

College Prep Timeline - Seniors



August

- Common App opens, most colleges begin accepting applications
- Finalize list of colleges of interest, or narrow down choices
- Identify Early Decision, Early Action and Regular Decision schools
- Draft essays via the Common App and/or specific schools as needed
- Ensure that next year's classes for high school will complete the requirements that you need for college admissions (for schools with special requirements)

September

- Ask for recommendation letters
- Register for fall SAT/ACT if needed
- Continue working on applications
- Meet with the School Counselor about your plans (or tentative plans) for after high school

October

- FAFSA opens – complete and submit
- CSS Profile (for select schools) opens
- Complete final preparations for Early Decision and Early Action
- For applications with November deadlines, complete all work

**All grade levels (9-12) will have individual meetings with the School Counselor during September and October to discuss and plan personal academic tracks. Juniors should attend all college visits at OLMA.*

November

- Early Decision deadlines! Usually, these deadlines are 11/1 or 11/15
- Send SAT scores to colleges
- Begin sending transcripts if needed

December

- Some schools have Early Decision/Action deadlines of 12/1
- Apply early for schools with rolling admissions
- Early Decision and Early Action acceptances are released mid-late December
- Begin searching for scholarships and begin applications as needed (at least, know when the scholarship applications are due)

January

- Regular decision deadlines arrive! Usually, these deadlines are 1/1 or 1/15
- Submit remaining applications
- Narrow down top choices for colleges
- Double-check everything, to ensure that no applications or other such aspects of college admissions are overlooked

**Beginning in January, more scholarship opportunities and applications will be made available via the School Counseling office/Main Office as they arise*

February

- Many merit scholarships are due – check deadlines as needed
- Update FAFSA/CSS Profile if needed

March

- Regular Decisions are released in mid-late March

April

- Financial Aid offers are often released this month
- Review and compare financial aid packages from various schools
- Attend college visits or admitted/accepted student days
- Finalize choices regarding which college to commit to

May

- National Decision Day is May 1st! Commit to a college!
- Respond to other colleges as needed (declining, according to which college you chose)

June

- Graduate!!
- Send final transcripts to colleges after graduation
- Prepare for orientation and college life