

Senior Year College Check List

All Year

- ___ Work hard all year—second-semester grades can affect scholarship eligibility.
- ___ Stay involved in after-school activities, and seek leadership roles if possible.

Fall

- ___ Meet with your school registrar (Verne Sherman) to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements. **DONE AT REGISTRATION**, but stay on top of it!
- ___ Meet with your guidance counselor, Melissa Weisner, about job shadowing if you are still unsure of your career path.
- ___ As soon as possible after Oct 1, 2019, complete and submit your *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*, along with any other financial aid applications your school(s) of choice may require. You can complete the **FAFSA** online or on paper, but completing the application online is faster and easier. You should submit your **FAFSA** by the earliest financial aid deadline of the schools to which you are applying, usually by early February.
- ___ After you submit the FAFSA, you should receive your *Student Aid Report (SAR)* within three days to three weeks. Quickly make any necessary corrections and submit them to the FAFSA processor.
- ___ If you have not done so already, register for and take the standardized tests required for college admission. Check with the colleges you are interest in to see what tests they require. (**ACT offered December 15, and February 9**)
- ___ Apply to the colleges you have chosen. Prepare your applications carefully. Follow the instructions, and **PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO DEADLINES!**

***Please note: If you are applying to Southern Adventist University, they will walk you through the registration process with school visits throughout the year. Other colleges will also be available at our **College Fair on October 10**.

- ___ Attend the **College Financial Presentation** at Highland Academy on **October 13**.
- ___ Well before your application deadlines, ask your registrar and teachers to submit required documents (e.g., transcript, letters of recommendation) to the colleges to which you are applying. Most applications will ask for you to specify to whom to send transcript requests and recommendation forms. All transcript requests should be sent to vsherman@highland-academy.com

Winter

- ___ Complete tax forms as early as possible. Earlier applications mean better financial aid. If you have not completed tax forms, you can provide estimated information on your *federal student aid application (FAFSA)*, but remember to make any necessary changes later.
- ___ Complete any last scholarship applications

Spring

- _____ Visit colleges that have invited you to enroll.
- _____ Review your college acceptances and compare the colleges' financial aid offers.
- _____ Contact a school's financial aid office if you have questions about the aid that school has offered you. In fact, getting to know your financial aid staff early is a good idea no matter what—they can tell you about deadlines, other aid for which you might wish to apply, and important paperwork you might need to submit.
- _____ When you decide which school you want to attend, notify that school of your commitment and submit any required financial deposit. Many schools require this notification and deposit by **May 1**.

Revised 8/27/19

Taken from: studentaid.gov