

Senior Year College Application and Financial Aid Timeline

August/ September

The Lilly Endowment
Community
Scholarship is due in
September!

- Register for the SAT and/or ACT if you intend to retake it this year. Deadlines are generally the first week of September.
- Finalize your list of prospective colleges. Be sure your list includes “safety,” “probable,” and “reach” schools.
- Start a checklist of all application requirements, deadlines, fees, etc.
- Get started on your college applications now.
- As part of the application process, you must request your transcripts be sent ELECTRONICALLY through www.parchment.com. Go to that website and set up your account.
- Set up campus visits and interviews and attend open houses at colleges on your list.
- If you plan on competing in Division I or Division II college sports, register with the NCAA Eligibility Center.

October

- The FAFSA will become available October 1st.
- The first step is to go to www.fafsa.gov and create a username and password (FSA ID). Parents and Students need unique FSA ID's, as they serve as electronic signatures.
- Finish your college applications by the end of the month.
- Find out about local scholarships offered by church groups, civic associations, and businesses in your area.
- Check the scholarship list on the Student Services website.

November

- If you still have unfinished college applications, make it a priority to get them done as soon as you can.
- Learn financial aid policies and deadlines from the schools to which you've applied. Use their websites for information.

December

- If you haven't already done so, begin working on the FAFSA.
- Spend your extra time working on scholarship applications. Many more will become available within the next few months, so go ahead and do what you can now.

January

- Continue FAFSA work if you haven't completed it.
- Concentrate on available scholarships.

Many Community Foundation scholarships are due in February!

February

- Review your Student Aid Report (SAR). If necessary, make changes or corrections and submit your information for reprocessing. Your completed SAR will contain your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which is used by colleges to determine how much aid you can receive.
- Check FAFSA deadlines at your intended school(s). The Indiana deadline is March 10th, but schools can set their own deadlines and many do.

March

- Read everything that comes with your admissions decisions! Some items may require prompt action on your part.
- Carefully compare financial aid award letters from the colleges that accept you. E-mail or call the colleges if you have any questions about the financial aid packages they've offered you.
- Revisit colleges that accepted you if you are still unsure where you will attend.

April

- Make a final decision, accept the aid package and mail a deposit check to the college you select. Make sure to meet their deadlines!
- Notify the other colleges that have accepted you that you won't be attending (so another student can have your spot).
- On the waiting list? Contact the admissions office and let them know of your continued interest in the college and provide them with any updates.

May

- AP Exams are given. Make sure your AP Grade Report is sent to your college.
- Finalize your housing plans. Send in all required forms and deposits.
- Study hard for final exams. Most admission offers are contingent upon your final grades.
- Thank everyone who wrote you recommendations or otherwise helped with your college applications.

June

- If you plan on competing in Division I or Division II college sports, have your counselor send your final transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- Consider your summer job options to help save for college expenses.

Make sure your college knows about any dual college credit courses you took at NMHS. They will require an official transcript from the COLLEGE that awarded the dual credit. The NMHS transcript will not be enough!