

# FRESHMAN TIMELINE

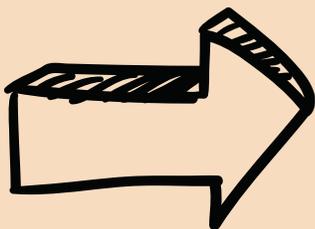
- Explore and engage with extracurricular activities (e.g., clubs, sports, community service, fine and performing arts, work) that align with your values and strengths.
- Meet with your school counselor to explore clubs, classes, and discuss course selection. Start building a relationship with them by doing this regularly.

- **TAKE A PERSONALITY ASSESSMENT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR STRENGTHS, CHALLENGES, AND COMMUNICATION AND LEARNING STYLE**
- **TAKE AN INTEREST ASSESSMENT TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE COLLEGE MAJORS AND CAREERS.**
- **PLAN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES USING INSIGHT FROM THE BULLET ABOVE.**

- 
- **PARENTS: START EXPLORING HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE.**
  - **ATHLETES: FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE NCAA AND NAIA ATHLETIC RECRUITING REQUIREMENTS.**
  - **PLAN A SUMMER EXPERIENCE THAT HELPS YOU EXPLORE A PASSION OR INTEREST.**
  - **SUMMER READING: EXPAND YOUR VOCABULARY AND YOUR WORLD.**

# SOPHOMORE TIMELINE

- MEET WITH YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR TO DISCUSS COURSE SELECTION. CONTINUE BUILDING THIS RELATIONSHIP BY ASKING LOTS OF QUESTIONS AND SHARING AT LEAST 2 THINGS ABOUT YOURSELF.
- CONTINUE PARTICIPATING IN NON-ACADEMIC EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES. SEE IF YOU CAN DEEPEN YOUR INVOLVEMENT OR TAKE ON A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE ACTIVITIES YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN DOING OR STEP OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE AND TRY SOMETHING NEW.
- STAY FOCUSED ON KEEPING YOUR GRADES UP--THIS YEAR'S GRADES ARE IMPORTANT TO COLLEGE ADMISSIONS OFFICERS.  
  
IF YOUR SCHOOL OFFERS HIGHER-LEVEL (HONORS OR AP) CLASSES,  
 CHALLENGE YOURSELF ACADEMICALLY BY TAKING ONE A HIGHER-LEVEL (HONORS OR AP) CLASS OR TWO (HONORS OR AP CLASSES), IN AREAS THAT YOU'RE INTERESTED IN.
- CHECK TRANSCRIPTS FOR:  
K-WAIVERS  
REPLACED CLASSES  
CREDIT BY CHOICE
- LEARN MORE ABOUT ALASKA PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP
- IF YOU THINK YOU MAY PLAY DIVISION I OR II SPORTS IN COLLEGE:
  - REGISTER FOR THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA) CLEARINGHOUSE.
  - REGISTER FOR THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETES (NAIA) ELIGIBILITY CENTER.
  - LET YOUR HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR KNOW YOU'RE CONSIDERING COLLEGE ATHLETICS.



**ADVICE:  
GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY.  
BETTER YOURSELF AND THOSE  
AROUND YOU!**

## Fall

- Start your college search by attending a local college fair and a few college admission rep presentations
  - EAGLE EXPO
- Keep your grades up. Junior year grades are the last ones some schools will see before making an admissions decision.
- Take an aptitude or career assessment such as YouScience to learn more about your interests and strengths, which will change as you grow and learn.
- Continue challenging yourself academically with higher level AP or honors classes.
- Take the PSAT/NSMQT in October. This test qualifies students for the National Merit Scholarship
- Double-check that your classes meet the NCAA Clearinghouse requirements

## WINTER/SPRING

- Investigate summer experiences.
- Register for senior year classes. Remember colleges will want to see a strong senior year course load including five academic core classes.
- Continue visiting colleges. Use local colleges to sample certain types of schools (single-sex, small liberal arts, larger university, etc.)
- Start building your college list based on your values and your research.
- Start researching scholarship opportunities.
- Complete the Letter of Rec questionnaire and request letters of recommendation from two academic teachers from junior year

## Summer:

- Participate in summer experiences (research, reading, internships, fun stuff).
- Refine and finalize your college list. Be sure it reflects a balance of admission probabilities (likely, possible, and reach schools).
- Research the type of applications required for each school on your list, as these vary.
- Write your Common Application personal statement.
- Complete the Common Application.
- Research the admission requirements and deadlines for schools on your list and create a spreadsheet to organize information. Research to see if an interview is offered or required at each school
- Create a scholarship spreadsheet to list deadlines and requirements.

# SENIOR: COLLEGE BOUND

## 6 WAYS TO FIGHT SENIORITIS!

1. ACCEPT THE FEELINGS
2. SET GOALS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR
3. MAKE SOME MONEY
4. TRY SOMETHING NEW
5. SAVOR YOUR SENIOR YEAR
6. FOLLOW YOUR OWN PATH



## SENIOR LIFE ADVICE

- ADULT LIFE IS EXPENSIVE
- EVERY CHOICE YOU MAKE WILL IMPACT YOUR FUTURE
- DON'T BE AFRAID TO BE SURPRISED
- YOU CAN NEVER BE FULLY PREPARED. ENJOY THE RIDE
- ACCUMULATE MEMORIES, NOT STUFF
- LISTEN TO YOUR HEART WHEN DECIDING YOUR CAREER
- BE PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR PATH

## AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

- Confirm your final college list, application deadlines, and requirements.
- Write your college-specific supplemental essays.
- Set up on-campus or local rep interviews with colleges.
- Check in with your recommendation writers. Update your Letter of Rec Questionnaire and ask for a letter of recommendation from your school counselor.
- Apply to scholarships throughout the school year

## SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER

- Complete and send out all EA and ED applications no later than late October.
- Schedule a meeting with your school counselor to review your college list to get his or her feedback.
- Attend high school presentations and programs.
- Apply for financial aid using the FAFSA and CSS/PROFILE (if required).
- Send test scores to your colleges after checking whether they allow self-reported scores.
- Ask your school counseling office to deliver letters and transcripts to colleges
- Regular Decision (RD) deadlines are typically around January 1. Complete and send out all RD applications no later than mid-December. Give yourself a relaxing holiday break by completing your applications before November 15.

