

SENIOR GUIDE---2007-2008

Graduating from high school and deciding what to do with your future is a difficult decision. The purpose of this booklet is to help you in making decisions. The Senior Guide is designed with the intention of giving you as much information as possible; however, it cannot possibly answer all of your questions. I strongly encourage you to share this information with your parents as you make decisions concerning your future. As always, we are here to help you if you have questions. Hopefully, your senior year will be successful as well as exciting.

The following information about the school is often required for applications:

Warren County High School
199 Pioneer Lane
McMinnville, Tennessee 37110

Phone (931) 668-5858

Fax (931) 668-5801

Website: www.warrencountyhighschool.com

Senior Counselor: Keri McGiboney

Current senior enrollment: 421

Graduation Date: May 16, 2008

School Code: 431-367

Graduation Requirements

State regulations require that students select and complete the university or technical path to receive a diploma. According to school board policy, to participate in graduation exercises, a student must have completed all the requirements for a diploma or a Certificate of Attendance.

Types of Diplomas

Our school issues two types of diplomas. The *Regular Diploma* is awarded to students who complete all credits for the university or technical path and pass the Science, Math and Language Gateway examinations. The *Special Education Diploma* is awarded to students who complete the requirements of the IEP. A *Certificate of Attendance* is issued to students who complete the course requirements for graduation but do not pass one or more of the Gateway examinations.

It is the student's responsibility to make sure that he or she is completing the requirements for graduation. Your English teacher will be provided a transcript and a graduation checklist for each student. If you have any questions about your graduation requirements, please see your counselor immediately.

Testing Information

The ACT

The ACT is a standardized test administered four times annually. The ACT is the most important key to academic scholarships and is a requirement for college admission. The best way to improve the ACT score is to continue to take academic core courses. Colleges usually look at the highest score, but students should be aware of individual college scholarship deadlines. Applications for the ACT and practice tests are available in the guidance office and on line at www.actstudent.org. Students are responsible for completing the applications and mailing them before the deadlines. In an emergency, students who want to walk-in for the local ACT may bring a completed application and check for \$68 to the local testing site on the date of the test. The ACT is given at WCHS on the following national testing dates:

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Deadline</u>
October 27, 2007.....	September 21, 2007
December 8, 2007.....	November 2, 2007
February 9, 2008	January 4, 2008
April 12, 2008	March 7, 2008
June 14, 2008.....	May 9, 2008

In addition, a senior can take a Residual ACT at the college of his choice on different dates if he or she arranges for the test through the individual school. This test score could be used only at that college or university.

It is recommended that students take the ACT for the first time during the spring of their junior year (or whenever the student is taking geometry). Students should re-take the ACT during their junior and senior year as long as their scores continue to improve (55% of students who take the ACT more than once improve their scores).

Development Courses

ACT scores are used as a consideration for college course placement. Scores below a 19 will result in the requirement for developmental study courses. These are pre-college level courses. Students enroll in developmental courses at their college of choice. (They do not count as college credit)

Gateway Examinations

All seniors must pass the Language, Math, and Science Gateway exams in order to receive a regular education diploma.

The Gateway Exams will be given on the following dates:

December 4, 2007.....	Math Gateway
December 5, 2007.....	Language Gateway
December 6, 2007.....	Science Gateway
May 6, 2008	Math Gateway
May 7, 2008.....	Language Gateway
May 8, 2008.....	Science Gateway

Choosing a College

Choosing a college is one of the most important decisions you will make. Since you will be spending at least two to five years at a college, you need to select a school where you will be happy and one where you will develop academically, spiritually, emotionally, and personally. Usually students should apply to several colleges during the first semester of their senior year. These choices might include a “dream” school, as well as a “safety” school where the student can be sure he will be admitted and be able to afford.

