

Class of 2024 Summer Checklist: Preparing for Your Senior Year!

- Take the ACT (June 10th and July 15th register at act.org) or SAT (June 3rd register at collegeboard.org).
- Get a summer job to expand your experiences and earn college money. Internships and volunteering provide experience too.
- Research colleges and visit campuses.
- Continue applying for scholarships (fastweb.com).
- Create a Common App account so you are prepared when the Common App opens in August. Go to commonapp.org and click on the "Start your application" button to get details about how to create an account.
- Look at college applications. Create a list of all information you will need to compile.
- Practice makes perfect. Begin working on your scholarship and college application essays; reread and revise.

Common Scholarship Questions:

- Write a short autobiography including information about your family, work experience, community involvement, hobbies, spare time activities, and what you hope to do in the future.
 - Include a summary or personal statement describing your accomplishments and goals.
 - List any honors and awards you have received.
 - List your extra-curricular activities.
 - Describe areas in your life where you demonstrated leadership and overcame obstacles either through your school, social, or family life.
 - What is the most difficult challenge you have ever faced? How did you manage it?
 - Why do you need the scholarship? Explain your financial need.
 - What are your educational goals?
- Start making a senior year checklist (sample checklist on back of this page).
 - Take time to have fun!

Have a great summer!

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Sample Checklist for August – September of Senior Year:

- Register for the SAT and/or ACT if you did not take one as a junior or want to retake one.
SAT: collegeboard.org or ACT: act.org
- Check with your school counselor to ensure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements.
- Take every opportunity to get to know colleges. Meet with college representatives who visit your school, attend school and local college fairs, and continue to visit campuses.
- Narrow down your list of colleges. Collect information about the application and financial aid process at each school.
- Begin completing the Common App: Create an account, add colleges, and add school counselors as recommenders.
- Create a checklist and calendar to keep track of standardized test dates, college application due dates, and financial aid deadlines. Make a note of the other materials, such as recommendations or essays that you will need to complete your applications.

Why do you need a username and password ID (FSA ID)?

Studentaid.gov

Scholarships!

POSTCARD
Parents,
You will use your username and password (FSA ID) to sign your child's FAFSA® form each year and to apply for a Direct PLUS Loan.

POSTCARD
Borrowers,
You will use your username and password (FSA ID) to sign your Master Promissory Note (MPN) and complete entrance and exit counseling.

POSTCARD
Students,
You will use your username and password (FSA ID) to complete and sign your FAFSA® form each year.

Complete the FAFSA!

Student employment!

Federal Student Aid

The infographic features several postcard illustrations with stamps (watermelon, sun, strawberry) and a yellow pencil pointing towards the 'Complete the FAFSA!' text. A green leaf logo is in the top right corner.

Dr. Carmen Purpus 05/2023

Have a great summer!