

Guide to Graduation- Senior Year

Summer

- ✓ Finalize college research and select at least 5 colleges/universities you wish to apply to
- ✓ Thoroughly review the admissions process for each school you will be applying to
- ✓ Update your Academic Resume- this will come in handy for scholarship applications later!
- ✓ Create a draft of your personal statement
- ✓ Take the SAT
- ✓ Take the ACT
- ✓ Continue to research scholarships and add to your list of scholarships to apply to

Fall

- ✓ Continue to enroll in the most challenging college preparatory classes your school has to offer- colleges like to see you made the most of the opportunities available to you!
- ✓ Meet with your high school counselor and review your Education Career Action Plan (ECAP)- share the result with your parents!
- ✓ Seek out your counselor for scholarship information and share which schools you will be applying to
- ✓ Take the SAT and ACT if you haven't already
- ✓ Continue to focus on your academics and maintain a strong GPA all year- second semester grades can affect scholarship eligibility.
- ✓ Research your colleges visitation programs and visit as many as possible
- ✓ Have a core group of people you will go to for letters of reference. Ask for references at least two weeks before an application deadline.
- ✓ Write and revise your college application forms and essays- use your mentors, teachers, and counselors to help review!
- ✓ Submit completed college applications
- ✓ Write and revise scholarship applications for those due in the Fall- use your mentors, teachers, and counselors to help review!
- ✓ Submit completed scholarship applications for those with Fall deadlines
- ✓ Continue to attend events on college campuses such as Shadow Days, games, plays, etc.

Spring

- ✓ Ask your parents to file their taxes early and attend financial aid workshops with your parents
- ✓ Submit the FAFSA as soon as possible, preferably by the priority deadline of February 14th

- ✓ Continue to write and revise scholarship applications for those due in the Spring- use your mentors, teachers, and counselors to help review!
- ✓ Submit completed scholarship applications for those with Spring deadlines
- ✓ Keep an eye on your email and mail- you will be getting notification letters!
- ✓ Review your acceptance letters and financial aid offers with your mentors and family and choose a college!
- ✓ Notify the colleges you applied to of your decision- the one you chose and the ones you didn't choose
- ✓ Keep track of and observe deadlines for sending in all required fees and paperwork to your chosen college
- ✓ As soon as you choose a school get familiar with your college and what you will need to get there
- ✓ Decide where you will live- apply for housing as soon as possible if living on campus
- ✓ Attend an orientation at your college
- ✓ Register for your college classes as soon as you're able to do so
- ✓ Work with your family to make a college budget for yourself
- ✓ Participate in any freshman transition programs offered by your college (summer camps, orientations, etc.)

Below are a few great programs for seniors to consider. A list of additional programs can be found in our program guide!

- ✓ Smithsonian Latino Center's Young Ambassador's Program
- ✓ Link@ASU
- ✓ Sankofa Summer Leadership Institute @ ASU
- ✓ ASU Summer Bridge
- ✓ New Start Summer Program at the University of Arizona