



The Complete Student Checklist for 2025: Senior Edition

Rising Senior Summer [11th-12th Grade]:

This summer is all about getting ready for college applications season that comes around in the twelfth grade.

If you have time, consider participating in competitive summer programs, internships, or research opportunities to enhance your resume.

It's also advisable to use some of your time this summer to begin working on your college essays and gathering all the materials you'll need for your applications. Remember, everything you can do now to help you stay ahead will pay dividends when your schedule picks up during the semester.

Senior Year [12th Grade]:

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
<div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Note application deadlines and set calendar reminders for each of your final colleges.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Virtually visit colleges on your list.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Outline your financial aid plan.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Apply for traditional scholarships.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Take the SAT/ACT one last time, if needed to boost your candidacy.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Put the finishing touches on your college application essays and supplemental materials.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Formally ask for letters of recommendation if you were unable to at the end of junior year (and/or remind your recommenders about upcoming dates).</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Submit early decision and action applications.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Submit CSS Profile if applying early (and if required by colleges).</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Ensure official SAT/ACT score reports are sent to early application schools.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Go into any early admissions interviews confidently!</div></div>	<div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Receive response on early applications.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Submit enrollment deposit for early decision schools, if applicable.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Send Letters of Continued Interest to early schools, if deferred.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Submit regular decision applications.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Ensure official SAT/ACT score reports are sent to regular decision schools.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Go into any regular decision interviews confidently!</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Complete and submit the FAFSA.</div></div>	<div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Complete and submit your FAFSA/ any financial aid applications your schools require.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Complete and submit remaining scholarship applications.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Keep working hard all the way to graduation!</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Stay involved in extracurriculars and seek out leadership roles.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Notify the school you want to attend of your commitment and submit any required financial deposit.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Register and take remaining standardized tests, such as AP or IB exams.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Review college acceptances and compare college financial aid offers.</div></div> <div><div><input type="checkbox"/></div><div>Continue to apply for relevant summer internships and other opportunities to keep you busy during your last summer before college and to help build your professional resume.</div></div>



College Apps Advice for Seniors

→ → *Submit your applications.*

Now is the application submission phase.

- ☐ Complete Application Forms:
 - ☐ Double-check all information for accuracy.
 - ☐ Follow each college's specific instructions carefully.
- ☐ Submit Applications:
 - ☐ Meet all application deadlines (mark them on your calendar and set reminders).
 - ☐ Submit applications as early as possible.

→ → *Stay focused.*

After submission, this is what students should focus on next.

- ☐ Monitor Application Status:
 - ☐ Regularly check for updates or additional requests from colleges.
 - ☐ Set up your Applicant Portal for each school you have applied to
 - ☐ Fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) in January to be considered for financial assistance.
- ☐ Prepare for Admission Decisions:
 - ☐ Compare financial aid packages and consider attending admitted student events.
 - ☐ Submit final transcripts or test scores that are still pending.
 - ☐ Finalize your college choice and submit your enrollment deposit.

Final Summer Before College:

Enjoy your last summer before college by spending time with family and friends. Check off any bucket list activities and prepare for the transition to college life. Some schools offer bridge programs to help you adjust to the academic workload—consider enrolling if available.