

Senior Year Timeline/To Do List

June/July

- Visit schools that you are interested in and some you may not think you are interested in.
- Check to be sure any dual credit classes you are signed up for in the fall will transfer to the different colleges you are thinking about.
- Begin studying for the SAT/ACT: SAT - www.collegeboard.com ♦ ACT – www.actstudent.org

August

- Contact the colleges you have in mind for admissions requirements, applications, fees, and financial aid information.
- Start your senior year off with a BANG!
- Complete college applications: Apply Texas www.applytexas.org (all state public schools as well as participating community and private schools), Common Application www.commonapp.org (over 600 public and private schools), Coalition Application www.coalitionforcollege.org (over 140 institutions) or school specific.

September

- Meet with your guidance counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate. Be sure you have the credits or are on the plan that is recommended for the colleges of your choice.
- Register for the October/November SAT, ACT and SAT if required by the colleges you are considering. Watch out for the deadlines to avoid late fees!! www.collegeboard.org and/or www.actstudent.org
- Begin applying for local, state, national and college-based scholarships.
- Search for scholarships on the Cy-Fair district website: www.cfisd.net/scholarships
- Request letters of recommendations from teachers, coaches, club sponsors, or counselors (if required). Provide a copy of a completed Falcon Resume <https://tinyurl.com/JVFalconResume> (also available from House secretaries and your counselor) when requesting a recommendation or completion of a form. *Only very selective schools require students to submit letters of recommendation as a mandatory component.*

October

- Finalize list of college choices to a reasonable number. Remember that the applications usually cost money! These selections should include realistic choices along with a “safety” school where you are certain to gain admission and maybe a “dream” school where you know being accepted will be a reach.
- Begin brainstorming ideas for personal statements and admission essays.
- Create a file for each of your college choices to keep up with all the information.
- Consider creating a master schedule with all application deadlines and due dates.
- Create FSA ID - <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>
- Complete financial aid forms – Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Use the worksheet as a guide. <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> . You will need information from your parent/guardian’s tax returns. The application opens Oct. 1.
- Submit FAFSA online ASAP, (Texas Priority Deadline is January 15).

November

- Finalize drafts of your college essays. Write thoughtful, organized essays on the required application topics. Have your English teacher help you revise and edit your essays prior to submission.
- Complete applications. www.applytexas.org , www.commonapp.org , or www.coalitionforcollege.org
- Request financial aid from colleges.
- Stay focused on grades.
- Request to send official transcripts from the Registrar’s office or online www.tinyurl.com/JVHSRegistrar
- Have test scores (SAT/ACT) sent from the testing agency to your selected college choices. www.collegeboard.org or www.actstudent.org
- Research housing requirements and find out when deposits need to be made.

December

- If you applied for early acceptance, then you may receive notification this month.
- Start a detailed search for scholarships and loan information www.cfisd.net/scholarships
- Re-take the SAT/ACT to try for a higher score www.collegeboard.org or www.actstudent.org

- Begin planning trips to visit your schools so that you can get a feel for the college.

January

- Check the District website at www.cfid.net/scholarships for availability of new scholarships. Get in the habit of doing this weekly during the spring semester.
- If your college requires it, request a midterm college update from your counselor as soon as your seventh semester transcript is available in January.
- If you're planning to attend a public college (two-year or four-year) in Texas, take the Texas Success Initiative (TSIA 2) if you're not exempt.

February

- Keep track of your applications and be sure to log on to your status accounts often to verify documents were received.
- Stay focused on grades.

March

- College decision letters begin arriving so check for status updates.
- Celebrate acceptances, decide on your wait lists, and deal positively with any rejections.
- Continue searching for scholarships and grants. www.cfid.net/scholarships
- Be aware of deadlines for accepting admission invitations.
- Continue researching career interests and choosing a possible major.

April

- Review your acceptances and decide on a college.
- Complete and do well on any remaining STAAR tests you have left.
- Follow the instructions after receiving a decision and make sure you accept admissions.
- Stay focused on grades. **Avoid Senioritis at all costs!**
- Share your college choice decision with your counselor.
- Report each scholarship offer received, whether you're accepting the scholarship or not:
www.tinyurl.com/JVHSScholarshipReporting

May

- Submit paperwork for room and board if you have not done so already
- Continue filling out scholarship applications. www.cfid.net/scholarships
- Study hard for finals and keep the grades high. Colleges can revoke admission letters.
- Celebrate your high school success!
- Start planning for college.
- Complete a final transcript request in the registrar's office to have your final transcript sent to the college of your choice after graduation. www.tinyurl.com/JVHSRegistrar
- It's not too late! You can still apply to some colleges.
- Watch for summer deadlines at your college orientations, registration, etc.
- Send thank you notes to anyone who helped you this year.
- Relax before your first college fall semester begins!