

Senior Year College Planning Calendar

<http://mappingyourfuture.org/>

During your senior year, you will finalize your college choice. This year is filled with admission applications, scholarship essays, financial aid information and the need to meet deadlines. Throughout your senior year, continue to build your resume by achieving academic success, as well as participating in extracurricular activities. Colleges are very interested in well-rounded students.

The college preparation that takes place during your senior year is filled with a lot of details and paperwork. It is very important that you involve your [parents](#) with this process.

Calendar

Check LHS website www.lburg.k12.in.us every month for updated senior newsletter for scholarship information.

Junior year

- Review your career plans and [decide which type of postsecondary school](#) is best for you.
- Save money from your summer job for college.
- List your top college choices.
- Go on college visits.
- Obtain registration materials and test dates for the [Scholastic Aptitude Test \(SAT\)](#) and/or [ACT assessment](#).
- Compare costs of each school that interests you by contacting the colleges by phone, mail, or via their websites.

August

- Mark your calendar with registration, admissions, and financial aid deadlines and fees.
- Determine if the schools that interest you have online admission applications and or the Common App.
- Meet with school representatives who visit your high school.
- Look at virtual tours of college campuses online.
- If you haven't already taken the [SAT](#) and/or [ACT](#), register for the test(s).
- Attend college planning and/or financial aid information nights and college fairs.
- Ask employers, teachers, and guidance counselors for letters of recommendation to accompany your admissions applications.

September

- Take the [SAT](#) and/or [ACT](#).
- [Work on your admissions essays](#).
- If you haven't already done so, attend college planning and/or financial aid information nights and college fairs.
- Visit your top school choices. If possible, make appointments with faculty, staff, and students.
- Complete applications for every scholarship for which you may be eligible.
- Make a folder for each of your college choices.
- Contact the schools' financial aid offices to determine which forms they require. Some schools may require special forms.
- Finalize portfolios, audition tapes, writing samples, or other evidence of talent if required for admission.

October

- Complete admissions applications by their deadlines.
- If you haven't already done so, attend college planning and/or financial aid information nights and college fairs.
- Sign up for a PIN, to complete your FAFSA online. (Also let your parents know that they will need a PIN.)
- If necessary, register to retake the [SAT](#) and/or [ACT](#).
- Request financial aid forms and applications. Double check the deadlines for submission.
- Follow up to ensure your employers, teachers, and guidance counselors send letters of recommendation.

November

- After October 1, [complete your FAFSA online](#) (or go to www.studentaid.ed.gov/fafsa to download a PDF version of the FAFSA). Keep copies of all documents, including your PIN, in a file.
- Contact the U.S. Department of Education at 800-4-FEDAID for assistance completing the FAFSA and/or plan to [attend a College Goal Sunday event](#) (free FAFSA advice) near you.
- College Goal Sunday events at Lawrenceburg Riverfront Ivy Tech – November 13 and February 12
- [Research and apply for other financial aid](#), including grants and scholarships.
- Watch for early admissions notices (they tend to arrive in December or January)

January

- Research Advanced Placement (AP) or College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams.
- Watch for the e-mail notice indicating your [Student Aid Report \(SAR\)](#) is ready.
- Review your SAR for errors and make any corrections as indicated.
- Rank your top school choices.

February

- Attend a College Goal Sunday event. February 12
- Check with the financial aid offices to ensure your paperwork is complete. Submit tax forms if they request them.
- Narrow your school choices and make campus visits.
- Be on the lookout for acceptance letters.
- Start looking for summer jobs.

March

- Compare financial aid award letters.
- Make your final school decision and mail deposits, as required.
- Check with the school you've chosen about returning financial aid award letters.
- Notify the schools you have chosen NOT to attend.
- Plan for registration, orientation, and housing, and mark your calendar with important dates.

April

- Be aware of any summer orientation sessions that you must attend at the school in which you will enroll, and make plans accordingly.
- Finalize your summer job plans, and make a plan for saving a portion of your summer earnings.
- Prepare a realistic [student budget](#).

May

- Notify your high school guidance office of your college selection and any scholarships received.
- Follow up with the financial aid office to ensure all paperwork is complete.

June

- Save money from your summer job.
- Send “thank you notes” to everyone who helped you plan and prepare for college.
- Make copies of your financial aid forms, health forms, etc for your files to aid in resolving future issues.

Congratulations! It's time to get ready to start college.