
Time Line and To-Do List for seniors

September:

- Finish completing a list of schools you are interested and visit colleges of your choice, especially while classes are in session so that you can experience a real campus feel.
- Look for application deadlines for SAT testing.
- Work hard in your classes; colleges will see these grades and keeping up with a difficult course load will prepare you for the college transition.
- Continually meet with you guidance counselor and talk with your parents about your plans and provide information that guidance has recommended.

October:

- Continue visiting schools and maybe do some interviews. *Handouts in Guidance.
- Decide if there are any schools you want to apply early decision for.
- Start asking teachers about writing you recommendations if your college requires them
- Consider retaking the SAT to strengthen your application.
- Remind your parents they should begin to gather financial information to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in January.
- Begin to search for scholarships that you can apply for.
- Keep track of application deadlines for the colleges you are interested in

November:

- Finish your list of schools you will apply to and research deadlines and admission requirements.
- Work on your essay so you have time to ask a teacher look over it for you, and begin filling out your applications. (Check if the colleges accept the Common Application, it will speed up the process for you)
- Keep an eye open for information sessions put on by the school.

December:

- Talk with alumni and currently enrolled students at your top choices to help get a better feel for the school and narrow down your decisions further.
 - Get yours and your parent's financial aid filing pin. (www.pin.ed.gov)
 - Fill out the FAFSA on the web worksheet to make filing easier in January
 - If a school has a January 1st deadline, materials your counselors need are due December 5th.
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January:

- File financial aid forms, available January 1st (FAFSA www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- Financial Aid Night at WSHS January 21st @ 6 pm (snow date January 22nd at 6 pm)
- If you have questions on a certain schools specific financial aid requirements, check the Maine college financial aid audio files ([http:// masfaa.bowdoin.edu](http://masfaa.bowdoin.edu))
- Talk with your guidance counselor if you have not already submitted your purple form to them.
- Send thank you notes to those who have written recommendations for you.

February:

- Graduation is not too far away. Enjoy your time as a high school senior, but keep your goals in mind so your hard work will pay off.

March:

- Decision letters will start to arrive. Your decision on what college to attend could be a difficult one; try to make a connection to the campus, maybe visit the schools again, and continue to discuss your thoughts with your counselors and parents.

April:

- Remaining decision letters will arrive.
- If you are put on a waiting list for a top school you may want to write to the college and let them know you are really interested.
- If you have any questions admissions and financial aid this is the perfect time to discuss them with your guidance counselor.
- Decisions on what college to attend need to be made very soon.

May:

- Time to make the decision! Notify the college you plan to attend by May 1st.
- If you have other offers, write to decline.

June:

- Enjoy your graduation. Congratulations on your accomplishments!
 - Over the summer you will receive further information about the college you are attending and information on summer orientations.
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Feel free to contact your counselor or your college with any further questions.