

SCOTT CITY HIGH SCHOOL

SENIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

Make the most of your senior year while taking care of business. There are crucial timelines that must be followed to maximize your experience and your money. The following is a list of suggested timeline activities that you may wish to use.

FALL (Aug-Nov)

- Complete your list of college finalists. Determine which schools best suit your needs and meet your criteria: Size, Cost, Location, A+ and other Scholarships
- Be mindful of all application deadlines. Many schools have December 1st deadlines for merit scholarship/endowment scholarship applications. Be sure to check your college websites for these specific deadlines.
- Schedule an appointment with your guidance counselor to gain assistance completing applications if needed. Many scholarship applications require essays and that you identify any community/school service organizations. Have the list ready for your meeting with the counselor.
- Make sure you are or have completed or registered for any or all required entrance exams: examples are ACT, SAT, or COMPASS. Most national college entrance assessments have registration deadlines as well and are on the ACT or SAT websites.
- Review your entrance scores to make certain they meet criteria for programs/schools you are interested in.
- Review your high school coursework with the counselor to ensure you meet all requirements for program/school entrance.
- Attend a college fair where you can obtain information to compare schools of interest. We attend the Southeast Missouri Regional College Fair in Oct. each year.
- Request that your "Unofficial" transcript be sent to the schools you are applying to. Official and final transcripts will be sent upon completion of coursework and following graduation. Most transcripts are mailed or electronically sent to schools at the end of June.

WINTER (Dec-Feb)

- Schedule any college visits/interviews if you have not already completed these.
- Complete your FAFSA online (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) To ensure you are eligible for all grants and loans, try to have this completed no later than April 1st. For more information on this program visit www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Try to take part in a FAFSA FRENZY program at the college or university you wish to attend. Financial aid representatives will assist in application completion.
- Have your parents and your completed tax returns ready for FAFSA completion before April 1st. If you complete these as early as possible, you may be able to utilize the IRS tax retrieval tool when completing the FAFSA.

- Look at all options for the schools you are considering after you have received your financial aid award notifications. Compare which school you can attend with the least amount of loans. Remember, they have to be paid back.
- Continue to check your e mails for FAFSA notifications of award or verification status.
SPRING (March-May)
- Once you have received your admission responses and potential financial aid packages from your selected colleges, make an informed decision on the best fit for you.
- Contact your choice of college and verify your financial aid.
- Schedule a tour of the college you most wish to attend if you have not already done so.
- Review options for dates, times, places of required college orientations. These must be scheduled in advance and often are “first come, first served” basis.
- If you will be living on campus, make sure you pay close attention to deposit deadlines so you are ensured proper housing.
- Let the counseling office know where to send your final transcripts post graduation
- Review your status online at the college of choice. Determine if there are any pieces of information missing. Checking at least weekly online with your student ID numbers is essential to ensure all deadlines are met.
- Meet again with your counselor to double check all requirements for graduation are in order.

As always, please visit your counselor with questions or concerns. We are happy to assist you and your student in the planning process.