

## **Freeport High School Senior Timeline**

### **August – September**

- ☐ End your summer by finalizing your college list. Narrow your list to between 5 and 10. Meet with your school counselor to review your college list.
- ☐ Create a master list or calendar that includes:
  - Tests you'll take and their fees, dates and registration deadlines
  - College application due dates
  - Required financial aid application forms and their deadlines (aid applications may be due before college applications)
  - Your high school's application processing deadlines
- ☐ Apply for free/reduced lunch early.
- ☐ Now that you have an idea of where you want to go, visit prospective colleges and get a feel for the campuses.
- ☐ Consider options for early action or early decision programs and your recommendation letters.
- ☐ Register for college admissions tests, it's your last chance to take the SAT, ACT, or SAT subject tests! Request a fee waiver, if eligible.
- ☐ Fill out and complete your college applications and scholarships. Request a fee waiver, if eligible. Be aware of deadline dates. They may vary and it is essential to meet all deadlines!
- ☐ Review your applications, transcript, activities resume and college essays with your parents, school counselors and teachers to check for accuracy.
- ☐ Search for college applications directly on the college website: i.e., [www.cuny.edu](http://www.cuny.edu); [www.suny.edu](http://www.suny.edu)
- ☐ Ask for recommendation letters from teachers, school counselors, or advisors early in the year.
- ☐ Attend local college fairs. Speak to college representatives about admission into their school and remember to bring your updated resume.
- ☐ Attend Spanish Parent Night presentation for Spanish speaking parents and students.
- ☐ Attend Back to School Night with parents.
- ☐ Maintain high effort in coursework, clubs, and community service activities: quarter one and two grades are forwarded to colleges! Attend extra help as needed.
- ☐ Start your financial aid process by obtaining a FAFSA PIN at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov).

### **October**

- ☐ Continue working on college applications and maintaining high grades!!
- ☐ Continue working on your essays and be sure to have them proofread.
- ☐ Complete at least one college application by Thanksgiving.
- ☐ Attend Financial Aid Workshop
- ☐ Visit colleges you plan to apply to.
- ☐ Prepare for the SAT and/or ACT by using our online service- method test prep and the Khan Academy. Find the link by logging into [www.freeportschools.org](http://www.freeportschools.org) under *School Counseling*.
- ☐ Ensure that you do not drop any courses after you request that transcripts be forwarded to colleges you've applied to. Students must notify in writing any approved drops to the colleges they've applied to.

- ☐ Be mindful of any Early Decision/Early Action November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline and be sure to submit the Counselor / School Forms to your counselor at least two weeks prior to the ED/EA dates.
- ☐ Initiate a counselor meeting to discuss academics and quarter one grades.
- ☐ Take or retake the SAT, ACT and/or SAT subject tests.
- ☐ All Student-Athletes must apply to NCAA Eligibility Center: [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net) (See Ms. Perdomo for a fee waiver, if eligible)
- ☐ Complete the FAFSA after October 1st at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).
- ☐ Apply for TAP, New York State financial aid, through the FAFSA submission confirmation page.
- ☐ Register for the College Scholarship Service (CSS/Financial Aid Profile) IF required by the private college where you plan to apply.

### **November – December**

- ☐ If you completed a FAFSA, you should receive your Student Aid Report (SAR) within four weeks after submitting the FAFSA. Review the SAR carefully and check for any inaccuracies. If necessary, correct any items on the SAR and return it to the FAFSA processor (if a college transmitted your data directly, notify the college of any change).
- ☐ Attend parent/teacher conferences with your parents.
- ☐ Submit counselor/School forms to your counselor two weeks prior to the Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> ED/EA due date.
- ☐ Update your resume (sample available in the guidance office)
- ☐ Notify counselor of any acceptances or denials. If accepted under an “Early Decision Plan” withdraw your applications to other colleges.
- ☐ Continue working on applications with Regular Deadline due dates. They must be submitted to your counselor two weeks prior to the deadline. The earlier, the better!
- ☐ Look to see if you qualify for special programs such as HEOP, EOP, SEEK.
- ☐ Applications with January 1<sup>st</sup> deadlines must be submitted by first week of December.
- ☐ Take SAT and/or ACT one last time to improve scores if necessary.
- ☐ Determine if you meet eligibility requirements for onsite admissions.
- ☐ Submit your college admissions test scores (SAT/ACT) directly from either College Board or ACT.
- ☐ Attend regents review sessions for January regents exams.

### **January**

- ☐ No senioritis please! Keep your grades up!! Request mid-year grades to be sent to the colleges you’ve applied to
- ☐ Visit colleges that have invited you to enroll
- ☐ Continue to inform your counselor regarding college application status (acceptances, denials, wait-lists, and deferrals).
- ☐ Visit the FHS guidance websites for scholarship bulletins.

### **February**

- ☐ Respond quickly to college requests for additional documentation.
- ☐ Continue to search for scholarships on the various scholarship websites: fastweb.com; collegeboard.org.
- ☐ Visit colleges of where you were accepted to start finalizing your decision.
- ☐ Ensure that you are up to date with your science labs, insufficient labs will make you ineligible to sit for the regents in June.

### **March – April**

- ☐ Attend FHS College Fair.
- ☐ Keep your grades up!!!
- ☐ Evaluate financial aid packages from the colleges you were accepted to.
- ☐ Discuss college options with your counselor, family and friends.
- ☐ May 1<sup>st</sup> - Make your final decision and notify the college of your decision/intent to enroll and submit a deposit to the ONE college you will be attending.
- ☐ Be sure to notify the schools you will not be attending of your decision.
- ☐ If wait listed, see your counselor to discuss options.

### **May**

- ☐ Notify your counselor of your final decision regarding the college you will be attending.
- ☐ Prepare for any AP exams you are scheduled for. If appropriate, request that your AP scores be sent to the college you will be attending.
- ☐ Notify your counselor of any private scholarships or grants you will be receiving.
- ☐ It's very important to take the time and send "thank you" cards to those who wrote your recommendations.
- ☐ Meet all important deadlines with your college: i.e., housing arrangements, placement exams, course scheduling, and other necessary forms.
- ☐ Complete FHS local scholarship applications.
- ☐ Attend regents review sessions for June exams.

### **June**

- ☐ Send "thank you" cards to all scholarship donors you received an award from.
- ☐ Enjoy your last few days as a senior!
- ☐ Focus on successfully completing coursework, final and Regents exams.
- ☐ Finish the year strongly; request for counselor to mail final transcript to the college of your choice.
- ☐ Congratulations! Enjoy and celebrate your graduation.