



Senior Year Pre-College Calendar & Checklist

SUMMER

- Register for the October SAT Exam if necessary at sat.collegeboard.org
- Review your career plans and decide which type of school is right for you.
- Visit some college campuses.
- Narrow your college search down to five schools.
 - 1 reach school
 - 1 safety school
 - 3 mid-range schools
- Request catalogs or go online to review all pertinent admissions information.
- Begin working on admission essays if required.

SEPTEMBER

- Register for the November SAT Exam if necessary.
- Meet with the college representatives visiting your school.
- Request applications.
- Make an appointment with your guidance counselor to utilize the career center and Career Cruising to help in your college search.
- Attend college Open Houses if possible.
- Go to guidance and get a letter of recommendation form.
- Begin asking teachers, guidance counselors and employers for letters of recommendation.

OCTOBER

- Register for the December SAT Exam if necessary.
- Take the *SAT Exam in October* if necessary.
- Attend college fairs and financial aid nights.
- Attend Shawsheen's *College & Career Planning Night*.
- Find out which financial aid applications the colleges you are applying to require and what their due dates are. Submit your FAFSA as soon after October 15th as possible.
- Attend the *Financial Aid Night in October* at Shawsheen Tech. This event is sponsored by MEFA (Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority).
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NOVEMBER

- Take the *SAT Exam in November* if necessary.
- Finalize your list of colleges.
- Begin looking over applications you will be completing, and start writing final drafts of essays, which may be required on some applications. Ask an English teacher or Guidance Counselor for assistance if you need help.

- Males who are 18 or over must register with the Selective Service in order to be eligible for financial aid. You can register at www.sss.gov
- Make sure you have all required letters of recommendation.
- Make sure to fill out a transcript request form through your guidance counselor.

DECEMBER

- Register for the January SAT Exam if necessary.
- Be aware of college deadlines. The most common due dates are January 1st, February 1st and 15th, and March 1st.
- Apply for a FAFSA PIN number. You'll need this to apply for federal financial aid in January.
 - Apply at www.pin.ed.gov
 - Your PIN will take 1-2 days to arrive.
- Fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
 - Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
 - You cannot apply for financial aid before January 1st, but you should begin to organize material and information.
 - Submit your FAFSA as close to January 1st as possible.
- Plan to attend Shawsheen Tech's Financial Aid Night in January.

JANUARY

- Take the *SAT Exam in January* if necessary.
- Apply for local scholarships
 - Pick up the *LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP & CRAFTMANSHIP AWARDS APPLICATION FORM*.
 - Complete and return it to the guidance office.
 - Pick up a Scholarship Bulletin in the guidance office – updated every two weeks.

FEBRUARY

- Be sure all necessary materials have been sent to your chosen colleges (application, fees, transcripts, essays, letters of recommendation, SAT scores etc...).
- Check to see if mid-year transcripts are required from your colleges.

MARCH

- Be sure that the colleges you have applied to are in receipt of all materials they may need to make a decision.
- Submit any tax forms to the financial aid office if requested.
- Continue searching for scholarships.

APRIL

- Admissions decisions and financial aid award letters should begin to arrive.
- Revisit your top choices if necessary.
- Send in a deposit to the college of your choice.
- Notify the guidance department of your acceptances and final decision.

June

- Ensure that your final transcripts are sent to the college you plan to attend in the Fall