

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADVISORY \_\_\_\_\_  
GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

## SENIORS

### CIC PWR-HIGH SCHOOL PLANNING TIMELINE

Log on CIC

High School Planning TAB

High School Planning Timeline 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Fill in the PWR (Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness) Worksheet below and work on this throughout the year. **Worksheet will be due in April and also be required at your CIC Portfolio Capstone Exit Interview in May. Please plan ahead!**

## AUGUST

### KEEP STUDYING!

You want to avoid "senioritis" — a drop in motivation, and consequently, your grades. Low grades are not great for high school transcripts you're sending to colleges. Keep up in your classes with homework and tests. If you need in a class, ASK. Advocate for yourself and ask for the help you need!

### SAVE YOUR MONEY!

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/paying-your-share/college-savings-calculator>

It's a good idea to start planning for the unexpected costs of college. Please complete the College Savings Calculator at home with your parents.

Some colleges require the CSS/PROFILE, a supplemental financial aid form, in addition to the FAFSA. Find out if the schools you're interested in will need this.

## SEPTEMBER

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College\\_Planning/Explore\\_Schools/Direct\\_to\\_College\\_Connections/Admissions.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College_Planning/Explore_Schools/Direct_to_College_Connections/Admissions.aspx)

Please use the Direct Connections link to find out more about Admission requirements for colleges you're interested in attending.

Write down three colleges you're interested in attending:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Have these changed from your previous choices? If yes, why?

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### Credit Checklist Sheet

Using your Credit Checklist sheet, check your grades/transcripts to make sure you have all the credits you need to get into colleges that interest you.

Register for the October/November SAT I, SAT II and ACT tests if you plan to take them.

Get a jump-start on College Application Month; check application deadlines and make sure you meet the requirements (including any transcript requirements) for all the colleges to which you want to apply. Early decision and early action applications are due between October 1 and November 1.

## **OCTOBER**

Use the College Application Month and the College Application Checklist Docs  
This information will help you plan our your month of October with the College Application Process

### **WEEK 1 (SEPT 30 – OCT 4)**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Career\\_Planning/Learn\\_About\\_Yourself/Career\\_Cluster\\_Survey/Career\\_Cluster\\_Survey.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Career_Planning/Learn_About_Yourself/Career_Cluster_Survey/Career_Cluster_Survey.aspx)

Narrow down your options and connect careers goals to a program or major.  
Take the Career Cluster Survey and explore careers in your favorite cluster.

### **PROGRAM/MAJOR**

What program or major do you plan to study in college?

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Has this changed since your junior year? If so why? Explain.

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What type of classes have you taken that directly relate to what you want to study?

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If you do not plan to attend college what type of job do you plan to seek? Explain.

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### **EXPLORING SCHOOLS**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College\\_Planning/Explore\\_Schools/Explore\\_Schools.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College_Planning/Explore_Schools/Explore_Schools.aspx)

### **SCHOOL FINDER**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College\\_Planning/Explore\\_Schools/School\\_Finder/School\\_Finder.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College_Planning/Explore_Schools/School_Finder/School_Finder.aspx)

### **COMPARE SCHOOLS**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College\\_Planning/Explore\\_Schools/Compare\\_Schools/Compare\\_Schools.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College_Planning/Explore_Schools/Compare_Schools/Compare_Schools.aspx)

### **COLLEGE MATCHING ASSISTANT**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College\\_Planning/Explore\\_Schools/Matching\\_Assistant/Matching\\_Assistant.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College_Planning/Explore_Schools/Matching_Assistant/Matching_Assistant.aspx)

Which colleges have your program or major?

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What is your final list of schools that interest you? Do you have a “dream school” and a “safety school”? Please list these and any others.

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**ORDER OFFICAL TRANSCRIPTS FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE**

Send your official transcripts to each college you have selected. Transcripts are sent directly from your school to your college choices. Make sure your counselor understand the date by which each college must receive your transcripts.

**WIN A \$1000 SCHOLARSHIP OR A \$500 IKEA GIFT CARD  
EVERY WEEK FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER  
WEEK OF OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>**

<http://ciccollegeappmonth.org/students/35-activities/49-scholarships-a-giveaways>

Under Scholarship and Giveaways

**WEEK 2 (OCT 5 – 11)**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Career\\_Planning/Get\\_a\\_Job/Prepare\\_Application\\_Documents.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Career_Planning/Get_a_Job/Prepare_Application_Documents.aspx)

Use the “How To” Reference and Letters of Recommendations Info Sheet on HS Advisory Google Docs  
Use the “Prepare First” Reference and Letters of Recommendation Info Sheet HS Advisory Google Docs  
Use the “All About Me” for my Recommenders HS Advisory Google Docs

**DISTRIBUTE YOUR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION REQUESTS**

Include a stamped, college-addressed envelope for each recommendation. Make sure to fill out your section of the forms completely and that recommenders know when the recommendation is due.  
Who are you planning on having write Letters of Recommendations for you?

