

Applying to college:

- ⇒ **Most applications are now online. When you apply online let Miss Walker know so a high school transcript can be sent.** If you apply using a paper application you must turn it in to the Guidance office to be sent out with a transcript.
- ⇒ Many applications also ask for **an essay or personal statement.** This can be something you write for the particular college to which you are applying. It can be a piece of writing you completed in English class. Some essays ask you to write about a particular topic; others are more general. Speak to your English teacher or counselor for tips on how to write a good essay.
- ⇒ Applications also ask for **letters of recommendation.** Ask now! Ask teachers, coaches, employers, the principal, and your guidance counselor for a recommendation. Ask early so they have time to prepare a good recommendation for you. Pick up recommendation forms in the Guidance office.
- ⇒ It is also a good idea to go to the college for an **interview.** Speaking with an admissions representative is a good way for them to put a face with a name (some colleges get thousands of applications...how will you stand out?).
- ⇒ One of the easiest ways to go for an interview is during an **Open House.** Many colleges have an Open House in October and November. You can get a tour of the campus, residence halls, and dining hall and maybe even sit in on a class. This is a great way to decide if this is the place you want to spend the next 2-4 years.
- ⇒ If you can't make it to the college, many colleges have **admissions representatives come to the school.** Representatives visit the high school from September through November. Listen to the announcements and check the bulletin board outside the guidance office to see what colleges are coming soon.
- ⇒ Hopefully you have already taken the **SAT and/or ACT.** (Registration deadline for October ACT is Sept 16, Registration deadline for November SAT is October 7)

Senior Calendar

October

Meet with your counselor regarding plans for after high school
Ask teachers, coaches, employers, and counselors for letters of recommendation
Work on essay/personal statement
Attend individual colleges Open House sessions
Check bulletin board for Open House dates and when Admissions reps are coming
Register for SAT/ACT if you have not already done so

November

Early Decision deadline for many colleges, apply early enough to have all paperwork in on time
Early Decision students should ask about financial aid. Call and ask how to apply for financial aid early so you have a package before you have to decide if you are going to commit
CSS Profile available in the Guidance Office
Arrange interviews/auditions/portfolio presentations at colleges if necessary
Explore financial aid resources (scholarship information available in Guidance, blue folder in Miss Walker's office)

December

Early Decision students notified of acceptance in late December
We like to have most applications completed before Christmas break.

January

File FAFSA. FAFSA's need to be submitted online.
Complete supplemental applications. Some colleges are sending postcards prompting you to submit info online, check all mail that comes from colleges, if you provide an email address check your email
File additional financial aid forms/information as requested
Early Decision financial aid packages sent to students

February

Make sure all deadlines have been met
Early decision students reply to colleges regarding admission and provide deposit
Regular decision students should have FAFSA information completed online

April

Most colleges notify applicants of acceptance, let Miss Walker know where you have been accepted
Notify colleges of your intent to register. Many colleges require a tuition deposit.
Most colleges send out financial aid award letters

June

Contact colleges to see if they are still accepting applications if you haven't applied
Ask the nurse for copies of your immunizations and latest physical
GRADUATE!!

July

Request your transcript from TC3 if you took any college classes (English, Calculus, Accounting, Chemistry, Psychology, etc.) in high school. Miss Walker will provide info at the end of the school year about how to do this.

Financial Aid 2012-2013

1. Apply for a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov
2. File FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov
3. The form requires information from the **parent and student's 2011 federal tax forms** (1040, 1040A, 1040EZ).
4. If you do not file taxes you need to know the **exact amount and source of your income** for the year 2011.
5. Remember your password and **PIN** number when applying online. First time college students will need to register for a **PIN**. They recommend you file online for faster more efficient results. Do not lose your PIN.
6. If you need to make corrections after applying online you can log in and make corrections at a later date.
7. Some colleges also require the **CSS Profile**. Check with the colleges to which you have applied. This can also be completed using either the paper application (found in Guidance) or online (www.collegeboard.com). This does have a fee.
8. After applying online with the FAFSA there will be a link encouraging you to then file for TAP. TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) is NYS assistance. This form requires the information on your **NYS tax forms** (IT200/201). You will need to log in and register for another PIN. Please remember all user id's, passwords and PIN's. If you do not complete TAP information after filing the FAFSA you must go to this site to do so:
www.hesc.com
- 9.
10. **It is very important that you provide correct information and meet all deadlines.**
11. Contact Miss Walker in the Guidance Office if you have any questions.