



College Planning Checklist – Senior Year  
 Myrtle Beach High School  
 School Counseling Department  
 843-488-7149

August
<input type="checkbox"/> Narrow your college list to about six schools and request application materials.
<input type="checkbox"/> If you have not already taken them, register for the September ACT and or October SAT.
<input type="checkbox"/> Keep in mind that colleges look for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenging coursework</li> <li>• Strong GPA</li> <li>• Strong SAT or ACT Scores</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Begin asking teachers, counselors, coaches, and employees for letters of recommendation for your admissions and/or scholarship applications.
<input type="checkbox"/> Start planning campus visits to the colleges on your list.
September
<input type="checkbox"/> Make sure you have all applications required for college admissions and financial aid. Phone or use the internet to obtain missing materials.
<input type="checkbox"/> Make a list of test names, dates, fees, registration deadlines, financial aid application deadlines, and various deadlines for your top colleges.
<input type="checkbox"/> Take the ACT if necessary
<input type="checkbox"/> Work on application essays, and <b>APPLY NOW!!! (for the most competitive colleges)</b>
October
<input type="checkbox"/> Take ACT, SAT I, and SAT II exams if necessary.
<input type="checkbox"/> If possible, visit the top colleges on your list. Click on “College Fairs” on NACAC’s website ( <a href="http://www.nacac.com">www.nacac.com</a> ) for more information
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>If applying for early decision APPLY NOW!!!! (before October 15 for most colleges)</b> Also, prepare applications for back-up schools.
<input type="checkbox"/> Continue researching scholarships and grants and complete financial aid applications through FAFSA
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit your top school choices if possible. Interview former students, faculty, and coaches if possible.
<input type="checkbox"/> Attend college fairs and financial aid nights when offered.
November
<input type="checkbox"/> Complete financial aid applications if you haven’t already done so.
<input type="checkbox"/> Check scholarship deadlines (contact your counselor if you believe you qualify for Palmetto Fellows Scholarship)
<input type="checkbox"/> Take SAT I and/or SAT II subject exams.
<input type="checkbox"/> Be sure to keep your grades up. Some schools require your first semester grades to make an admissions decision.
<input type="checkbox"/> Continue completing college applications. <b>APPLY NOW!!!!</b> Save copies of all your application materials.
<input type="checkbox"/> Keep all records, test scores reports and copies of applications for admissions and financial aid. DO NOT throw away anything until the end of your freshman year of college. Having detailed records will save you time and stress if anything is lost or your decide to apply to additional schools or scholarships.
<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor your applications to be sure that all materials are received on time and that your file is complete at your school. <b>TIME IS RUNNING OUT so, APPLY NOW!!!!</b>

College Planning Websites	
<a href="http://www.studentaid.gov">www.studentaid.gov</a> <a href="http://www.fastweb.com">www.fastweb.com</a> <a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a> <a href="http://www.sccango.org">www.sccango.org</a>	<a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a> <a href="http://www.princetonreview.com">www.princetonreview.com</a> <a href="http://www.anycollege.com">www.anycollege.com</a> <a href="http://www.scholarships.com">www.scholarships.com</a>



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December
<input type="checkbox"/> Take ACT, SAT, and or SAT II exams if necessary.
<input type="checkbox"/> Research and apply for private scholarships and grants.
<input type="checkbox"/> If you applied for early decision, you should have an answer by now.
January
<input type="checkbox"/> Do your best to avoid Senioritis!!!
<input type="checkbox"/> Keep working in all your classes! Grades and courses continue to count throughout your senior year.
<input type="checkbox"/> Parents and students: Get your income tax returns prepared early because some schools may request them to prove eligibility for financial aid and you need this information for FAFSA.
February
<input type="checkbox"/> Make sure your FAFSA has been submitted by February 15 <sup>th</sup> .
<input type="checkbox"/> Complete scholarship applications. Links are available on the Myrtle Beach High School Guidance page. You may be eligible for more scholarships than you think so <b>apply for as many as you can.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoy your final year, but don't catch Senioritis. College admission decisions are based on the assumption that you will continue to maintain good grades. A sharp drop in your grades can result in an offer of admission being cancelled.
March
<input type="checkbox"/> If you completed the FAFSA, look for your Student Aid Report (SAR) about four weeks later. Review your SAR for accuracy. If there are any errors, make corrections and return it.
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit signed tax forms, if requested to the financial aid office. Contact each office to find out what else is needed to establish and maintain eligibility for financial aid.
<input type="checkbox"/> Continue applying for scholarships.
April
<input type="checkbox"/> Finalize your summer job plans because you will need money for books and supplies in a few months.
<input type="checkbox"/> Check your mail and email for college acceptance letters. Review the financial aid awards you receive.
<input type="checkbox"/> Make your final decision and submit your deposits by the college's deadline. You may want to notify other schools that you will not be attending.
<input type="checkbox"/> Watch for important deadlines at your chosen college (housing, financial aid, etc...)
<input type="checkbox"/> Share your final college admissions choice with your school counselor.
May
<input type="checkbox"/> Take AP/IB exams
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit Scholarship Acceptance forms to your school counselor by May 1 <sup>st</sup> .
<input type="checkbox"/> Make sure you have responded to your Financial Aid Award Notices at your respective college.
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit your list of monetary awards and/or scholarships to your school counselor ASAP
<input type="checkbox"/> Request your final NCAA transcript from Guidance for your chosen college.
<input type="checkbox"/> Congratulations! Enjoy your graduations and look forward to college.
June
<input type="checkbox"/> Complete any remaining financial aid and housing forms.
<input type="checkbox"/> Make sure you save money over the summer.
<input type="checkbox"/> E-mail your teachers and counselors in the fall to let them know how things are going for you.
July
<input type="checkbox"/> Look for information in the mail from the college about housing, roommate(s), orientation, course selection, etc... Respond to all requests from the college immediately.

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