

Senior Year Planning Guide

Senior Year Guide

September

- Explore and begin to narrow your post high school options.
- Review standardized tests with your counselor i.e. PSAT, PLAN, ACT, SAT
- Schedule a conference with your counselor to discuss future plans.
- Register for the ACT and/or SAT I & II if required.
- Attend the National College Fair at the Minneapolis Convention Center.
- Secure college applications.
- Determine if your high school courses meet college/career/NACAA requirements.
- Most colleges including the University of Minnesota will accept applications.
- There are numerous Minnesota Education Fairs throughout the state during September and October. Consult your counselor for dates, times and locations.

October

- Visit campuses during Teachers' State Conference (MEA)
- Apply for early admission decision if interested.
- Research private sources for scholarships.

November

- Finalize college choices.
- Check to be sure that you have registered for the appropriate entrance tests.
- Schedule admissions interviews if necessary.
- Work on application essay.
- Request recommendations.
- Insure that your college application is complete – check with counselor or college.
- Keep a file copy of all applications.

December

- Obtain the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA), the required form for the Minnesota State Grant program, in early December.
- Talk with your parents about the information needed to complete the financial aid application.
- Meet the priority deadline for college applications, especially the University of Minnesota.

January

- Attend a Financial Aid Workshop.
 - Complete the FAFSA on line if possible. You may also use the paper application.
- Obtain any additional forms directly from the colleges of your choice.

February

- Review your status on all applications.
- Check deadlines for financial aid applications and housing applications at all colleges you are considering.
- If you have not submitted your financial aid application, do so. Some financial aid is given on a first come, first serve basis.

March

- If possible, visit all colleges to which you have applied if you have not already done so.
- If you have not applied for admission to a college, **it may not be too late. DO SO NOW!**
- Review your financial Student Aid Report (SAR) for accuracy.

April

- Review college acceptance notices. Complete necessary forms. Finalize your choices.
- Review scholarship, acceptance notices and rejection information. Complete necessary forms.
- Apply for summer jobs – many financial awards assume student contribution.
- Keep up academic work. Colleges will review your final grades.
- UNDECIDED? Remember there are numerous Minnesota Education Fairs throughout the state during April. See the junior/sophomore calendar for information.