

# SENIOR CHECKS!

## SENIOR TIMELINE

### OCTOBER

- Know your college admissions requirements and application deadlines
- **Begin the application process**
  - Use the 'Basic Application Steps' sheet in this packet
  - Ask your counselor or post-grad if you need help
  - Create an email account to use for applications and make sure it's appropriate!
  - If you use the common app, check to see whether each separate school has extra supporting documents you need to submit
- Continue working on your college essay and keep your resume updated
- Check the Naviance scholarship list every week and apply to the ones you qualify for
- **Apply for FAFSA**
  - **Get your FSA ID** on the FAFSA website-you will need it to apply in November
  - **Complete the FAFSA forecaster** to find out what your EFC (estimated family contribution) may be for college
  - This is based off of your parents' previous tax information from last year
  - Please visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
  - FAFSA workshops @ OHS on 10/3 and 10/10 from 3:30 to 7:00pm
    - You must RSVP with Mr. Sewell to attend-space is limited!

### NOVEMBER

- Pay attention to application deadlines in November!
- After submitting your applications, pick up a blue transcript request form in post-grad
  - Allow 2 weeks for processing and turn it in to Mr. Sewell
  - Letters of recommendation (if needed) must be complete before transcripts can be sent. Ask recommenders at least 3 weeks prior to application deadline.
  - Have a goal to **submit all applications by Thanksgiving break**
- Continue applying for scholarships
  - You also need to pick up a blue transcript request form after applying to scholarships if transcripts are required with your application.

## DECEMBER

- If you haven't already, **finish your college applications** before winter break
  - Please turn in your blue transcript request form and finalize any letters of recommendation you need **2 weeks before winter break!**
- **Register for the College Opportunity Fund** at [www.collegeincolorado.org](http://www.collegeincolorado.org) if you plan to stay in-state for college
  - This is a stipend to help pay for your tuition at Colorado public/private schools if you're a resident
  - All residents going to college in Colorado qualify for this
- Finish your first semester with strong grades

## JANUARY

- **Make sure you have all the correct classes you need for graduation**
- Attend your Spring Senior Class meeting
- Request 7<sup>th</sup> semester transcripts if your college requires them

## FEBRUARY

- Continue applying for scholarships
- Maintain strong grades
- Continue applying to colleges if you have not done so already

## MARCH/APRIL

- All colleges should notify you of their decision by April 15<sup>th</sup> at the latest
  - You will be provided with a detailed letter explaining their decision and your financial aid package offered to you if you are accepted
- Attend the mandatory graduation meeting with your parent/guardian on March 20<sup>th</sup> or March 21<sup>st</sup> 2018.

## MAY

- Notify colleges of your decision to attend by May 1<sup>st</sup>
- Attend Senior Check Out Day
- Graduate! May 25<sup>th</sup> at 8 am at the DU Ritchie Center

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why Naviance?

Naviance is an extremely helpful tool that our district pays for every student to have access to. Naviance is used to send all additional college application materials (i.e. letters of recommendation and transcripts) electronically to each school you apply to. Also, it is an important tool when it comes to your ICAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan). Some additional features of Naviance for Seniors include-

- College searches
- Test Prep
- Career searches
- Links to college websites
- Resume builder

### Where else can I get college information?

You can search individual college admissions websites, use other college search programs (i.e. collegeincolorado.org, collegedata.com, etc.), attend college fairs, and sign up to meet with admissions representatives who come to OHS.

### How many colleges should I apply to?

Generally speaking, 3-4 college applications is considered realistic and financially manageable. College application fees can be up to \$80 per school and they are non-refundable so keep this in mind when choosing how many schools to apply to.

### How can I meet college representatives?

Approximately, 70+ college representatives visit OHS each year to meet with students who are interested in applying to their school. Remember to sign up on Naviance to attend these meetings!

You can also attend college fairs in the area to speak with lots of different representatives at once. Come to post-grad to get the upcoming dates.

### Why should I visit colleges in person?

It's important to visit schools in person and meet with students, staff, and faculty to ensure that it's the right fit for you. All colleges encourage prospective students to visit their campus and certain out of state schools will even pay for students to fly out and visit them.

### ACT vs. SAT: Which should I take?

At least one or the other is required for admission at almost every college or university in the US but many schools will accept both. Consult specific college admissions websites to determine which test is required including whether the ACT writing portion or SAT subject tests are needed as well.

### Do I need to take the College Board SAT Subject Test?

Some highly selective colleges and universities may require students to take the SAT subject tests. Consult individual college admissions websites to determine if this is necessary for you. The most frequently requested subject tests are English Composition and Mathematics. It is strongly recommended that you complete these tests in October or November if they are required by the school you're applying to.

### What happens after I submit an application?

After you complete the online portion of the application (this includes your essay if the school requires one), stop by post-grad to pick the blue Transcript Request Form. Remember, if you will be sending letters of recommendation, those need to be uploaded to Naviance as well before your transcript can be sent.

Please turn in your Transcript Request Form at least 2 weeks for the college application deadline especially during December, January, and February as these are the peak months for transcript requests. The first two transcripts you send to a college will be free and there will be a \$5 fee for each additional transcript you request to be sent.

## **OHS Student Athletes**

### Registering with NCAA

To play a sport in college at the DI or DII level, you must apply and register online with the NCAA Eligibility Center by going to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). NCAA requires your official transcript from OHS (fill out the Transcript Request Form) and your ACT/SAT scores directly from the testing agency.

### NCAA Requirements

- 16 core courses required for both DI and DII. Reference the chart attached.
- Test scores
  - DI: Students are required to have a corresponding test score and GPA qualifier on a sliding scale that can be found on the eligibility website.

- DII: Students are currently required to have a minimum SAT score of 820 or ACT sum score of 68. The best sub-scores can be combined to meet these eligibility requirements if a student takes either test more than once.
- Students must enter '9999' during ACT/SAT test registration to ensure that the testing agency reports your score directly to the eligibility center. The test scores listed on your transcript will not be considered.
- GPA
  - Only core courses that are NCAA approved will be used to calculate your core-course GPA.
  - DI: GPA requirements are listed on the NCAA eligibility website.
  - DII: GPA requirement is a minimum of 2.0.