

Preparing for College: Senior Year Checklist

AUG.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Start preparing for college and a career using the College and Degree Search Tool (collegesearch.mo.gov) and MoSCORES (scorecard.mo.gov). <input type="checkbox"/> Request admission information from your top college choices. Check out the schools online or in person during campus visits. <input type="checkbox"/> Register to take the ACT and/or SAT. Retake throughout the year to improve your score. <input type="checkbox"/> Follow Journey to College on social media for scholarship and other important information.
SEPT.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Create your Federal Student Aid username and password at studentaid.gov. <input type="checkbox"/> Attend college fairs and financial events in your area. <input type="checkbox"/> Ask your counselor about local scholarship opportunities, resume writing, and recommendation letters. <input type="checkbox"/> Set up a Student Workspace and State Financial Aid Portal account at journeystocollege.mo.gov.
OCT.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Begin applying to colleges and make note of application and financial aid deadlines. <input type="checkbox"/> Complete your FAFSA as soon as possible after it is available. <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a FAFSA Frenzy for free help filing. <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize your college admissions essays, portfolios, and writing samples.
NOV.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Go on campus visits and meet with admissions and financial aid advisers to help you narrow or finalize your college choices. <input type="checkbox"/> Once you file your FAFSA, watch for your Student Aid Report. Check it for accuracy and make any necessary corrections.
DEC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Compare college programs and costs. <input type="checkbox"/> Research and apply for college, local, and private scholarships. Search for scholarships on websites such as myscholarshipcentral.org, fastweb.com, bigfuture.collegeboard.org, collegescholarships.org and myscholly.com. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider job shadowing for a closer look at career options.
JAN.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the FAFSA by the Feb. 1 Access Missouri Grant priority deadline. <input type="checkbox"/> Submit IRS tax transcripts and other verification forms to the college financial aid office, if requested.
FEB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Check into taking Advanced Placement (AP) or College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams. <input type="checkbox"/> Ask your counselor to send your transcripts to your top college choices. <input type="checkbox"/> Review college financing offers. Call the financial aid office with questions.
MARCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> If you haven't already done so, submit your FAFSA by the April 1 final Access Missouri Grant deadline. <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a plan to pay for college. Check out treasurer.mo.gov/financial-literacy/ for resources. <input type="checkbox"/> Make note of college registration, housing, and other deadlines.
APRIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review, compare, sign, and return admissions and financial aid forms. <input type="checkbox"/> Make any deposits required to enroll for the fall semester. <input type="checkbox"/> Finish AP exams and final projects. Study for tests to finish high school with the highest GPA possible. Let your chosen college know if your GPA has increased since you were accepted.
MAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Try to make your final college choice by May 1, National Decision Day. Then celebrate and share your next steps on social media using #MODecisionDay! <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize summer job plans. Consider applying for an internship at MoInternconnect.com. <input type="checkbox"/> Be sure to notify the colleges where you were accepted but will not be attending.
JUNE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for college orientation, housing, and transportation. Check your email often so you don't miss important notifications. <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare a realistic budget you can follow throughout college. <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with the financial aid office at your college to ensure all paperwork is complete.
JULY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize housing, move-in dates, and transportation. <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll in the required number of credit hours to qualify for scholarships and other financial aid. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider taking 15 or more credit hours per semester to graduate on time.