\_\_\_\_\_

**IS YOUR RESUME UPDATED?**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Career\\_Planning/Get\\_a\\_Job/Resume\\_Builder/Resume\\_Builder.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Career_Planning/Get_a_Job/Resume_Builder/Resume_Builder.aspx)

Anything changed on your resume? Please *update* it.

Has anything changed? \_\_\_\_\_

**COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PAGES AND INFO**

<http://ciccollegeappmonth.org/component/content/article/58-public-college-listing>

Choose the colleges or universities you’re interested in and peruse their admissions pages  
What are new aspects of this search that you’ve learned about? Please explain.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PRACTICE APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College\\_Planning/Applications/Practice\\_a\\_College\\_Application/Practice\\_a\\_College\\_Application.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College_Planning/Applications/Practice_a_College_Application/Practice_a_College_Application.aspx)

- Complete the Personal and Educational Information
- Complete the High School Coursework
- Complete the Enrollment Information

When was this completed with your parents? Date \_\_\_\_\_

Which college or university did you practice for? \_\_\_\_\_

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EVERY WEEK FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER  
WEEK OF OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>**

<http://ciccollegeappmonth.org/students/35-activities/49-scholarships-a-giveaways>

Under Scholarship and Giveaways

**WEEK 3 (OCT 12 – 18)**

**ESSAYS AND PERSONAL STATEMENT**

**TIME TO WORK WITH YOUR PARENTS**

**PRACTICE APPLICATION**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College\\_Planning/Applications/Practice\\_a\\_College\\_Application/Practice\\_a\\_College\\_Application.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College_Planning/Applications/Practice_a_College_Application/Practice_a_College_Application.aspx)

Talk with your parents about your plans and work with them to complete the **Tuition Classification** and **Contact Info** sections of the **Practice Application**

**COLLEGE MATERIALS CHECKLIST – COLLEGE ESSAYS & PERSONAL STATEMENTS**

<http://ciccollegeappmonth.org/students-mainmenu/144-uncategorised/58-public-college-listing>

Review this checklist for each of your colleges to make sure you understand the focus or question to be addressed in your ESSAY.

**GUIDANCE ON WRITING GREAT ESSAYS AND PERSONAL STATEMENTS**

Use the Essays and Personal Statements Dos and Don'ts Info Sheet in Google Docs

**Write down your top three Do's**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Write down your top three Don'ts**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**HOW TO BEGIN AN ESSAY**

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays/8-tips-for-crafting-your-best-college-essay>

**SAMPLE ESSAYS**

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays/sample-college-application-essay-2>

## **WRITE YOUR ESSAY AND PERSONAL STATEMENT**

Download into YOUR PROFILE DOCUMENTS IN YOUR PORTFOLIO

### **WIN A \$1000 SCHOLARSHIP OR A \$500 IKEA GIFT CARD**

**EVERY WEEK FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER**

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>**

<http://ciccollegeappmonth.org/students/35-activities/49-scholarships-a-giveaways>

Under Scholarship and Giveaways

### **WEEK 4 (OCT 19 – 25)**

COLLEGE CHECKLIST AND APPLICATION LINKS

Review the checklist and application links to ensure you have completed the requirements

**What college or university are you checking?** \_\_\_\_\_

**When is the application deadline?** \_\_\_\_\_

### **COMPLETE AN ONLINE APPLICATION**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College\\_Planning/Applications/Apply\\_to\\_College/Apply\\_to\\_College.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/College_Planning/Applications/Apply_to_College/Apply_to_College.aspx)

Using the materials you have created this month. Apply through CIC. If you used the practice application on CIC, your info will auto-populate!

### **I APPLIED, NOW WHAT?**

Go over the “I Applied Now What?” Info Sheet on Google Docs

### **WIN A \$1000 SCHOLARSHIP OR A \$500 IKEA GIFT CARD**

**EVERY WEEK FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER**

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup>**

<http://ciccollegeappmonth.org/students/35-activities/49-scholarships-a-giveaways>

Under Scholarship and Giveaways

### **ACT SCORES**

Have your ACT Scores been sent to all of your colleges? Talk to your counselor!

#### **Remember:**

Register for December of January SAT I or SAT II tests now, if necessary!!

### **CONGRATULATIONS!! YOU’VE WORKED HARD!**

If you’re not quite done with all your applications, use next week to complete them!

## **NOVEMBER**

Continue to submit college admission applications. Have someone else help you review them so any errors will be caught before sending them.

**SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!**

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Financial\\_Aid\\_Planning/Scholarships/Scholarship\\_Finder/Scholarship\\_Finder.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Financial_Aid_Planning/Scholarships/Scholarship_Finder/Scholarship_Finder.aspx)

Don't let free money pass you by! Take the time out to find out from your counselor what scholarship opportunities are available through the high school. And take the time to look at scholarship opportunities available at your college or university of choice.

What scholarships are available that you plan to apply for?

\_\_\_\_\_

How much is the award? \_\_\_\_\_

For **how** long? \_\_\_\_\_

Is it a local scholarship, college or university or both scholarship? Explain.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**FINANCIAL AID OFFICE**

Check with the Financial Aid Office of schools to which you are applying for specific information on scholarships and costs for tuition, fees, room and board, and any additional financial aid info they require. Call them!