For admission and scholarship consideration, colleges weigh many different qualities. They are usually looking for a well-rounded student who has an outstanding resume, reflecting his or her GPA, advanced courses, career goal, rank, ACT, awards, leadership, community and school involvement, and other activities (such as music, sports, hobbies, references, work experience, and church). This resume should be included with all college applications.

Contacting the College

Students usually contact both the school’s admission and financial aid office. Most state universities have recruiters who visit us throughout the year. These same recruiters will also be available during the annual College Night, which is held at the Civic Center on Tuesday, October 9, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. Students must make themselves aware of deadlines for individual schools. Do not wait until the last minute to contact universities. College choice and admission information can be found at www.collegeguides.com and at www.collegeview.com.

Requesting Transcripts

Most colleges want your transcript sent directly to their admissions office from the guidance office. A transcript request form is available in the guidance office, to assure that we can quickly and efficiently send the appropriate information. Your ACT scores are included on your transcript if you had the scores sent to us. **Do not request that a transcript be sent to a college until you have mailed your admissions application.** Students must also be sure to request a final transcript to be mailed during the last week of high school. Forms will be given to students to make this request.

Class Rank

Class rank is determined following the seventh semester (middle of the senior year) of enrollment. Rank will be available for students one week following the issuance of semester report cards. Final rank will be determined at the end of the senior year. The year end rank will be posted on students permanent records.

Student Athletes

In order for students to participate in athletics at a Division I or Division II school they must be cleared through the NCAA. This is an application process which is now administered on-line. The website for the NCAA is www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

AP Courses

Advanced Placement courses are college level courses offered to high school students. High school students may earn college credit depending on the AP test score. Students who have taken AP courses and AP tests need to check the AP policy at all of the colleges and universities to which they are applying to determine possible college credit. Many schools will accept AP scores between the 3-5 range. Additional AP information is available at www.collegeboard.com.

Articulation Agreements

An articulation agreement is a cooperative effort between secondary and postsecondary institutions such as community colleges and technical schools. An articulation agreement is similar to Advanced Placement in that articulated courses taken at WCHS will not have to be taken at certain postsecondary institutions if the student can test to a certain competency in a specific course(s). Articulation applications as well as articulation procedures and information are available in the student's career and technical education class as well as the guidance office. WCHS currently has articulation agreements with Motlow State Community College, Tennessee Technology Centers, Nashville State Technical Community College, and Nashville Auto-Diesel College. Specific articulated course information is listed on the next page. The following is the contact information for each institution:

Motlow State Community College

Jay May, Dean

P.O. Box 8500

Lynchburg TN 37352-8500

Phone: 931-393-1630

jmay@mscc.edu

Nashville State Technical Community College

Matthew Little

NSCC Coordinator of K-12 Programs

120 White Bridge Road

Nashville TN 37209-4515

Phone: 615-353-3269

matthew.little@nsc.edu

Tennessee Technology Center

Mike Garrison

241 Vo-Tech Drive

McMinnville, TN 37110

Phone: 931-474-8324

mike.garrison@mcminnville.tec.tn.us

Nashville Auto-Diesel College

1524 Gallatin Road

Nashville, TN 37206

(615) 226-3990

www.lincolnedu.com/campus/nashville-tn

Institution**Articulated Courses****Motlow State Community College**

Early Childhood Education Careers I & II
+ Child Development
+ Family and Parenting
Marketing I & II
Keyboarding/Document Layout and Design
Keyboarding/Document Formatting
Integrated Input Technologies
Computer-Aided Drafting
Advanced Computer-Aided Drafting

Tennessee Technology Centers

McMinnville (MC)
Murfreesboro (MB)
Shelbyville (SH)

Automotive: Brake Systems (MC, MB, SH)
Automotive: Electronics (MC, MB, SH)
Collision Repair: Painting/Refinishing (SH)
Collision Repair: Non-Structural (SH)
Computer-Aided Drafting (MB, SH)
Advanced Computer-Aided Drafting (MB, SH)
Electrical I & II (SH)
Health Science Education (MC, SH)
Keyboarding (MC, MB, SH)
Keyboarding/Document Layout and Design (MC, MB, SH)
Keyboarding/Document Formatting (MC, MB, SH)

