

College Bound Scholarship

Senior Year "To Do" List



You've got a lot going on and a lot to remember.

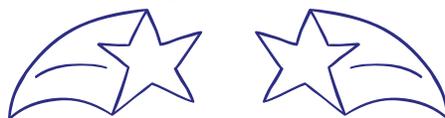
Use our check lists as a starting point to track your college prep progress and keep yourself on the path to continuing your education after high school.

September

- Meet with your school counselor.** Talk about your plans and make sure you are on-track to graduate.
- Plan out your year.** Check out readyssetgrad.org for checklists and timelines. Creating a plan will help keep you on track and help manage stress.
- Talk to colleges.** Check with your school counselor for a list of college fairs or campus events near you.
- Understand the differences** between community college, private career school, and four-year colleges and universities. Go to readyssetgrad.org for definitions.
- Register to take/re-take the SAT or ACT.** Visit collegeboard.org or act.org for more details and to register.
- Start looking for scholarships.** Resources like www.theWashBoard.org are excellent ways to find money to help pay for college.

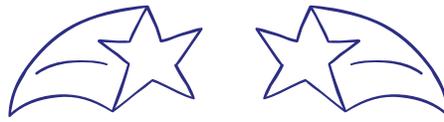
October/November

- Narrow your list of schools.** Choose 3-6 schools you plan to apply to.
- Know your deadlines.** Many schools have early deadlines (even October!).
- Make a calendar.** Note the important admissions and financial aid deadlines at each school on your list.
- Know the admissions requirements and materials required.** Each school may require something different (e.g. a letter of recommendation, specific essay).
- Ask for letters of recommendations.**
- Begin applying.** Start applying to your list of schools either on your own or by attending application workshops at your school.



For more tips, tricks, and timelines, visit our website www.readyssetgrad.org, follow us on Twitter @ready_set_grad, or like us at [Facebook.com/ReadySetGrad](https://www.facebook.com/ReadySetGrad)

December



- Continue your applications.** Many schools have deadlines in December and January.
- Start preparing for the FAFSA or WASFA.** Before January 1, gather the items you will need to file your financial aid application. Browse www.fafsa.gov, get your FSA ID, and become familiar with the site and financial aid terms. February 1st is the financial aid application priority filing date for College Bound students.
- Know the financial aid deadlines at your schools.** Don't miss out on available aid!
- Continue researching and applying for scholarships.** Visit theWashboard.org regularly and keep your profile up-to-date.

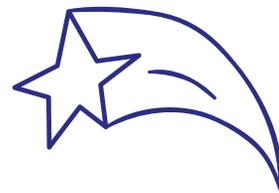
January/February

- Submit your FAFSA or WASFA.** Try to submit either your FAFSA or WASFA as soon as possible after January 1 to maximize your aid options.
- Attend a financial aid filing workshop.** Workshops are held throughout the state. Talk with your school counselor or visit readyssetgrad.org/cgw-info for more information.
- Check in with your colleges.** Make sure you know if any additional materials are required with your application.
- Continue researching and applying for scholarships.** Visit theWashboard.org regularly and keep your profile up-to-date.

March/April

- Check-in with your counselor.** Make sure you're still on-track to graduate and meet the College Bound Scholarship requirements.
- Visit campus.** Spring is a great time to visit as many colleges have several options for applicants and admitted students. If you can't visit a school, contact the admissions staff to see if they will be in your area to schedule a meeting or attend a reception.
- Confirm all your materials have been received.** Keep in close contact with your preferred schools.
- Compare financial aid packages.** Compare the different pieces of each award letter as it relates to tuition, housing, and other costs. If you have questions about your financial aid package, contact an admissions counselor at each school.
- Know confirmation deadlines.** Many schools will require you to confirm attendance by May 1.



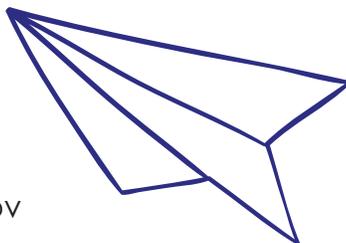
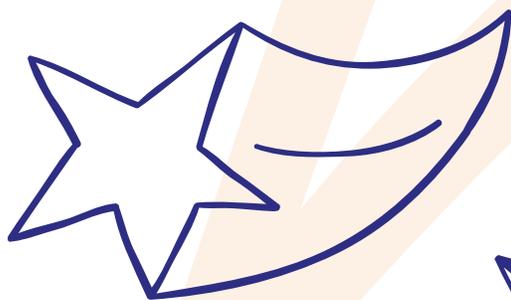


May

- Final decisions.** Celebrate your success and choice for the future!
- Know your next steps.** Talk with the school about the steps you need to complete. For instance, you may need to pay enrollment or housing deposits or register for new student orientation, placement exams, and classes.
- Graduation and final materials.** Enjoy your high school graduation! If you didn't earn your diploma, you should continue your high school education. You may still qualify for the College Bound Scholarship, even if you graduate at a later date (this does NOT include GEDs).
- Confirm with your school of choice** that they've received final transcripts or other materials they may need before school lets out for the summer.

Summer

- Prepare for the fall.** Complete all the next steps at your school and keep track of deadlines and any events you should attend.
- Planning to live on campus?** Pay attention to the guidance your college provides about what to bring. You don't want to waste money on items you won't need or have space for.
- Enjoy your summer!**



Resources

College Bound: www.collegebound.wa.gov

Ready Set Grad: www.readysetgrad.org

US Department of Education: www.studentaid.ed.gov

Free Application for Federal Student Aid: www.fafsa.ed.gov

Washington Application for State Financial Aid: www.readysetgrad.org/WASFA

The Washboard Scholarship Search: www.washboard.org

The College Board's Big Future: www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org