College Application Checklist

My College Search Calendar: Senior Year

As you continue your college search, use this list to stay on top of important milestones in the process. You can add questions, updates, or important deadlines here as a reminder.

Notes

FIRST SEMESTER		Notes
	Take charge in your extracurricular activities and continue to demonstrate leadership	
	Check in with teachers, employers, community members or coaches you've asked for recommendations – provide them with materials and deadlines	
	Make plans with your family to complete the FAFSA after it opens on October 1st. Review the CSS Profile or other college-specific financial aid applications that may be required.	
	Order and send your high school transcript (and ACT or SAT scores, if applicable) to all the colleges you're applying to	
	Submit all application materials before deadlines and monitor your email or applicant portal	
	Confirm materials have been received by colleges, including letters of recommendation, official test scores, transcripts, etc.	

Notes

AFTER WINTER BREAK		Notes
	Apply to any additional colleges you're still considering	
	Keep your grades up as you wait to hear decisions from schools	
	Kick scholarship search into full gear using bit.ly/greenlight-student	
	Participate in virtual or in-person visits where you've been admitted to help make a final decision	
	Keep an eye out for financial aid award letters around April and consider appealing if your family circumstances have changed	
	Decide on a college officially confirm your enrollment no later than May 1	
	Celebrate your college choice!	

Best of luck on your college search and congratulations on graduation!

Speak the Language: College Admissions

If you're not familiar with the college admissions process, it probably seems like it has a language all its own. To help you learn the lingo, here are definitions of some common college admission terms.

▶ **Acceptance Rate:** The percentage of applicants a college accepts for admission.

▶ **Accreditation:** Certification that a college meets the standards of a state, regional, or national association.

▶ **Candidates Reply Date Agreement (CRDA):** This agreement, sponsored by the National Association for College Admission Counseling, states that in order to allow students to consider all their college options, students have until May 1 to accept any college's offer of admission.

▶ **Common Application:** Standardized application forms accepted by many colleges. After you fill out the Common, Coalition, or Universal Application, you can send it to any college that accepts it as the institution's own application.

▶ **Competitive College**: A college with a rigorous, highly selective admissions process. Competitive colleges typically admit fewer than 25 percent of applicants.

▶ **Deferred Admission:** A student's option to defer an offer of admission for one or more terms.

▶ **Fit Factor:** A desired characteristic of the college experience that you are seeking; a characteristic you wish to research as you assess potential colleges.

▶ **Holistic Admissions:** A qualitative and quantitative selection process that relies on context from the student's family, educational, geographic, and other experiences.

▶ **Personal Statement:** Sometimes referred to as a college application essay, personal statements are essays that give admissions officers insights into your character, personality, and motivation.

▶ **Reach School:** Schools that typically accept students with higher GPAs or stronger academic rigor.

▶ **Retention Rate:** The percentage of students who return to a college for their sophomore year. An indicator of student satisfaction and success.

▶ **Likely School:** Schools that you're excited about and feel confident in your chance of admission.

▶ **Student-Faculty Ratio:** The number of students at a college compared to the number of faculty. Some colleges see this as an indicator of class size and professor accessibility, but a lower ratio doesn't guarantee either. For a true indication of class size and professor accessibility, speak with students and professors at that college.

▶ **Supplemental Material:** Items you include with your college application to provide more information about your talents, experiences, and goals. Materials could include work samples, additional essays, or art portfolios. Verify if a college welcomes (or requests) these materials before sending.

▶ **Target School:** Schools with students whose GPA and rigor of high school courses are similar to yours. A bit more competitive institution where you are possibly admissible.

▶ **Transcript:** A record of classes you have taken and the grades you received. Usually, you must provide an official high school transcript with your college application.

▶ **Waitlist:** A list of students a college may eventually decide to admit if space becomes available.

College Greenlight Fit Fact: More than half of all students enrolling said a "very important reason" for going to college was "to find my purpose in life." Go to bit.ly/greenlight-student today to see which colleges match your fit factors. It's free and easy!

College Application Checklist

To help you find the right college, fill out one of these checklists each time you visit a school.

College Name

[   ]

Admissions Contact

Name	Email	Phone
[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

Application

Application Deadline   **Application Fee**

[   ]   [$]

Fee waiver available?   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

Date Application Submitted

[   ]

Cost

Tuition   _____
Room & board   **+**   _____
Financial aid   **-**   _____
Total   **$**   _____

Application Materials

☐ Transcript sent
☐ Activity list/Resume
☐ Application proofread
☐ Essay(s) written
☐ Essay(s) proofread
☐ Essay(s) proofread again
☐ Test scores sent
☐ Application copied and filed

Pre-Application

☐ Discussed with family
☐ Discussed with advisor
☐ Visited campus

School Type

☐ Likely
☐ Target
☐ Reach

Financial Aid/Scholarships

FORM	DEADLINE	COMPLETED
FAFSA	_____	☐
CSS Profile	_____	☐
Other Financial Document	_____	☐

Letters of Recommendation

REQUESTED FROM	DATE	SUBMITTED
_____	_____	☐
_____	_____	☐
_____	_____	☐

Additional Information

☐ Portfolio (if required)   ☐ Supplement   ☐ Interview

Application Portal Information

[   ]

Don't miss out on colleges that want you. Go to bit.ly/greenlight-student to find your matches. It's free and easy!

eab.com