

KIDS2CAREERS:
SENIOR YEAR
CHECKLIST



SENIOR YEAR IS AN EXCITING AND BUSY TIME —USE THIS CHECKLIST TO MEET IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

Add **TARGET DATES** in the provided boxes and schedule time to complete the **ACTIVITIES** outlined below.

Remember to add these new dates to your digital calendar!

ACTIVITY

TARGET DATE

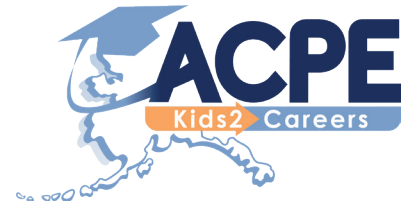
- Take or retake the [SAT/ACT](#) (register at least 1mo. in advance, plus study time) —
- Keep your grades up! Final transcript will be closely reviewed for rigor and grades —
- [Track & compare colleges](#) or [training programs](#) (deadlines, requirements, highlights) —
- Use [Net Cost Estimators](#) to determine the most affordable college choices —
- Add [ACPE's Google Calendar](#) to your personal calendar —
- Add applications/financial aid deadlines & reminders to your calendar —
- Update My Resume Info ([AKCIS](#)) with achievements, activities, skills and job details —
- Ask for [letters of recommendation](#); provide your resume & important details —
- Whether applying to one or more colleges, consider [safety, match, & reach](#) —
- Review [personal statement examples](#) & outline YOUR personal statement —
- Begin college and career & technical admissions applications & essays —
- [Create FSA ID](#) (ea. contributor: you & legal parent(s); record login somewhere safe) —

August - September



Continued: SENIOR YEAR – CHECKLIST

USE THIS CHECKLIST TO MEET IMPORTANT DEADLINES:



October - December

ACTIVITY

TARGET DATE

- Build a scholarship list, calendar deadlines, and begin applying for scholarships _____
- Gather tax information - not last year, but the year prior (each FAFSA contributor) _____
- Complete the FAFSA** (studentaid.gov) opens Dec. 1; **CSS Profiler if required** (you and each parent) _____
- Review your FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS) after completing the FAFSA _____
- Ask a school counselor/trusted adult to review your essays/applications _____
- Finish & submit admissions applications and essays (Oct. - Dec. Deadlines) _____
- Use winter break to finish any remaining applications (Jan. - Mar. Deadlines) _____
- Contact financial aid offices to confirm requirements and aid options _____
- Discuss w school counselor progress toward grad and postsecondary requirements _____
- Write thank you notes to people who wrote recommendations or helped you _____

January - April

ACTIVITY

TARGET DATE

- File your taxes** and save copies (yours and each parent's) somewhere safe _____
- Send **FAFSA** to applicant institutions (**CSS Profiler** or **SRAR/SSAR** where required) _____
- Set up/monitor college portals weekly for important communications _____
- Check email daily for important notices re: colleges and financial aid awards _____
- Work on scholarship applications and ensure deadlines are on your digital calendar _____
- Map estimated admissions/award notification dates on a **spreadsheet** _____
- Compare financial aid letters**, read them carefully and find the best deal for you _____
- Explore campuses/programs of interest - in-person, virtual, contact departments _____
- Research/apply for summer internships and jobs related to your career interest _____



Continued:
SENIOR YEAR – CHECKLIST

USE THIS CHECKLIST TO MEET IMPORTANT DEADLINES:



May - July

ACTIVITY

TARGET DATE

- Accept your best offer and pay your deposit by May 1 _____
- Take AP tests if appropriate _____
- Request high school transcripts be sent to final institution upon graduation _____
- If you are waitlisted, let those schools know if you are still interested _____
- If offered, attend newly admitted events with your family when able _____
- Register to attend orientation over the summer if applicable (usually Jun-Aug) _____
- Check with family/institution about health insurance options; order extra cards _____
- Schedule physical exam, shots/records before you leave town/start school _____
- Request 529 distributions** 2-3 weeks before payment deadlines _____
- Accept any needed **Federal loans** after approval (application is the FAFSA) _____
- Apply for any needed **low cost state loans** 2 months prior to tuition deadlines _____
- Consider durable power of attorney, joint banking so family can help once 18yo _____
- Make a list of what you need for school/living arrangements - think minimal _____
- Determine/arrange transportation options _____
- Consider extracurricular activities at your new college and make inquiries _____

Aug - Sep

ACTIVITY

TARGET DATE

- Work with your advisor to finalize your course schedule _____
- Pack and/or ship your essentials; campus websites will include what to bring _____
- Schedule an appointment with your financial aid advisor _____
- Scope out your classrooms and calculate how long it will take to get to each one _____
- Purchase any last minute supplies (college websites have lists) _____
- Ensure your family has a good mailing address for you _____
- Participate in new student activities & make new friends _____
- Create a healthy schedule with study time, physical activity, and clubs _____