

SHAMOKIN AREA HIGH SCHOOL

SENIOR CHECKLIST

**Seniors-this is a big year for you. Be sure to continue to work hard. Remember, colleges look at your fall and spring semester grades to make enrollment decisions. Also, make sure to be in constant communication with your guidance counselors this year to ensure a smooth transition to your selected career path.*

September:

- Explore colleges/careers.
- Check your transcripts to make sure you have all the credits you need to graduate.
- Register for any standardized tests you plan on taking.
- Make sure that you meet all of the requirements for the colleges you'd like to apply to and double-check their deadlines.
- Give out recommendation forms to teachers and counselors. **Be sure to also include stamped, college-addressed envelopes and that your portion of the forms are filled out.**
- If you're applying early, most deadlines are between October 1 and November 1. **Keep this in mind if you are applying early.**
- Be sure to submit your senior yearbook picture by the September 30 deadline.
- Be sure to complete your Senior Project/Senior Project Forms.
- Request your Transcripts. Any time you apply to a college you must do a transcript request.

October:

- Make a final list of colleges and keep a file of deadlines and admissions requirements.
- Take the SAT/ACT tests. Have the official scores sent (by the testing agencies) to your final list of colleges.
- Get started on admissions essays. **Give your essays to others for feedback.**
- Order senior graduation announcements.

November:

- Submit your college admissions applications! Check them thoroughly! Having someone else review your application can help you check for errors.**
- Be sure to consult with your counselor about scholarship opportunities. **Work on your applications and mail them according to deadlines.**
- Check with the financial aid office of colleges you are applying to for specific information and costs for tuition, room & board, and any additional information they require.
- Check with your guidance counselor about Parent Nights/Financial Aid Nights/College Fairs.
- Inquire about any Keystone Remediation required.

December:

- Make sure your test scores are being sent to the colleges to which you are applying.
- If you submitted an application for early decision, keep an eye out for a decision letter. **Early decision letters usually arrive between December 1 & 31. If you get an acceptance letter, be sure to withdraw any other applications.**
- Start thinking about how you are going to spend summer. It's a great opportunity to earn extra money and gain work experience.
- Complete and submit your financial aid application and the FAFSA as soon as possible

January:

(between Jan 1-Feb 15). Also be sure to check out other financial aid options. fafsa.ed.gov.

- If you do not already have a good computer, look into purchasing one for college. **There tend to be discounts for college students or you can subsidize the cost in your student loans.**
- Make sure your parents have completed their income tax forms in anticipation of the financial aid applications.
- Contact the admissions office of the colleges to which you have applied to make sure that your info has been received. You do not need to send them anything else.
- Keep an eye out for financial aid workshops and seminars.

February

- If you completed your FAFSA you should receive your Student Aid Report within 4 weeks. **Make any corrections and return it to the FAFSA processor.**
- Complete college scholarship applications.
- Contact the financial aid office of the colleges that you've applied to, to make sure that they have received all of your information.

March

- Pay any/all fines or outstanding balances (books, library, cafeteria) at the High School.
- Pay your Senior Assessment (cap & gown fee).
- Sign Up to take the Shamokin Area Alumni Test.

- Check with your guidance counselors about any Scholarship Opportunities available at the High School.

April

- You should hear back from colleges by April 15. **Compare acceptance letters, financial aid and scholarship offers.**
- When you choose a college you will have to pay a non-refundable admissions deposit to hold your place in the entering freshman class.

May

- By May 1, you must decide on a college and notify them of your acceptance. Mail your commitment deposit check.
- Prepare to take the AP Exams.
- Attend the Baccalaureate and Senior Scholastic Awards Programs at the High School.
- Attend all (3) graduation practices and be on time for the Commencement Program.
- Be proud of your accomplishments and make good decisions as you embark on the next phase of your life!



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