

COLLEGE PREP - SENIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

August

Determine your career interests and decide which colleges you are researching best suits your needs.

Request admission, scholarship and financial aid information from these schools of interest.

Meet with college admission counselors visiting MNW. Check in the guidance area for this info.

Attend an area college fair if available

Research military education benefits if interested.

September

If you're in the top 15% of your class, check about applying for the State of Iowa Scholarship Program.

Begin asking for recommendations from those that you have chosen to write them for you.

Meet with college admission counselors visiting MNW. Check in the guidance area for this info.

October ACT test is given, must have registered in August

If you haven't taken the ACT or retaking-registration for Oct. test is due now.

October

If you have taken the ACT or SAT, check if you are in the 21-25 score range to improve scholarship

Start visiting top 3 colleges you are interested in
Download "Make the Most of Your Visit" @ icansucceed.org

Meet with college admission counselors visiting MNW. Check in the guidance area for this info

October ACT test is given, must have registered in September

Attend financial aid night at MNW College Access Network (ICAN)

November

Begin submitting applications to colleges of your choice and request any financial aid assistance at this time from them.

Begin scholarship search at MNW Guidance homepage, www.icansucceed.org, and at colleges of your choice.

If you haven't taken the ACT or retaking-registration for Nov. test is due now.

Start comparing and contrasting home life vs. college life and what you are going to need to save money up for.

December

Really focus on academics and your final exams as your senior grades can have a real impact on admittance to college.

Print a FAFSA pre-application work sheet off from www.fafsa.ed.org. Begin looking at this. PARENTS-Be sure to save your year end payroll stub to enable you to get a head start on completing the FAFSA early. This is a top priority for financial aid.

December ACT test is given, must have registered in November.

Attend financial aid night put on by Iowa College Access Network (ICAN) @ MNW

January

SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY JANUARY 1. This is critical for financial aid. File online @ www.fafsa.ed.org

Remember to keep copies of all documents and keep PIN # you were given

FREE SERVICE to aid in completing FAFSA is available at ICAN college access network. Call for appointment @ www.icansucceed.org

If you haven't taken the ACT or retaking-registration for Feb. test is due now.

February

Parents: Get your federal income tax completed ASAP as they may be needed to determine financial aid.

Ask school counselor to send of transcripts with 1st semester grades.

A lot of scholarship deadlines are approaching. Be sure to check the MNW scholarship page on Guidance homepage. **Applications for local scholarships are now available in the Guidance Office as well.**

If you haven't taken the ACT or retaking-registration for March. test is due now.

March

Being watching for SAR (Student Aid Report) from colleges chosen. This will show financial aid package offers.

Be prepared to submit an copy of your federal tax return to the colleges of your choice.

Check with admissions & financial office to see if all paperwork is in order

March ACT test is given, must have registered in August

Deadline for local scholarships is due this month so be sure all forms are completed and turned into the Guidance Office.

April

If you have not made a final decision on colleges, compare schools and financial aid packages each have to offer

Try to finalize your decision on college you will be attending. Complete paperwork with them including acceptance letter

Notify other colleges you were interested in that you will not be attending

If you need a student loan, complete paperwork with your lender

April ACT test is given, must have registered in August

May

Focus on your final exams and final grades

June

Check with your college of choice about enrollment

July

Contact your roommate at college

Focus on your final exams and final grades as this can greatly affect your final GPA.
Submit all graduation forms to HS office including where you would like your final transcripts sent. MNW will do this automatically.
Double check again with financial aid and admissions offices of your college to be sure all necessary documents are in order.
Last chance to take or retake your ACT is in June and must register for it now.

Check with your college of choice about Freshmen orientation dates and make plans to attend this. This is a great opportunity to meet roommates, see your dorm rooms and get a chance to meet with advisors and admission people.
Work on setting up a budget for college and review it with your parents.
Send thank your's to all those that gave you scholarships/graduation gifts.
June ACT test is given, must have registered in may

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Beware of credit card applic scams, you will be receiv these. Talk to your parents for any of these c
A great source to help hav college experience is the IC and you and parents can si www.icansucceed.c

UPDATED:
2/10/09

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