



The following is a timeline for your reference adapted from a NACAC document (National Association for College Admissions Counseling):

September/October

- Make sure you have all application materials required for college admission and financial aid. Write, phone, or use the Internet to request missing information. Consider using the Common Application web site (www.commonapp.org) for many private colleges as well as some public institutions including Colorado State University; and College in Colorado (www.collegeincolorado.org) for in-state colleges.
 - Check on application and financial aid deadlines for the schools to which you plan to apply. They may vary and it is essential to meet all deadlines!
 - Meet with Ceci to be sure your list includes colleges appropriate to your academic and personal record. Review your transcript and co-curricular records with her to ensure accuracy
 - Register for the October SAT Reasoning Test and/or SAT Subject Tests, and /or ACT if desired.
 - If the colleges require recommendations, ask the appropriate people to write on your behalf. At least two (three is better) weeks before the due date, ask Ceci and teachers to write letters of recommendation/school report. Provide recommendation forms, any special instructions and a stamped, addressed business envelope to the teachers writing your recommendations. Be thoughtful! Write thank-you notes to those who write recommendations and keep them informed of your decisions. Requests for school reports should be accompanied by large envelopes addressed to college admissions offices. The Student Instruction Sheet (purple form) must be attached. School will provide postage
 - Plan visits to colleges and set up interviews if desired.
 - If possible, attend a regional college fair to investigate further those colleges to which you will probably apply.
 - Submit applications in time to reach the colleges by the deadlines.
- If applying for early decision or early action, send in your application by mid-October. Also prepare applications for back-up schools. Remember, if you are accepted under the early decision option, you are expected to enroll at that college and to withdraw all other applications. If you are NOT accepted, you may not know until close to winter break, making it necessary to put back up plans in motion early. Submit financial aid information if requested/desired on early decision/action applications.
- Have official test scores sent by the testing agency to colleges on your list. (Very important detail!)

November

- Take the November SAT Reasoning Test or SAT Subject Tests if appropriate. Don't forget to have test scores sent to colleges on your list.
- Be sure your first quarter grades are good.
- Continue completing applications to colleges
- If you need financial aid, obtain a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on-line. Check to see if the colleges to which you are applying require any other financial aid form. Register for the CSS Profile if required and obtain the college's own financial aid forms, if available.
- Keep all records, test score reports and copies of applications for admission and financial aid. Do not throw anything away until at least the end of your first year in college. Having detailed records will save you time and effort should anything be lost or should you decide to apply in the future to other colleges and scholarship programs.

December

- Take the SAT Reasoning Test or SAT Subject Tests if appropriate. Don't forget to have test scores sent to colleges on your list.
- File your last college application by early December.
- Monitor each of your applications to insure that all materials were sent, received on time, and are complete – this is critical!
- If you applied for early decision/action, you should have an answer by mid-month. If you are accepted, follow the instructions for admitted students. If the decision is deferred until spring or you are denied, submit applications now to other colleges.

January

- Keep working in your classes! Grades and courses continue to count throughout the senior year.
- Parents and students, complete your income tax forms as soon as possible. You will need those figures to fill out the FAFSA. Complete and return your FAFSA as quickly as possible after January 1. Check to make sure your colleges do not require any other financial aid forms.

February

- Remember to monitor your applications to be sure that all materials were sent, received on time, and are complete. Stay on top of things and don't procrastinate; you can ruin your chances for admission by missing a deadline.
- If you completed a FAFSA, you should receive your Student Aid Report (SAR) within four weeks after submitting the FAFSA. Review the SAR carefully and check for any inaccuracies. If necessary, correct any items on the SAR and return it to the FAFSA processor.
- If more than four weeks have passed after sending in your FAFSA and you have not received an acknowledgment, contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center at (319) 337-5665. To identify you, they will need your name, social security number, address, and date of birth exactly as it was written on your FAFSA.
- Complete scholarship applications. You may be eligible for more scholarships than you think, so apply for as many as you can.
- The school will automatically mail your first semester senior grades to all the school you have applied to

March

- Stay focused and keep studying-only a couple more months to go!
- Enjoy your final semester in high school!

April

- Review your college acceptances and financial aid awards. Be sure to compare financial aid packages in your decision-making process. If you are positive you will not enroll at one or more of the colleges which accepted you, notify those colleges that you have selected another college. Doing this might enable those colleges to admit someone else. If you know which college you will attend, send your tuition deposit and follow all other instructions for admitted students, including requests for housing. You must decide which offer of admission to accept by May 1 (postmark date).

May

- By May 1, decide on the one college that you will attend and send in your tuition deposit. Notify the other colleges that accepted you that you have selected another college.
- BE PROUD-you have completed a difficult task.
- If your first-choice college places you on their waiting list, do not lose all hope. Some students are admitted off the waiting list. Keep the college updated on your activities and inform them of your strong desire for admittance.
 - Take Advanced Placement examinations, if appropriate and request that your AP scores be sent to the college you will attend.

June

- Your final transcript will be sent to the college you will attend.
- Congratulations, you've made it through high school!

July

- Look for information in the mail from the college about housing, roommate(s), orientation, course selection, etc. Respond promptly to all requests from the college.

Best wishes from all the DJDS faculty and staff for a successful college season.