges after your last test. Send AP scores as well if they are strong.

APRIL

chance at the standardized tests - use it if you need it. - Study Hard! You can't afford to let your grades slip. (first semester grades may be used in decisions) - Be sure to report your test

scores to all your colleges. - Use the internet to research scholarships. - Finish any remaining applications! Proof them over and over. - Have others read your essays to be sure they are captivating and demonstrate something unique about vou. - Send your final resume, picture and cover letter to your private schools - Think about financial aid needs and familiarize

DECEMBER

- This is likely your last

vourself with the forms. - Keep copies of everything you send

- If accepted Early Decision. inform other schools.

MAY

- Most of your schools must be notified by May 1 with an SIR form. - Plan summer employment. - Pay attention to housing and meal plan information contained in vour acceptance letter(s). - Inform the schools you will NOT be attending as well. - If needed, research loans (PLUS, Stafford etc) to make up for any financial gap after aid results are known.

- Study for finals and APs! (use prep books?)

JANUARY

- The last of the applications should be due this month for Fall admission.

- Are your test scores sent?

- Transcripts sent as required?

- Letters of recommendation in?

- Be sure your FAFSA is filed;

- Consider using CSS/PROFILE for aid if your college(s) take it. (College Board website)

- You may need a GPA verification form for some state grants (research this).

- Attend financial aid workshops at your school or elsewhere.

- Research private scholarships via internet.

JUNE

- Order final transcript and anything else to be sent to your college - Consider computer needs for next Fall (notebooks, wireless connections, etc) - Attend all orientations at your college. - Do some extra research on your college to think about what activities you will pursue. - Respond to any financial aid offers you received. - Keep READING! - Have a great summer and look forward to the amazing adventure that awaits you!

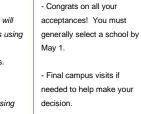
FEBRUARY

- Finish financial aid forms. Timing matters! Being late can literally cost you. - Tell your parents you will need their 1040 tax information (as current as possible, last vears at least) - You can estimate the financial aid you will receive. - Have school send updated transcripts or midyear reports if needed. - Pay attention to correspondence from colleges. - Keep your grades up! Offers can be rescinded!

(Review the SAR you will receive to be sure it is using the right data) - Register for AP tests. - Wait for acceptance letters! (Pav attention to housing forms in acceptance letters. There may be deadlines and preference options) - Consider appealing a rejection. (if it was your first choice and you have some reason for them to reconsider you) - Notify your counselor when you receive college decisions and write waitlist letters if appropriate.

-FAFSA form due

MARCH



- Talk to people who can help you decide: alumni, older friends who are there. parents, and your counselor.

- Prepare for AP tests and finals

- Review and discuss financial aid offers as part of your decision making process. These can be appealed also.