

SENIOR YEAR CHECKLIST

12th Grade (Senior Year) - Fall

- SENIOR PARENT NIGHT (see [guidance calendar](#) for dates and times)
- Obtain college applications or apply online.
- Visit colleges in which you are interested, attend College Representative presentations at BHS. Seniors have 2 school days available to visit colleges. These days are not counted against your exam exemption.
- If you are planning to play a sport in college, register with the NCAA at www.eligibilitycenter.org . Transcripts can be requested through electronic delivery at the time you register. Just follow the directions given to you by NCAA.
- Complete college applications no later than Thanksgiving.
- Get required recommendations (allow two weeks). Follow up with a “Thank you” to that person. Try to obtain recommendation letters from people who see you in different capacities such as employer, coach, teacher, youth group leader, volunteer coordinator, etc. Show what makes you special outside of being a student: community service, outside school activities, honors, jobs and special skills. Especially important is a recommendation from an academic teacher that you have impressed with your hard work, intelligence, creativity and ability to think about complex topics.
- Write first drafts of application essays and ask teachers, parents, and friends to read and critique them.
- Complete your Senior Meeting with your counselor in the fall. Double check that you have met your requirements for your diploma track.
- Take the SAT/ACT in October or November if still needed.
- Order Cap and Gowns for graduation and any other graduation supplies wanted. (Invitations, memory items, etc.)
- Start your scholarship search - See recommended web sites. Applications start arriving in the Guidance Office in October and are available in the Guidance Office in the binder.

12th Grade (Senior Year) - Winter

- Apply for your FAFSA pin number in December by going to www.pin.ed.gov *. This allows you to complete your FASFA on their website in January.
- If you are interested in applying for the Lilly Endowment Scholarship, see the Guidance Office.
- Attend the FAFSA day at BHS for students and parents.
- Complete your FAFSA form by the required date.
- Complete the Blackford Community Foundation scholarship application by the March 1st deadline.
- Make sure the counseling office has sent any required 7th semester transcripts to colleges if required—or request them to be sent on www.parchment.com .

- If you did not pass any required courses for graduation during the first semester, see your counselor about taking those courses again.

12th Grade (Senior Year) - Spring

- Inform Guidance of any scholarships you receive.
- Tell every college you applied to of your acceptance or rejection of their offer of admission or financial aid by May 1. It is just as important to tell colleges you are not attending as it is to let them know you will attend.
- Send your initial deposit to the college you choose. Don't delay on locking in your dorm preferences.
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12th Grade (Senior Year) - Summer

- Tell the Guidance Department where to send your final transcripts.
- Finalize financial aid awards paperwork.
- Read carefully all orientation and registration materials provided by your chosen university.
- Start gathering items needed for your freshman year of college. Pay attention to the recommendations from your college/university on how to handle the first year of college.