

CHANDLER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

High School & Beyond — News & Information

SEPTEMBER 2021

for Families of 12th Grade Students

Senior Year – Get Organized

There are six key milestones that your senior will accomplish this year.

In 12th grade, your senior will:

1. Prepare for and retake post-secondary entrance exams
2. Apply to post-secondary choices / Brag Sheet / Recommendation Letters
3. Complete the FAFSA (Fafsa.gov) and scholarship applications on okcollegestart.org
4. Set goals, build a resume, & complete various interest inventories
5. Do an internship, complete a workforce certificate, complete NTC program, college fairs, college visits, or attend MAIP Senior Roadshow
6. Graduate

It is important to stay organized. Create a calendar with your senior. This should include application deadlines and other important dates. This fall, help your teen prepare for college and financial aid. Students should:

- **Meet with the counselor** to talk about postsecondary plans.
- **Review transcript** to make sure they are on track to graduate on time. Get help if needed.
- **Learn the application process** for each college or program. Get started on the applications now. Start writing application essays.
- **Update résumés with senior year activities.** Their résumé will help them with their applications. Plus, students will want to share it with people who are writing recommendations for them.
- **Ask teachers, counselors, coaches, or employers for letters of recommendation.** Give them plenty of time. Students should give them a copy of their résumé, their brag sheet plus the recommendation form and a stamped envelope (if needed).
- **Be sure to write a thank you note** to each person who writes a letter of recommendation!
- **Take any needed required entrance exams** and make sure scores are sent to college.

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PARENT POINTERS?

Stay attuned to your child's academic accomplishments on a weekly basis. Praise those accomplishments appropriately.

MYTHBUSTER

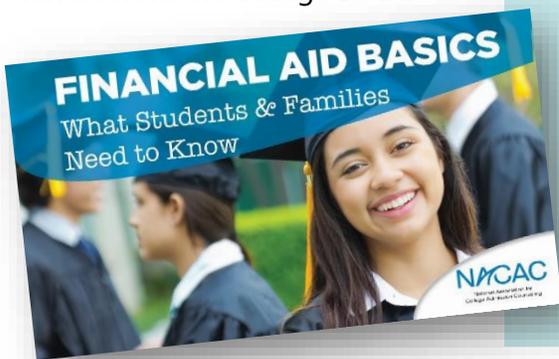
MYTH: Just applying to college costs a lot of money (application fees, test fees, etc.).

REALITY: While it's true there are a lot of fees and costs associated with college applications, students can often get fee waivers if they meet certain criteria.

A high school counselor can help students get a fee waiver for the SAT or ACT, and students should talk to each college individually about waiving your application fee.

Often, if students can show that they were given an ACT fee waiver, the college will automatically waive the application fee.

Additionally, every income-eligible senior who takes the SAT or SAT Subject Test using a fee waiver will receive four college application fee waivers from the College Board.



Upcoming Events & Announcements

- Register by Sept 19th for the October 23rd ACT Test
- **September 23rd Habitudes/ICAP 2nd Hour**
- **September 24th football homecoming**
- **September 29th PRACT for all Sophomores**
- **October 5th Free ACT for 10th-12th that signed up**
- **October 13th -15^h Fall Break**

If you are a part of our Title VI program or qualify for free/reduced lunches, see the counselor for the opportunity to take a FREE ACT.

Student Checklist

- ☑ **Make sure you take classes that will allow you to graduate.** Your counselors have reviewed your schedules and done credit checks to make sure you are taking the necessary classes towards graduation. However if you have any doubts, please ask.
- ☑ **Start the year off right by talking with your guidance counselor**
- ☑ **Create a resume.** You should begin working on building a resume in okcollegestart.org

Family Checklist

- ☑ **Make sure your senior meets with the school counselor.** This meeting is especially important this year as we begin to determine a plan for life after high school.
- ☑ **Encourage your senior to set goals for the school year.** Working toward specific goals helps your high school teen stay motivated and focused. This can be done in okcollegestart.org.
- ☑ **Help your senior stay organized.** Work with your senior to make weekly or monthly to-do lists to keep on top of the tasks required to get ready for applying to colleges.
- ☑ **Encourage your senior to register and retake the ACT.** There are many opportunities for your child to take the ACT this year. Studies show that scores increase the more a student takes the test.
- ☑ **Talk to the school.** Attend parent-teacher conferences, open houses and other events at the school to stay connected with teachers and school staff. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

HEALTH NEWS

With all of the illness scares around us right now, it's not a bad idea to review how to prevent spreading any illness! Follow these simple rules:

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching mouth, eyes, and nose with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact from people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Then, throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.