## JANUARY-MARCH

- Scholarship applications
- Wait for application decisions
- Focus on staying caught up in classes
- Do not drop upper level courses
- Stick to your plan

## MARCH-APRIL-MAY

- Colleges have until April 1 to release decisions.
- Plan visits to accepted colleges, if needed, in order to make your final college choice.
- Attend local admitted student events when possible.
- Evaluate financial aid packages and scholarship offerings to figure out how to pay for college.
- Students need to enroll and submit a deposit by May 1.
- Take AP/IB exams.
- Notify your school counselor of your college decisions and scholarship opportunities.
- If you've been waitlisted, this is a good time to send a) your "I'd like to stay on the wait list" form and b) the email to your designated admissions rep which states your interest in the school and offers updates (activities, achievements, awards, etc).
- West counselors can submit 1 transcript via common app no later than the last day of school

APS



COMMON APP



FAFSA



COLLEGE ESSAY GUY



SCHOLARSHIPS



# SENIOR: TRADES/VOC/MILITARY

## 6 WAYS TO FIGHT SENIORITIS!

1. ACCEPT THE FEELINGS
2. SET GOALS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR
3. MAKE SOME MONEY
4. TRY SOMETHING NEW
5. SAVOR YOUR SENIOR YEAR
6. FOLLOW YOUR OWN PATH

## SENIOR LIFE ADVICE

- ADULT LIFE IS EXPENSIVE
- EVERY CHOICE YOU MAKE WILL IMPACT YOUR FUTURE
- DON'T BE AFRAID TO BE SURPRISED
- YOU CAN NEVER BE FULLY PREPARED. ENJOY THE RIDE
- ACCUMULATE MEMORIES, NOT STUFF
- LISTEN TO YOUR HEART WHEN DECIDING YOUR CAREER
- BE PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR PATH

## — VOCATION —

## — TRADES —

## — MILITARY —

### SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

1. Explore your options and research programs. Note Due Dates and Application requirements.
2. Sign up for Workkeys/TABE, ASVAB
3. Start Applications
4. Start FAFSA(Oct 1) if you're applying to AVTEC
  - a. ACPE-appointment to help fill out forms
5. Research training program scholarships.
  - a. Alaska Works
6. SCHOLARSHIPS

### DECEMBER-JANUARY-FEBRUARY

1. Make sure ALL parts of Application are complete.
2. Confirm FAFSA is complete.
3. Note any upcoming Financial Aid Deadlines.
4. Update Resume'
5. Make sure you're following up with any applications from the fall. Provide additional paperwork or complete interviews as needed.

### MARCH-APRIL-MAY

1. Work on state, local, and CACHE scholarships
2. Watch for deadlines for applications, financial aid, scholarships, housing, placement tests.
3. Register for classes/program
4. Verify FAFSA if needed
5. Start exploring housing options
6. Officially accept spot with your program.
7. Finalize financial aid: accept grants, scholarships, any loans you might need.
8. Finalize housing and class schedules.

FAFSA



ALASKA WORKS



ACPE



JOB CORPS



AVTEC



MILITARY SPOT



# SENIOR: CAREER READY

## 6 WAYS TO FIGHT SENIORITIS!

1. ACCEPT THE FEELINGS
2. SET GOALS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR
3. MAKE SOME MONEY
4. TRY SOMETHING NEW
5. SAVOR YOUR SENIOR YEAR
6. FOLLOW YOUR OWN PATH

## SENIOR LIFE ADVICE

- ADULT LIFE IS EXPENSIVE
- EVERY CHOICE YOU MAKE WILL IMPACT YOUR FUTURE
- DON'T BE AFRAID TO BE SURPRISED
- YOU CAN NEVER BE FULLY PREPARED, ENJOY THE RIDE
- ACCUMULATE MEMORIES, NOT STUFF
- LISTEN TO YOUR HEART WHEN DECIDING YOUR CAREER
- BE PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR PATH

## SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

1. Explore career options and research careers
  - a. will you need training before you can start or are they entry level and you can advance?
2. UPDATE resume'
  - a. Note any spots that are lacking and how you can improve it
3. Start paying attention to your spending.
  - a. How much money will you need to budget to each category every month? How much will you need to make per hour?
4. Contact people in the field you're interested in. Conduct an informational interview or ask to job shadow.

## DECEMBER-JANUARY-FEBRUARY

1. Keep researching jobs and careers. Catch up on any paperwork.
2. Keep updating potential budget.
3. Keep an eye on job postings.
4. Career interest inventory
5. Use QR codes below!!!
6. Network with community members
7. Consider taking CAREER READY course if you haven't already

## MARCH-APRIL-MAY

1. Continue Job Shadowing and Informational Interviewing.
2. Explore possible summer internships
3. Make sure resume is up to date, keep references updated about any jobs you're applying for
4. Save work from your laptop/google drive.
5. Update email address if you listed your high school email.
6. Graduate.
7. Enjoy the satisfaction of a job well done and a paycheck.
8. Start saving for your emergency fund & retirement.
9. Don't forget to stay involved in your community!

## START HERE



## AKCIS



## ALASKA WORKS



## RESUME BUILDER

