

Senior To Do List for College:

Basics of the College Admission Process – 2022 Graduate To-Do List

Retake the SAT/ACT, if desired

- Dates for these tests and deadlines for registration are posted on the CollegeBoard website [SAT] at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat> and the ACT website at <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/registration.html>
- Be aware of deadlines and dates scores will be available; registration deadlines are about 4 weeks before the test and scores are typically returned 2 weeks after testing.
- Orleans HS CEEB# is **152700** (school code) for both the SAT and ACT. Students will use this code.

Little things to prep

- Have a good email that you check OFTEN; this may or may not be your school account but 1) remember you will lose your school account when you graduate and 2) if you use another email make sure it is a respectable name (no hotstuff@gmail.com, for example!).
- Start a list of logins and passwords for all the websites and accounts you will be making during this process; just saving them to your Chromebook will do you no good when you graduate and do not have the Chromebook but need to log in to an account! You might want to use the app SecureSafe, it gives you the ability to save up to 50 passwords for free; HOWEVER, they will not send you a forgotten password so make sure you write down this login and password information in a safe place!
- Start making a list of activities you have participated in during HS, including hours spent doing them and any awards and/or leadership positions you held with that group. Don't forget to include community groups (like 4-H and OC Youth Foundation and church youth groups).
- Start making a list of volunteer activities you have participated in during HS, including hours and the organization you did the volunteer work through (it can be listed as SELF if you did it on your own).
- Start a folder or binder to keep all your college materials together.
- Create a spreadsheet with due dates and events for each college you are interested in so you don't miss out on a scholarship or admission.
- Go on your last college visits this year; check with your choice schools to see if they are doing in-person visits, and then get signed up and put them on your calendar if they do ASAP! Stop by the Office to get a College Visit form a week prior to your visit to be able to use a college visit day.

Apply online

- Apply to the school(s) of your choice online at the college/university website, or via the Common Application (if applicable). Once you have submitted your application electronically, complete a Transcript Request through Parchment. Your school counselor will process your transcript and a Secondary School Report (counselor recommendation), if needed. A student brag sheet must be on file with the Guidance Office.
- If you need letters of recommendation, you may request those from teachers, coaches, counselors, or other community members of your choice. Remember to give recommenders at least a two-week notice in order to complete a thorough letter of recommendation.
- Inform Guidance of your college acceptances and scholarship offers for Awards Day! You can drop off copies the colleges send you.

Scholarships

- Opportunities may be posted online through the counseling website, Google Classroom, announcements, and in-person through the counseling office. Typically Fall is the time to apply for national scholarships and Spring (around March) is the time to apply for local scholarships. Scholarships through your schools of interest may have different deadlines; you will need to refer to their website for information.

College Representatives

- The Guidance Office will schedule and announce these visits.
- Sign up on the sign-up sheets in the Guidance Office to meet with representatives, if applicable.
- Check Google Classroom, announcements, the OHSschoolcounselor website under Colleges, or the Guidance Secretary to see the schools that will be visiting.

College Campus Visits

- These are limited to one school day in 11th grade and two school days in 12th grade; other visits can be scheduled on free days, holidays, etc. Students must be on track to graduate and passing his/her classes. See the Student Handbook for process for going on a college visit.
- Select “non-critical” days (i.e. exam days are critical).
- Confirm the date with the college you plan to visit.
- Use your days wisely--it is important to investigate the schools that you are seriously considering.
- Take a list of questions you want to ask.

Financial Aid

- FAFSA must be completed online at www.fafsa.ed.gov; not available until October 1.
- Student and Parent/Guardian must create a FSA ID to confirm identity. Click [HERE](#).
- FAFSA forms are due to the federal processor by April 15. Some universities choose earlier deadlines. Know your school’s deadlines.
- You will need to do this EVERY year (but the first year it takes the longest to complete).
- Some schools also require a form known as the PROFILE and/or a supplemental FAF in order to award financial aid. Schools will vary in what they will have you fill out--be sure to fill all paperwork out before the deadline.