**Nashville State Technical
Community College**

Computer Aided Drafting
Advanced Computer Aided Drafting
Early Childhood Education Careers I, II, III
Keyboarding
Keyboarding/Document Formatting
Biomedical Applications—statewide agreement
Anatomy & Physiology
Diagnostic Medicine—statewide agreement
Forensic Science—statewide agreement
Culinary Arts I, II, III

Nashville Auto-Diesel College

Automotive Service Technology
Collision Repair and Refinishing Technology

Colleges and Universities

The following list contains information on schools that our students often attend. Other information is available through the use of the College Handbook in the guidance office and on line. In addition the guidance office has computer programs and information available for career interest inventories, occupational searches, college searches, and scholarship searches. Students are encouraged to use this information along with the school website.

AUSTIN PEAY (1-800-844-apsu) www.apsu.edu

Separate application is not required for academic scholarships but is required for all others. Student must be admitted before scholarships can be awarded. Scholarship deadline is Feb. 1st, but the application should be completed as soon as possible after January 1. Available are academic, department, special abilities, and Emerging Leaders.

BELMONT UNIVERSITY (1-800-563-6765) www.belmont.edu

Admission application serves as the scholarship application. Must be admitted by December 1st for scholarship consideration; scholarships based on GPA, ACT of 26 or higher, top ten percent, activities.

CARSON-NEWMAN COLLEGE (1-800-678-9061) www.cn.edu

Separate applications are required for scholarships and financial aid. Other scholarships are available for ACT of 26-29 and ACT of 22-25; also for community service and church activities. Applications received after May 1st will be awarded based on availability of funds.

CUMBERLAND UNIVERSITY (1-800-467-0562) www.cumberland.edu

Separate applications are required for scholarships and financial aid. Scholarship amounts are given for rank, ACT, athletics, leadership, and need. The priority deadline for financial aid applications is February 1st.

DAVID LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY (1-800-333-4358) www.lipscomb.edu

The admission application serves as an application for scholarships. Scholarships based on ACT, rank, leadership, special talents. Only \$10 to apply through October 31, 2007.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY (1-800-GO2-ETSU) www.etsu.edu

Scholarship deadline is Feb. 15th. Separate application is needed for scholarships. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academics, ACT leadership, and need.

LAMBUTH UNIVERSITY (1-800-516-2884) www.lambuth.edu

The admissions application serves as the application for scholarships. Scholarship priority is granted to students who apply for admission by February 10th.

MARTIN METHODIST (1-800-467-1273) www.martinmethodist.edu

Separate applications for scholarship and financial aid are required.

MARYVILLE COLLEGE (1-800-597-2687) www.maryvillecollege.edu

Scholarship deadline: February 1. Scholarship application is required. Special scholarships are available in music, theatre, art, and church.

MOTLOW STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE (931-393-1524) www.mscc.cc.tn.us
A separate scholarship application is required. Deadline is March 1.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY (1-800-331-MTSU) www.mtsu.edu
Mail as soon as ranks are available. Also check early in semester for foundation scholarships available on the university's website. Application deadline for scholarship consideration is December 15th.

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY (1-888-463-6878) www.tnstate.edu
Scholarship deadline is February 15th. A separate application for scholarship is needed.

TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY (1-800-255-8881) www.tntech.edu
Regular application deadline: December 15. Scholarship applications are available on the website. Engineering applications due by November 1.

TENNESSEE WESLEYAN COLLEGE (1-800-742-5892) www.twcnet.edu
Several scholarships and financial aid opportunities are available. Following acceptance to TWC complete the TWC financial Aid form to be eligible for scholarships.

