

**STEPS TO SUCCESS***A Guide to Your Senior Year***1**

August

- Meet with your Counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate!
- Organize a list of scholarships you will apply to along with their deadlines.
- Finalize a professional resume with your activities, jobs, awards, honors, and GPA.
- Finalize a cover letter and personal statement.

**2**

September

- Have your resume, personal statement, and/or cover letter ready for scholarship applications
- Ask mentors or teachers to write a letter of recommendation.

**3**

October–January

- Start applying to colleges/universities
- Apply for **FAFSA/CASFA** starting October 1<sup>st</sup>
  - FOR FAFSA GO HERE → [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
  - FOR CASFA GO HERE → <https://cdhesnapprod.regenteducation.net/>
  - **PRIORITY DEADLINE is MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>!**
- Apply, apply, and continue to apply for **SCHOLARSHIPS!**

**4**

February–March

- Check the Student Aid Report from FAFSA/CASFA to make sure it was processed *properly*
  - Monitor your college/university/trade school applications and admissions requirements
  - *You do not want to miss ANY Financial Aid deadlines or important requests!*
- Many scholarships are due **MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>!** Apply!

**5**

April and May

- Make sure you pay your deposit to confirm you will enroll in your school of choice. *Not all schools require a deposit. Call your college or university's admissions office for more information.*
- Sign up for first-year student orientation!

**6**

June - August

- Request **FINAL** High School Transcripts to be sent to your school of choice! Colleges will look for your graduation date to confirm you are eligible to attend!
- Find out if your school of choice has a summer program to *ensure* your success at your new school
- **Attend orientation** (This is where you find out the basics and develop relationships with your counselors and register for classes!)
- Check your new email to make sure you don't miss any important information from your school or from Financial Aid.