

## Senior Year To Do List

- ❑ Sign up for the SAT or ACT if you haven't already done so
  - ❑ SAT test dates: September 26, October 3
  - ❑ ACT test dates: September 12, September 19, October 10, October 17
  - ❑ [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
  - ❑ [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
  - ❑ You can send your SAT scores for free to 4 colleges for up to 9 days after your test date through your College Board account
  - ❑ Most schools require you to submit scores from the testing agency. If you don't take advantage of the free score reports, you'll be charged a fee every time you request scores to be sent; please request scores to be sent as early as possible
  - ❑ Some colleges are allowing students to apply test optional this year, meaning you do not need to include your SAT or ACT test scores with your application; please be aware that if you choose to do this, your GPA should be high enough to justify not including test scores. For more information about applying test optional, please email the admissions counselor of whatever school you are applying to
  
- ❑ Complete your "Senior Brag Sheet," which your counselor, teachers, and other professionals will use to write letters of recommendation for you here:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdcF8vsQVkcCF-9QiRIJggHo2phd0jcvEmcFMRtXH0GJqVR1nw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdcF8vsQVkcCF-9QiRIJggHo2phd0jcvEmcFMRtXH0GJqVR1nw/viewform?usp=sf_link)
  - ❑ If you need letters of recommendation, give whoever you are asking 2 weeks' notice; do not ask last minute
  
- ❑ Create an account at [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com) to request transcripts for college applications
  - ❑ Every time you fill out a college application that is NOT being completed through Common App, you will log on to Parchment and request an official transcript for **each** school you are applying to
  - ❑ To reiterate, you must request a transcript through Parchment **every time** you apply to a college; so if you are applying to 3 different schools, you need to make 3 separate Parchment requests to have transcripts sent to those schools
  
- ❑ Create an account with [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org) if you are applying to schools that use Common App for their application process
  - ❑ Here are the step-by-step directions on what you need to do to complete your applications through Common App:  
<https://www.commonapp.org/apply/first-time-students>
  - ❑ If you are applying to multiple schools through Common App, you will need to fill out all of the appropriate information under **each** college in the "My Colleges" section of your student account
  - ❑ Make sure you fill out the Recommenders & FERPA section of Common App and include your counselor so she can complete their portion of your application:

- ❑ A-K: [Megan.Wingard@nacs.k12.in.us](mailto:Megan.Wingard@nacs.k12.in.us)
  - ❑ L-Z: [Lauren.Kimes@nacs.k12.in.us](mailto:Lauren.Kimes@nacs.k12.in.us)
- ❑ Your counselor will upload your transcript to Common App when they complete their portion of your application; you do NOT need to request a transcript from Parchment if you are using Common App
  
- ❑ If you haven't begun the college search process yet, you need to do that immediately. Here is a website that can help you begin to narrow down your choices:  
<https://learnmoreindiana.org/college/choosing-a-college/#choose-right-college>
  
- ❑ Start applying to colleges now!
  - ❑ Most college applications will be due November 1, 2020
  - ❑ You should aim to have everything submitted by the middle of October
  - ❑ Do not wait until 1-2 days before the November 1st deadline to complete your applications and ask for letters of recommendation
  - ❑ If the colleges you are applying to require essays for their applications, make sure you take the time to make those essays personal to you; college reps do not want to see generic essays. Have a trusted adult proofread your essay for you.
  - ❑ Some colleges will be waiving their application fee during College Go! Week, September 21-25:
    - ❑ Indiana State University
    - ❑ IUPUI
    - ❑ IUFW
    - ❑ IU Kokomo
    - ❑ IU Northwest
    - ❑ IU Southeast
    - ❑ PFW
    - ❑ University of Southern Indiana
  
- ❑ Start looking for scholarships now!
  - ❑ Many scholarships will require you to write personal essays. You should check the following websites, especially the CHS Guidance website, multiple times per week. Scholarship info and/or applications will also be placed in folders on the Senior bulletin board outside of the cafeteria by the Commons:
  - ❑ **CHS GUIDANCE WEBSITE:**
    - ❑ [www.nacs.k12.in.us](http://www.nacs.k12.in.us) > Schools > Carroll High School > Guidance > Scholarships
    - ❑ Scholarships are divided into 2 categories:
      - ❑ College/University Scholarships
      - ❑ General Scholarships
    - ❑ Any scholarship opportunities we are emailed will be posted here
  - ❑ **COLLEGE WEBSITES:**

- ❑ Every college has their own scholarships for their students based on various criteria, including GPA, intended major, etc.
- ❑ Check the Financial Aid website of the college(s) you are applying to to determine what scholarships are available and whether or not you qualify
- ❑ **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER FORT WAYNE:**
  - ❑ <https://cfgfw.org/grants/scholarships/#1580489073198-4bd00fb3-8a50>
  - ❑ The Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne has several scholarships available for local students within the Fort Wayne area; this means applicants are only competing against other Fort Wayne students for these scholarships and not students across the country
  - ❑ Scholarship criteria varies by scholarship; please check the website linked above for more information on selection criteria and application deadlines
- ❑ **GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES:**
  - ❑ [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  - ❑ [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)
  - ❑ For these websites, you will create an account and create a profile based on your intended major, interests, GPA, etc.; from there, these websites will match you with general scholarships you may be eligible to apply for
  - ❑ Please be aware that many of these scholarships are national scholarships, meaning students across the country can apply for these
- ❑ **FINANCIAL AID WEBSITES:**
  - ❑ [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)
  - ❑ [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) \*will open up on Oct. 1 for 2021-22 school year
  - ❑ These financial aid websites provide information about financial aid options, but do not include scholarships you can apply for
- ❑ Link to separate Google doc with this scholarship information:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sKLsbk2bBcf-1xreTYZU\\_YMgV-6lj8bORKgpJa4UEy0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sKLsbk2bBcf-1xreTYZU_YMgV-6lj8bORKgpJa4UEy0/edit?usp=sharing)
- ❑ File the FAFSA
  - ❑ The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is required for ALL students who plan to attend college, regardless of financial need, will open for the 2021-22 school year on October 1, 2020
  - ❑ FAFSA needs to be completed by March 1, 2021
  - ❑ [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)