UNION UNIVERSITY (1-800-338-6466) www.uu.edu
Priority deadline for scholarships is January 15. Separate application for scholarships is required.

UNIVERSITY OF TN AT CHATTANOOGA (1-800-UTC-MOCS) www.utc.edu
Admissions application serves as the application for academic scholarships except for University Honors program. Priority deadline for undergraduate admission and scholarships is February 1st.

UNIVERSITY OF TN AT KNOXVILLE (1-800-221-VOLS) www.utk.edu
Early admission and deadline for competitive scholarships is November 1. Requires separate scholarship application. All applications received no later than Feb 1st will be reviewed for all university scholarships excluding the Chancellor's & the McClanahan Scholarships.

UNIVERSITY OF TN AT MARTIN (1-800-829-8861) www.utm.edu
Separate application for some scholarships. Deadline is February 1.

VOLUNTEER STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE (615-452-8600) www.volstate.edu
Admission deadline is July 1. Organization and private scholarships are available through the financial aid office. Separate application required for scholarships with a deadline of March 1.

Technical Schools

Technical schools are specialized schools designed for specific career training to use on the job. Training may take from three to twenty-four months depending on the chosen program. Students are encouraged to visit technical schools to learn about all of the programs that are offered.

TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGY CENTER...MCMINNVILLE www.ttcminnville.edu
(931-474-TECH)

Part-time, full-time, day, and night programs are available. Programs include: Automotive Technology, Business Systems Technology, Computer Operations Technology, Industrial Maintenance, Machine Tool Technology, Electronics Technology, Medical Assistant, Practical Nursing, and Surgical Technology.

TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGY CENTER....CROSSVILLE
www.crossville.tec.tn.us (931-484-7502)

Part-time, full-time, day, and night programs are available. Programs include: Auto Body Technology, Automotive Technology, Business Systems Technology, Building Systems Technology, Computer-Aided Drafting Technology, Computer Operations Technology, Electricity Technology, Electronics Technology, Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning Technologies, Industrial maintenance Technology, Machine Tool Technology, Masonry Technology, Practical Nursing, Surgical Technology, Welding Technology, Technology Foundations, and Early Childhood Development.

CHATTANOOGA STATE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
www.chattanoogastate.edu (423-697-4422)

Degrees and certificates are available in numerous areas, including dental hygiene, nursing, physical therapy, radiology, respiratory care, CAD, electronics, education, emergency services, legal assistant, court reporting, etc. Scholarships require a separate application. Deadline: February 15th.

NASHVILLE STATE TECH www.nsc.edu (1-800-272-7363)

Associate degree programs are available in architecture, business, engineering, computers, occupational therapy, police science, etc. Technical certificates are available in electrical and industrial maintenance, music technology, photography, surgical technology, etc. Scholarship applications are due March 1.

Tennessee Lottery Grants and some local scholarships are available for use at area technical schools; financial aid is available through additional grants and loans. The cost of attending technical schools is typically affordable. Students can often have full time employment while attending technical schools. Completion of the FAFSA form is recommended for financial aid requests. At the completion of a technical education students receive an associate's degree or a certificate. Because of the demand for these programs, seniors are encouraged to indicate their interests with the school early.

Applying For Financial Aid

Many students qualify for financial aid based on the income of the student and his or her parents, the size of the family, and the cost of attending the selected college. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is used to apply for federal and state grants, for work-study programs, for federal loans, and for Tennessee Lottery Scholarships. Students should apply as soon as possible after January 1. Upon completion and submission of the FAFSA a Student Aid Report is generated.

The FAFSA is now available on the web at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Submitting the FAFSA form through the website may actually save 3-4 weeks of waiting for your Student Aid Report. The FAFSA checks your qualifications for the following aid programs:

1. Pell Grant: Awarded by the federal government to lower income students for college or technical school. This grant does not have to be re-paid by the student.
2. Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant: This grant is awarded by each institution and does not have to be repaid by the student.
3. Federal Perkins Loan: This is a long term, low interest loan from the college for graduate or undergraduate studies. These must be re-paid by the student.
4. Federal Work/Study Program: These are part-time, wage earning jobs for students. The hours vary.
5. Army Loan Repayment Program: Repayment program to recruit college graduates who need loans paid.
6. Federal Parent Loan (Plus Loan): This is a long-term loan with variable interest rates. Repayment begins within 60 days after the loan is received.
7. Federal Stafford Loan: This is a long-term loan with a low interest rate. Repayment begins after student is no longer enrolled in an educational institution.
8. Tennessee Student Assistance Award: This is a grant based on need that does not have to be repaid by the student.
9. Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program: The FAFSA serves as the application for this program.

If you qualify for financial aid, you will receive an award letter from the college detailing your financial aid package. Because financial aid packages vary from college to college, students should make a careful comparison of packages. Some schools also require students to file an institutional form in order to be considered for financial aid from the school. You will need to contact the college or university for this information.

Vocational Rehabilitation

Funds for job training or attendance to a technical program or a university are available for students who have a disability. Students who have been absent frequently for health reasons or students who have been restricted from physical activities or had accidents may qualify. To apply for these funds students or parents should contact Mr. Bruce Crain at the Vocational Rehabilitation Office at (931) 473-4667.

Obtaining Scholarships

Scholarship information is available from many sources. ***Remember the most important criteria for receiving a scholarship is the ACT score, in addition to the GPA and school and community activities.*** Neither school counselors nor the WCHS administration have any control over who receives scholarships and who does not. It is the responsibility of the student to apply for scholarship funds. Students should follow six basic steps in order to obtain scholarships:

1. Complete an on-line scholarship search. Many companies provide this search for free. Free searches at www.fastweb.com and www.weeklyscholarshipalert.org.
2. Once you have applied to your college of choice, check with the college financial aid department and ask for available scholarships.
3. Read the weekly newsletter published by the guidance department. New scholarship information is continually updated. The newsletter is available on line at www.warrencountyhighschool.com under the guidance link.
4. Check with your parents' employers, your church, or civic organizations to find out if there are any scholarships available.
5. Pick up and complete the local scholarship packet that will be available in the guidance office in December.
6. Complete the FAFSA immediately after January 1st. This is your lottery scholarship application as well as the application for all federal aid (grants and loans). The FAFSA is available on line at www.fafsa.ed.gov

State Lottery Scholarship Program

The state of Tennessee Lottery Scholarship Program is updated annually. Please visit www.collegepaysTN.com for the most recent lottery scholarship information.

Priority Deadlines for Scholarship Consideration

Austin Peay State University.....	February 1
Belmont University.....	December 1
Bryan College.....	January 31 (+accepted admission)
Cumberland University.....	February 1
ETSU	February 15
Freed-Hardeman University.....	March 1
Lipscomb University.....	March 1

MTSU	December 15
Motlow State Community College.....	March 1
Rhodes College.....	January 15
Sewanee University of the South.....	December 9
TSU.....	July 1
Tennessee Tech University.....	December 15
University of Memphis.....	March 1
UT Chattanooga.....	February 1 (Preferred Deadline – December 15)
UT Knoxville.....	November 1
UT Martin.....	February 1
Vanderbilt University.....	December 1
FAFSA.....	May 1 (Cannot be completed until after Jan. 1)
Tennessee Lottery Scholarship.....	May 1

Additional Scholarships

Most outside scholarships (those that are not based on academics and connected to a college or university) are for students with exceptional abilities or talents. Examples of these abilities are leadership, athletics, music, and community service. To receive scholarships, students must dedicate themselves to a scholarship search and to applying for scholarships. We encourage students to search for scholarships from different sources, some of which are listed below:

1. Organizations connected to your work or your parent’s work
2. Scholarship reference books: *Cassidy’s Scholarship Book, College Board Scholarship Handbook, and Petersen’s Sports Scholarship*
3. Academic, music, leadership , and athletic scholarships available through college financial aid offices and admissions offices
4. Departmental scholarships
5. Vocational Rehabilitation Services
6. Public libraries
7. ***Guidance newsletter available every week in your homeroom and on line at www.warrencountyhighschool.com click **WCHS**, click **news**, click **guidance*****
8. Local scholarship packets are available through the guidance office in December.
9. Websites
 - a. www.fastweb.com
 - b. www.edsouth.org
 - c. www.finaid.org
 - d. www.ed.gov/students
 - e. www.college-scholarships.com
 - f. www.fastaid.com
 - g. www.scholarship-page.com

The following guaranteed scholarship programs are available at area state universities.

MTSU	29 ACT	3.75GPA (weighted) = \$4000 per year
TN Tech	31 ACT	3.75 GPA (weighted as per TTU policy) = \$4000 per year
UTC	30 ACT	3.75 GPA (unweighted) = \$5500 per year
UTK	29 ACT	3.75 GPA (weighted as per UTK policy) = \$3000 per year
UT Martin	28 ACT	3.5 GPA (unweighted) = \$ 3000 per year

Local Scholarships

Many local scholarships are available to seniors. These applications are in a collective packet and are available in December. In the past, the following scholarships have been offered by local individuals, businesses, and organizations:

AAUW	McMinnville Lions Club
ADK	Morrison Ruritan
Ben Banerjee Soccer	Noon Exchange
Breakfast Rotary	Nora Ausbrook
Bridgestone Firestone	Patti Clarke Pioneerette
Deanna Grayson Memorial	Phil Hyatt Memorial
Dr. Pepper	Retired Teachers'
Edscholar	River Park
Harriet Reams, Marguerite Gregory	Robert H. Jones
Homeland Community Bank	Rotary Club
James C. Hailey	Russell Watson
James H. Mansfield Jr. Memorial	Security Federal
Evening Exchange	Vara Gray
Leadership Warren Youth	Spencer Lively Scholarship
Joe Stewart Education	Sportsmen & Businessmen Org.
Joe Stewart Basketball	Tuck Bigbee Memorial
Jonah Fitch	WC A&L Youth Fair Board
Leonard Gwyn Jr. Memorial	WC Family & Community Education
Masonic Lodge	WC Middle School Student Council
McMinnville Jaycees Shannon Moore	WCEA

A scholarship ceremony is held each year during the spring. Decisions regarding the recipients of each particular scholarship are made by the individuals or organization sponsors of the scholarship. Scholarship decisions are not made by the school counselors or the school administration. Often times the guidance office is not notified if a student receives a scholarship. **We ask all students to inform us of any scholarships that they have won so that they may be recognized during the scholarship ceremony.**

Preparing for College

1. Be sure that you have taken the courses needed for college success and admission.
2. Scores on the ACT are the single most important qualification for an academic scholarship and play an important role in receiving an athletic scholarship. Be sure to take and re-take the test to meet qualifications for scholarships and avoid taking remedial courses.
3. Prepare a resume or activities record.
4. Use numerous sources to find information on scholarships. Fastweb.com is an excellent source of scholarship information. Listen to announcements and *read the weekly Guidance newsletter*. Also check the school website at www.warrencountyhighschool.com under guidance.
5. Learn about the scholarships and financial aid available at your selected colleges or universities.
6. Attend College Night (October 9, 2007). Bring your parents and encourage them to ask questions. Get to know the admissions representatives. Meet with them at every opportunity; call and e-mail them. Remember that meeting deadlines is your responsibility.
7. Make application to your schools. Visit with former students to get their perspective of the college. Attend the school's pre-view day. View campuses via the internet at www.campustours.com
8. Complete the transcript request form so that your transcript can be mailed. Bring counselor recommendation forms to guidance early. A week notice is necessary for a written recommendation. Remember you must apply at the college before receiving a scholarship or any form of financial aid. Consider applying to Honors Programs.
9. Save copies of all letters from colleges. Call the college or university with any questions you may have.
10. Complete the NCAA clearinghouse form if you intend to participate in athletics at a Division I or Division II college. Applications are on line at www.naaclearinghouse.net
11. Apply for federal aid by completing the FAFSA as soon after January 1 as possible. Some grants are available on a first-come basis. Be sure your parents file their income tax early and keep copies of all information. FAFSA forms will be available in December.
12. After you receive your Student Aid Report (will receive after completing FAFSA forms), arrange a meeting with the university's financial aid office.

