



CAREER CENTER

Checklists Per Grade

Senior Checklist

Welcome to your senior year! This will be an exciting and emotional year as you complete the final leg of your k-12 journey and make plans about where you'll be next fall. Work hard this year and finish strong, you'll be thankful you did in June.

SEPTEMBER

REGISTER FOR FALL TEST: Make sure you are taking the appropriate tests for the schools you are applying to, if necessary. If you have not already, register for any tests you plan to take.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: Identify the people who can letter of recommendation and/or be a reference for you. personals that can be a reference: teachers, coaches, supervisors...etc.

ESSAYS: Start working on your essays and utilize the career center specialist and other adults for help and editing.

EXPLORE COLLEGES: Attend college visits and gain information on schools you may be thinking about.

APPOINTMENT: Make appointment with your counselor, bring any questions you have about graduation requirements or college applications. Review your transcripts with your counselors and report any inaccuracies immediately.

LIST: Have a list of all the deadlines related to admissions applications, financial aid applications, recommendation letters... etc.

OCTOBER

TEST: Take any tests if you have registered for any. This will be one of the last opportunities to take the ACT and SAT before applying.

DOCUMENTS: Gather all documents needed to finish financial aid applications and admissions applications; and submit financial aid applications as soon as possible(asap) after October 1st.



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EARLY DECISION AND EARLY ACTION: If you are planning to apply early decision or early action submit your application before the deadline; Request your transcripts to be sent to your college/university admissions office. Want more information, [click here!](#)

APPLICATIONS: Continue working on your application essays. Keep track of all your applications and make sure to complete them on time.

FINAL COLLEGE LIST: If you haven't already finalized the list of colleges, you will be applying to, now is the time to do so. If you're having trouble come, visit the Career Center.

FAFSA: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will open October 1st of your senior year. This form is used to establish eligibility for federal financial aid programs and colleges will use this information to compile your financial aid packages. If the FAFSA is not an option fill out the WASFA, Washington State's Financial Aid program. Visit the Career Center if you have questions.

CSS PROFILE: Confirm if any university/college you are applying to require the [CSS Profile](#) for financial Aid and make note of the deadline this must be filed by.

NOVEMBER – JANUARY

TESTS: If necessary, register and take the December SAT or ACT. This will be your last chance to take these tests for the current admission cycle.

APPLICATIONS: Complete your applications for college admissions and request to have transcripts sent Counseling Office. Additionally, confirm your test scores have been sent if you have taken any. Monitor your applications to be sure each school receives everything necessary (letters of recommendation, transcripts, and test scores etc.)

RESEARCH FINANCIAL AID: There are a variety and plethora of scholarships available each year and many go unclaimed. Research online or visit the Career Center for resources on finding and applying for scholarships and financial aid.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION NIGHT: Attend the Financial Aid Information Night held each year, the date and location will be announced in advance and posted on the Career Center webpage.



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EARLY DECISION: If you have been admitted to a college through early decision, you need to notify the other schools you have applied to and submit all necessary forms to the college you will be attending. Congratulations! 🎉👏

This is a courtesy to other applicants and it will help colleges manage their waitlists and extend the correct number of acceptance letters.

MID-YEAR GRADES: If your school requests mid-year grades, make sure these are sent on time.

FAFSA/WASFA: If you completed the FAFSA or WASFA, you should be receiving a Student Aid Report. Look over this carefully for accuracy as an error could cost you thousands of dollars. Contact FAFSA right away if there are any errors.

FEBRUARY – APRIL

APPLICATIONS: Confirm all the colleges you have applied to have sent a receipt of application; if you haven't received this from any of your schools, follow up and make sure all your application components were received. Do this well in advance of the due date so you have time to follow up on any possible missing pieces. Additionally, for any university/college with rolling or late deadlines- do not delay applying! Spaces will fill up, so turn in your application early.

DECISIONS: Acceptance letters will begin to arrive. Think critically about where you'd like to be in the fall and what school is best aligned with your goals and personality. Compare your financial aid packages and ideally visit the campus before making any decisions. If you are waitlisted, find out more about the waitlist process at your particular university/college, but also begin to move ahead with other plans; you can always come back to this school if you get off the waitlist. If you have ruled out any colleges which have accepted, you notify them; this is a courtesy to other applicants and it will help colleges manage their waitlists and extend the correct number of acceptance letters.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Now that you have completed most, if not all of your applications, shift your focus to working on finding and applying for scholarships. As previously noted, many go unclaimed! visit the Career Center for assistance and resources.



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OPEN HOUSES: Some colleges will host open houses for admitted students, attend these when applicable as this is a good opportunity to get information about registering for housing, campus life and how to prepare for the fall.

MAY 1ST: Most schools have a decision and deposit deadline of May 1st. Formally accept your offer of admission as instructed by your school and submit your housing application if you plan to live on campus in the fall. Formally accept any offers of financial aid, not doing so will result in you losing your financial aid.

MAY – JUNE

FINISH STRONG: Keep your grades up through graduation, you do not want to have your college acceptance rescinded because of a poor end of the year performance.

HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND PLAN: This is a graduation requirement and must be completed in order to graduate. Make sure this is complete. A final task will be sent in May and ask you to indicate your plans for next year. If you are attending a college in the fall, it is important to tell us where you will be so we can send your final transcript.

THANK YOU'S: Send thank you notes to anyone who helped you in your application process; they would love to hear where you have decided to go in the fall.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS: Continue to work on procuring scholarship and loans, update your college with any scholarships you receive.

GRADUATE: Enjoy and celebrate your accomplishments and success with your beloved ones, classmates and the FHS faculty. We wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors!