

# Preparing For Senior Year

## SUMMER

- ❑ Start/Continue to build your college application list
- ❑ List at least 3-5 schools that you intend on applying to.
  - 1 REACH school (a school that you would love to attend, but not sure about... go for it!)
  - 2 FAVORITE Schools (schools that you feel very confident about, and schools that you would like to attend)
  - 1 BACKUP School (this school may not be your top choice, but you know you will get accepted!)
- ❑ Do your RESEARCH!
  - Create a CFNC account, if you do not have one ([www.cfnc.org](http://www.cfnc.org))
  - Be sure you review the entrance requirements. You all should be good with any requirements. Just check for schools that may have updated requirements, for example, 3 levels of a foreign language. If you notice this for any of your school choices, please let me know ASAP, so that we can discuss.
  - Access Big Future via CFNC to assist you with narrowing down your colleges, and making wise decisions for where to apply. (<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/>)
  - PLAN COLLEGE VISITS!!!
- ❑ Common Application- Go ahead and create/log into your account. You can add school that you are interested in, and go ahead and view essay prompts.
- ❑ Start creating an outline for your essays.
- ❑ Start writing your essays, and have several people read, review, and correct your essays.
  - Remember essays should be genuine, personal, and real. Write from experience, be as transparent as you feel comfortable with. Essays, and letter of recommendation are often deciding factors between students who may have the same great grades.
- ❑ On that note, make a list of teachers, community members, etc who you can ask for a letter of recommendation. The sooner you request this the better. If you wait too late, many of these people will be bombarded with numerous request, and you may end up with a generic letter of recommendation, which could not be helpful for you.



- ❑ Start/Continue searching for scholarships
- ❑ ILV College Counseling- Great resource for scholarship searches. Click on scholarships, and use the filters.  
<https://ilvcollegecounseling.com/>
- ❑ Going Merry- Brand New Scholarship Search.
  - Please follow this link to join for FREE, and start searching for scholarships. This site allows you and I to keep track of your progress, and to help you keep your scholarship search more organized.
  - <https://www.goingmerry.com/c/hollyn-ep5m>
- ❑ TESTING
  - Plan and Prepare to take the SAT and/or ACT
  - Remember, you should reflect upon which test you prefer, and focus on that one.
  - You should plan to take this test at least once over the summer, and again early Fall to test during your “Stress-Free” zone. Think about it... the longer you wait, the more stressful it is going to be to get a score you are happy with by your application deadline.
- ❑ SAT- <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat>
  - Check the test dates, and get registered.
  - Khan Academy is a GREAT... FREE resource to help you study!
- ❑ ACT- <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>
  - Check test dates, and get registered.

## FALL

- ❑ I will send out an email, requesting you all set up a SENIOR INTERVIEW with me.
  - There will be a form that you all will need to complete in order for me to have specific information about you, and your future plans. You will receive this form later.
- ❑ Finish up your college applications! Have someone else review them for any typos or missed signature, check marks, etc.
- ❑ Make a calendar, to-do list, reminder with all of your college application deadlines. Check them off as you submit them.
- ❑ Some schools may require you to create a school portal account. Go ahead and do so, and check it regularly. This is generally how they communicate with you if there is missing information.
- ❑ Take the SAT/ACT 1 more “Stress-Free” time!!! You got this!!!
  - However, if need be, you can continue to take the SAT/ACT after the deadline. It just needs to be submitted well before decisions are released.
- ❑ Continue searching for SCHOLARSHIPS.
  - The sooner the better. Waiting until March= STRESS!