13. Be sure to reserve a dorm room.
14. Before the scholarship ceremony, report all scholarship offers to the Senior Guidance Counselor.
15. Prior to graduation, complete the final transcript request form.
16. Participate in orientation programs offered at colleges during the summer.
17. Write thank you notes, especially for local scholarships.

Time Line

August

- Review your high school course work.
- Review your career plans and decide which type of school is right for you.
- Visit some college campuses.
- Narrow your college list to 3-5 schools.
- Request catalogs and admission information.
- Register for the ACT and/or SAT (Packets are available in the guidance office or on-line).

September

- Meet with college admissions representatives who are visiting your school.
- Make a list of test names, dates, fees, registration deadlines, and of deadlines for college admissions and financial aid applications.
- Remember that you must take test like the SAT and ACT at least six weeks before the deadline for scores to be submitted to colleges.
- Begin asking teachers, counselors, and employers for letters of recommendation to include with your admissions and/or scholarship applications.
- Begin preparing your college applications. Check with the colleges to find out when materials must be postmarked.

October

- Take the ACT or SAT exam.
- Visit your top school choices. Interview some students, faculty and staff.
- Attend school programs for college planning.
- Find out which financial aid applications your college choices require and when the forms are due
- Some private universities may require that you register for CSS/Financial Aid Profile at this time. (This determines your qualification for private school aid.)
- Attend college night on Oct. 9th from 5:00-7:00 in the Civic Center.

November

- ❑ Obtain financial aid applications from your guidance office or college of choice. Read them carefully to determine what information is required and when the applications are due.
- ❑ Apply for outside funding and scholarships.

December

- ❑ Pick up a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in the counseling office or apply on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov. This can not be submitted prior to January 1.
- ❑ Parents: Save your year-end payroll stub if it shows your earnings for the year. You may need it for financial aid eligibility reviews by schools.

January

- ❑ Submit your completed FAFSA to the processor as soon after January 1 as possible.
- ❑ KEEP COPIES OF ALL FORMS YOU SUBMIT.
- ❑ Parents: It is helpful to get your income tax returns prepared early---schools may request them to prove eligibility for financial aid.

February

- ❑ Request transcripts from the counseling office, to be sent to colleges to which you have applied.
- ❑ Mail your FAFSA if you have not already done so.

March

- ❑ Look for your Student Aid Report (SAR) in the mail. Your SAR contains federal financial aid information.
- ❑ Submit SAR and tax forms to the financial aid office of the college if requested. Contact each office to make certain that your application is complete. Find out what else you need to do to establish and maintain your eligibility for financial aid.

April

- ❑ Watch the mail for college acceptance and financial aid award letters. Compare the financial aid awards you receive.
- ❑ Make your final decision and send in a deposit by the deadline.
- ❑ Check with the college you've chosen about the details of signing and returning financial aid award letters.
- ❑ Notify the other schools that you will not be attending.
- ❑ Watch for important deadlines at your chosen college (housing, financial aid, etc.)

May

- ❑ Take AP examinations.
- ❑ Finalize summer school or summer job plans.
- ❑ Talk with parents about what type of budget you will be on during your freshman year.
- ❑ Graduate from High School.