

## Summer/Fall

### 1. Make a College List

I recommend applying to 8-12 schools if you're considering competitive universities.

At least two of which have admit rates above 30% in any case.

### 2. Get Organized

Add to your calendar all the pertinent dates and deadlines for each school on your list:

Application deadlines, Scholarship deadlines, financial aid deadlines, etc. Then be sure to submit all materials by these deadlines.

Make a spreadsheet to track your progress on applications for all schools

Make documents that have all essay prompts for each school you're applying to (one document or folder of documents per school).

### 3. Write your Essays

Start writing your college essays. Get feedback. Revise them.

<https://youtu.be/ZgE47HGphGM>

### 4. Take or plan out all your necessary tests (ACT/SAT/Subject tests etc.)

Be sure you've registered for all necessary admissions tests.

Make a study plan for the SAT or ACT (or checkout our ACT and SAT courses to get ready and do your best).

### 5. Talk to mom & dad about paying for college

### 6. Talk to your parents about the FAFSA

Also add FAFSA dates and deadlines to your calendar.

For more on the FAFSA watch our videos:

<https://youtu.be/aq2qENXzdf8>

<https://youtu.be/YCPo40m2DuA>

<https://youtu.be/bd30kYXhIQg>

### 7. Identify / Research Scholarships for financial aid, fill these out and apply to them (add dates to your calendar)

### 8. Clean up your social media accounts: Google yourself and see what Colleges might see.

### 9. Ask teachers/counselors/adults for letters of recommendation

Don't procrastinate! Ask early and follow up the week before deadlines.

### 10. Ensure your counselor has sent transcripts to all schools you've applied to or check in with him/her to ensure that process is underway.

### 11. Visit Colleges or learn more online

## **Fall**

12. Complete & Submit your College Applications (any early or fall deadlines or to any schools with scholarships or rolling admissions)

Don't forget to submit scholarship applications, too!

## **Winter**

13. If you have deferrals or waitlist letters at this point, write letters (emails) of continued interest

See this video for more:

<https://youtu.be/QjMTXYIayjI>

<https://youtu.be/8tx-wf9RY4s>

14. Apply to any other schools by the deadline (for most it's January 1st, but yours may be different!).

## **All Year**

15. Continue to stay involved

Make sure to do activities and take advantage of opportunities to make you stand out as an applicant

16. Keep your grade ups

Colleges will be aware of your grades and can rescind your admissions if they see you slack off.