1 Share the application and selection process with your family.

2 Determine what help you will need during your senior year.

3 Seek support from your family, school, and community to reach your goals.

4 Allow for mistakes; they are part of the learning process.

SENIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

AUGUST

- [ ] Research and create a list of majors/colleges.
- [ ] Create a **new email address** for college related information **only**.
- [ ] **Begin** applications for the University of California (UC) and Private colleges.
- [ ] Work on college essays – write, review, edit, and repeat.

SEPTEMBER

- [ ] Register and take the SAT, Subject Test, and/or ACT. Send **all** scores to colleges you applied to.
- [ ] **Finish** college essays – re-write, review, edit, and repeat.
- [ ] Create a brag sheet (i.e. list of awards, honors, and extracurricular activities).
- [ ] Ask for letters of recommendations from teachers, counselors, etc.
- [ ] Finish UC application.
- [ ] Continue to work on Private college applications for early admission/early decision/rolling admission.

OCTOBER

- [ ] **Begin** California State University (CSU) application. Deadline is **November 30th.**
- [ ] **Begin** Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) application (for CSU only). You will need two separate individuals to complete recommendation forms.
- [ ] **Begin** Free Application For Student Aid (FAFSA)/CA Dream Act Application. **Deadline is March 2nd (CA only).**
- [ ] Register and take the SAT, Subject Test, and/or ACT. Send **all** scores to colleges you applied to.
- [ ] Continue to work on Private college applications for early admission/early decision/rolling admission.

NOVEMBER

- [ ] **Submit** UC & CSU applications. Deadline is **November 30th.**
- [ ] **Submit** Private college applications for early admission/early decision/rolling admission.
- [ ] Register for the **last** SAT, Subject Test, and/or ACT. December is the last exam scores many colleges will accept.

DECEMBER

- [ ] Check your email regularly for information from colleges.
- [ ] Complete CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE® for Private Colleges/Universities.
- [ ] Apply to scholarships during Winter Break.
- [ ] Receive Early Admission/Early decision letters.

JANUARY

- [ ] Create university portal accounts. Login to email and university portals regularly.
- [ ] **Submit** the FAFSA/CA Dream Act Application. Deadline is **March 2nd (CA only).**
- [ ] **Submit** CSS Profile (most due in February). **Deadlines vary by schools.**
- [ ] Request official transcript from counselor in case university asks for it.
- [ ] Send **all** SAT and/or ACT test scores to colleges/universities.
- [ ] **Apply** to Community College(s).

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MARCH-APRIL

- [ ] Receive notifications of admissions from CSU's, UC's and many Private Colleges/Universities.
- [ ] **Submit** the FAFSA/CA Dream Act Application. **Deadline is March 2nd (CA only).**
- [ ] Check your CAL Grant and FAFSA/CA Dream Act status via www.webgrants4students.org
- [ ] Review financial aid award letters from schools who offer admissions. Review these letters with a counselor.
- [ ] Community College bound students must register for placement exams.

MAY-JULY

- [ ] **Submit** Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) by May 1st. Some campuses require a deposit to reserve your spot in college.
- [ ] Sign up for orientation to meet with your college advisor.
- [ ] Complete housing application (if applicable). Deposit required.
- [ ] Accept/decline financial aid award through university portal.
- [ ] Continue to check portals/emails regularly for updates.
- [ ] **Submit** your final official transcript to selected campus by July 1st (UC) or July 15 (other colleges). Check colleges for specific deadlines.

SUMMER PRIOR TO COLLEGE CHECKLIST

- [ ] Attend orientation at your college/university.
- [ ] Register for your Fall college classes.
- [ ] Continue to check portals/emails regularly for updates.
- [ ] Participate in a summer program (e.g. summer bridge, etc.)
- [ ] Consider working a summer job prior to attending college.
- [ ] Reach out to potential roommates.
- [ ] Prepare for moving/starting first quarter/semester at college.

FIRST YEAR IN COLLEGE CHECKLIST

- [ ] Be patient. It will take time to adjust.
- [ ] Do not over commit with class schedule and/or extracurricular activities; participate and prioritize. Try to balance socializing and school.
- [ ] Do not ignore a problem. Be proactive and address social and academic problems early.
- [ ] Know where to turn for help. All colleges/universities offer resources to help you adjust with your first year.
- [ ] Explore social and academic resources to find the support you need (See page 8).

COLLEGE FIT/MATCH

What is most important to you when selecting a college/university?

COLLEGE FIT is how well a college or university *meets* a student's social, academic, and financial needs.

COLLEGE MATCH is an important part of "College Fit." It refers to the *likelihood* that a college or university will admit a student based on grades, test scores, and other academic requirements.

COLLEGE MATCH/FIT CHARACTERISTICS

Admission Requirements
Cost of Attendance
Majors Offered
Learning Environment
Location
Student Diversity
Campus Size
Support Services
Graduation and Employment Rates
Out of Classroom Opportunities

APPLICATION RESOURCES

UC Application
www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

CSU Application
www.calstate.edu/apply

Private/Independent Colleges
www.commonapp.org

Historically Black Colleges
www.commonblackcollegesapp.com

FINANCIAL AID

FAFSA www.fafsa.ed.gov

CA Dream Act www.caldreamact.org

Private www.css.collegeboard.org

OTHER EXAMS

www.collegboard.org • www.act.org