**DECEMBER**

Odds and Ends-

- ✓ Watch your mailbox if you submitted an early application. If you get an acceptance and plan to attend that school, you should withdraw any other applications.
- ✓ If you haven't done so already, make sure your official test scores are being sent to the colleges to which you are applying
- ✓ Schedule any remaining interviews

Did you plan to apply early? \_\_\_\_\_

If so did you receive any acceptance letters for schools you would like to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, which school(s) did you receive one from? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, which school do you plan to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

## SPRING SEMESTER

### JANUARY

Things to consider:

- ✓ Make sure your parents have completed their income tax forms in anticipation of any financial aid applications you may have submitted or plan to submit.
- ✓ Between January 1 – February 15 you will need to submit your financial aid application and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- ✓ Use the transfer module to file your FAFSA application:  
[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Financial\\_Aid\\_Planning/Financial\\_Aid\\_101/FAFSA\\_is\\_the\\_key.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Financial_Aid_Planning/Financial_Aid_101/FAFSA_is_the_key.aspx)
- ✓ The quickest way to file for FAFSA is online at:  
[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Financial\\_Aid\\_Planning/Your\\_Financial\\_Aid\\_Plan/FAFSA\\_Transfer/FAFSA\\_Transfer.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Financial_Aid_Planning/Your_Financial_Aid_Plan/FAFSA_Transfer/FAFSA_Transfer.aspx)
- ✓ You can also use:  
[www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
- ✓ Check for other financial aid options. Remember: in order to be considered for financial aid you will need to submit a FAFSA app, even if you have not been notified of your acceptance to the colleges in which you applied.

Have you already created a FAFSA Account?      **Yes or No**

If yes, have you already sent in your FAFSA app?      **Yes or No**

### DO YOU HAVE A COMPUTER FOR COLLEGE?

If not you should investigate purchasing one.

### YOU WILL NEED OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

Contact your counselor to have copies of your official transcripts sent to the college to which you're applying.

### CONTACT ADMISSIONS OFFICES

Double check with college admissions offices that they have received your information and make sure they have everything they need and the info you sent is complete.

### FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

[https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Financial\\_Aid\\_Planning/Your\\_Financial\\_Aid\\_Plan/Financial\\_Aid\\_Wizard/Financial\\_Aid\\_Wizard.aspx](https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Financial_Aid_Planning/Your_Financial_Aid_Plan/Financial_Aid_Wizard/Financial_Aid_Wizard.aspx)

There's a lot of help out there when looking for info on financial aid... look into it!

## FEBRUARY

### FAFSA

If you completed the FAFSA application you should receive your Student Aid Report (SAR) within four weeks!

☺ If you applied did you receive your SAR?      **Yes or No**

**Complete scholarship applications during this month if possible... Don't wait!!**

## MARCH AND APRIL

### ACCEPTANCE! OH YEAH BABY!! 😊

You should probably hear April 15th from colleges you've applied to as to whether or not you have been accepted.

Have you received an acceptance letter? **Yes or No**

If yes, from which college(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

### AWARD LETTER COMPARISON TOOL

Use the tool to compare your acceptance letters, financial aid, and scholarship offers with each college.

<http://www.finaid.org/calculators/awardletter.phtml>

Which college pans out to be the better choice for you? \_\_\_\_\_

What makes it the better choice? Explain.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

<https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Home/Article.aspx?level=3XAP2FPAX6J7I3kztATGuYyXAP2BPAXDahIQXAP3DPAXXAP3DPAX&articleId=7oBoFkICZf3Fb12zVJYWqAXAP3DPAXXAP3DPAX>

### HEADS-UP!! A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT

When you finally make your decision on your college of choice you will be required to pay a non-refundable deposit for freshman tuition. This will ensure your place in entering the freshman class.

## MAY

### AP EXAMS

If you have enrolled in an AP class you will be taking your AP Exams.

Are you enrolled in any AP Courses at SHS? **Yes or No**

If yes, which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you feel the year has gone with your AP class(es)? Explain.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **DECISION TIME!!!**

You should decide on a college by **May 1**. Notify the school by mailing your commitment deposit check. Remember: Many schools require that your notification letter be postmarked by this date.

#### **How to Select a College or University**

<https://secure.collegeincolorado.org/Home/Article.aspx?level=3XAP2FPAX6J7I3kztATGuYyXAP2BPAXDahIQXAP3DPAXXAP3DPAX&articleId=7oBoFkICZf3Fb12zVJYWqAXAP3DPAXXAP3DPAX>

### **LIVING ON YOUR OWN AND MANAGING YOUR MONEY!**

Prepare for college and living on your own by understanding how to manage your money. Complete the Money 101 Courses.

<http://www.cicmoney101.org/default.aspx?auth=0>

### **STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE**

Now that you will be attending college in the fall, it's a good idea to make sure you have student health insurance in case of any emergencies.