

## **Preparing for College Checklist**

### **SENIOR YEAR**

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- Review your career plans. Make decisions regarding post-secondary education.
- Visit your school guidance counselor to see if you are on track for college.
- Continue college search and acquire admission applications to selected colleges.
- Meet with admissions representatives who are visiting your school.
- Narrow your college list to three or five schools.
- Ask teachers, guidance counselors and employers for letters of recommendation to include with your admissions and/or scholarship applications.
- Work on college applications and outline essay topics.
- Organize your calendar with deadlines.
- Check your transcript for correct credits.
- Finalize resume. Develop and organize a scholarship folder.
- Begin to apply for available scholarships: Have adequate supply of senior photos.
- Apply for ROTC scholarships.
- Register by mail or online for the ACT, SAT I, SAT II: Subject Tests.
- Continue checking your school's scholarship bulletin and apply for scholarships that you are interested in and qualified for.

#### **OCTOBER**

- Apply to colleges with early admission application deadlines by November.
- Continue the college application process and visit schools.
- Attend post-secondary school rep meetings at your campus.
- Attend EGUSD College and Career Night
- Mail ROTC and military academy applications.
- Figure out which financial aid applications your college choices require and when the forms are due.

#### **NOVEMBER**

- Last chance to register by mail for ACT/SAT I. These test scores are a requirement for most scholarships.
- Obtain financial aid applications from your counseling office or college of choice.

#### **DECEMBER**

- Plan to attend Financial Aid Night at a local high school.
- Pick up (FAFSA) Free Application for Federal Student Aid at your counseling center.
- Continue to apply for scholarships.

## **JANUARY**

- Complete FAFSA online or mail as soon after January 1 as possible.
- Rank your final list of colleges.
- Students should check with their career center to make sure that their Cal Grant GPA verification form has been sent.

## **FEBRUARY**

- Request that the school registrar send your seventh semester transcript to the college(s) where you have applied and which require this record.

## **MARCH**

- Continue to apply for scholarships and notify your counselor of scholarships or awards.
- Look for your Student Aid Report (SAR) in the mail. Your SAR contains federal financial aid information.
- Submit your SAR to the financial aid office and tax forms as 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.
- Keep copies of everything you submit to the financial aid office.

## **APRIL**

- Complete a Senior Survey, and continue to notify your counselor of scholarships.
- Watch the mail for acceptance letters and financial aid award letters.
- Compare the financial aid awards you receive.
- Choose a school and send in a deposit by 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 such as housing, financial aid, etc. at your chosen college.

## **MAY**

- Last chance to notify your counselor of scholarships or outstanding academic awards.
- Attend awards night and graduation.
- Remember to thank scholarship donors, teachers, and others who have helped you.
- Request that the high school registrar mail a final copy of your official transcript to the college of your choice.
- Register for college summer orientation programs.