

12TH GRADE CHECKLIST

Senior year is an exciting and busy time in the college admissions process. Keep up with your schoolwork as you balance your academic responsibilities with the college application process. Use this checklist to stay on track.

August/September

- Meet with your school counselor to make sure you will have enough credits at the end of the year to graduate and that the credits meet college admissions requirements.
- Update your resumé, highlighting accomplishments, work experience, and awards. Provide a copy to teachers who will write letters of recommendation for you (pp. 12-13).
- Finalize your list of colleges and universities, and check their application requirements (p. 32).
- Continue working on your applications, planning to meet all deadlines (p. 38).
- Register for fall SAT Subject Test(s), if required at the colleges to which you are applying (p. 28).
- Research scholarship opportunities and request application materials (p. 50).
- Work with your parents or guardians to gather the financial documents and materials necessary for filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (pp. 44-45).
- Apply for a FSA ID at <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account>. Keep your login information in a safe place. You will need to refer to it often (p. 45).
- Estimate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) (p. 40).

October/November

- The FAFSA is available October 1. Complete and submit the FAFSA (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid> or 1-800-4-FED-AID or TTY 1-800-730-8913) to apply for state, federal, and institutional grants and loans. Be ready for requests for income verification; check your email regularly (pp. 44-45).
- Watch for your Student Aid Report (SAR), which will be available online within three to five days after you submit your FAFSA online. Check your SAR for any errors and make the necessary corrections (p. 45).
- Determine whether the colleges which interest you require the CSS Profile on www.collegeboard.org by searching each school's website or by calling the school's financial aid office (p. 46).
- Attend a financial aid workshop or virtual class with your parents or guardians; visit <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid>.
- Visit as many of your potential colleges as possible, virtually or in-person (pp. 22-23).
- Attend free virtual or in-person college fairs throughout the year (p. 21).
- Take the SAT or ACT (pp. 27-30).
- Check all college application deadlines and submit your materials and fees on time. Remember: the application deadline for Early Admission and Early Decision is usually around November 1 or 15. Use the Track Your College Applications worksheet to stay organized (p. 38).
- Make copies of all documents you send by mail or submit online and place them in your college file.
- Follow up with colleges to make sure your Early Action, Rolling Admissions, and Early Decision application materials were received (p. 38).
- Confirm your citizenship status with the U.S. Social Security Administration (800-772-1213, TTY 1-800-325-0778, or www.ssa.gov), if you are unsure.



Muhlenberg College