



This Is A Big Year!
Make Sure Nothing Gets Overlooked!

FALL

- Meet with your counselor to verify everything is in order for you to graduate and to meet college entrance requirements.
- Narrow your list of potential colleges, schools or programs to your top three or four and visit them. Find out about admissions requirements, the application process, housing, scholarships, financial aid and deadlines. Apply to more than one school with different levels of admission requirements to give yourself options.
- You can register to retake ACT or SAT exams if you want to improve your score. Look into a test preparation course.
- Search for scholarships and ask your counselor for suggestions. Improve your chances by applying early. Never pay a fee for scholarship money.
- Begin writing essays for college and scholarship applications. Ask teachers and counselors to write letters of recommendation.
- If you plan to play any Division 1 or 2 college sports, register with the NCAA Clearinghouse to ensure your eligibility.
- Keep your grades up and don't slack off in math! This is an important year to get ready for college-level coursework.

WINTER

- The application deadline for many schools is between January 15 and March 1. However, some open admissions colleges only require registration by the time fall classes begin.
- Fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) by April 1 to be eligible for financial assistance, such as Access Missouri (www.dhe.mo.gov/accessmo.shtml). You will be notified when your Student Aid Report (SAR) is ready; it states the amount of aid for which you are eligible.

SPRING

- Stay in extra-curricular activities like sports, drama or student organizations. Leadership roles as a senior can provide you with valuable experience and skills.
- Explore your career interests. Consider a part-time job with a company that hires people in the occupation that interests you. Knowing an employer who hires apprentices or a person in the occupation of your choice may be helpful.
- Attend College Goal Sunday, Feb. 8, 2009, for help filling out the FAFSA. See www.collegegoalmissouri.org for more information.
- Contact the schools to which you submitted applications. Make sure they have what they need from you and follow up with any missing items.
- If you applied to schools in January and February, begin looking for admissions decisions in the mail in March and April.
- Review your college acceptances and compare financial aid packages.
- When you decide which school you will attend, notify that school and submit any required financial deposit.
- If you took any Advanced Placement courses, consider taking the AP tests in May in order to qualify for college credit.
- After the end of the school term, send your final high school transcript to the school you plan to attend.

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