

# **SALIDA HIGH SCHOOL**

## **Senior Year Timeline**

### **August:**

- ★ Complete any visits to colleges and universities to which you are considering applying.
- ★ Research and request information from schools. Information can be found on individual school websites, in the SHS Counseling Center Library, and on College in Colorado.
- ★ Research scholarship information from foundations, clubs, employers, and other organizations. The SHS Counseling page has an extensive list.

### **September:**

- ★ Seek letters of recommendation from teachers, coaches, sponsors, and community leaders who know you. Give a resume' or activities list and a due date to the person from whom you are requesting the letter.
- ★ Attend college fairs and meet with college admissions representatives. Check Counseling Center website for list of dates. Meet with the counselor to plan for college admissions.
- ★ Register to retake the ACT and SAT tests to improve scores if necessary. Remember if you are a potential college athlete, the state ACT does not count for the NCAA Clearinghouse. See National Test Dates at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) or [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) Remember State of Colorado ACT “cut scores” are Reading 17, Writing 18, and Mathematics 19.
- ★ Go online to apply to schools for admission, financial aid, and scholarships.

### **October:**

- ★ Request high school transcripts to be sent with your college applications.
- ★ Begin essays required for admission and/or for scholarships. Remember to continually check the SHS Counseling Center web page for updated scholarship lists.
- ★ Go online to apply to schools for admission, financial aid, and scholarships.
- ★ Collect requested letters of recommendation from those who know you best.
- ★ Attend Senior Meeting date and time TBA.
- ★ Order cap and gown, etc. from Jostens.

### **November:**

- ★ Complete admissions and scholarship applications by Thanksgiving Break. While this may be well before the school's deadline, getting this information to the schools allows the student to shift his/her focus to financial aid and scholarships.
- ★ Apply for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) pin number at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

### **December:**

- ★ Complete scholarship applications. Scholarships are competitive; apply for many!
- ★ Check online at college/university websites for school priority deadlines for financial aid.
- ★ Complete FAFSA Practice Worksheet on-line.

### **January:**

- ★ Obtain FAFSA or you may complete FAFSA online.

- ★ Receive W-2 forms from prior year employers. For the student who can be claimed as dependent, parents must also receive W-2 forms from employers.
- ★ Complete IRS tax returns (1040s), to ensure accuracy on FAFSA. For students who can be claimed as a dependent, parents must also finish IRS tax returns prior to completing the FAFSA.

#### **February:**

- ★ Submit Mid-Year report via the Counselor with transcript to schools that require them.
- ★ Make sure FAFSA has been filed; some schools have specific deadlines.
- ★ Make sure to have submitted school specific financial aid forms.
- ★ Continue scholarship quest. **Report all awarded scholarships**, whether or not you choose to attend the school or to accept the scholarship, to the SHS Counseling Center. The letter of confirmation regarding the scholarship is necessary to document the scholarship properly.

#### **April:**

- ★ Receive notification of acceptance or denial from the school to which you applied.
- ★ Receive notification regarding financial aid packages from the schools to which you applied.
- ★ Receive your Student Aid Report (SAR) from the US Department of Education in response to your FAFSA. Check SAR to ensure correct information. Submit any corrections ASAP to FAFSA.
- ★ Attend Senior Class Meeting time and date TBA.

#### **May:**

- ★ Compare schools and financial aid packages to determine the best school for you and make a final decision about where to attend.
- ★ Notify schools whether you intend to attend or not.
- ★ Request final transcripts to be sent to the school of your choice.
- ★ Attend Awards Evening in the SHS auditorium.
- ★ Attend graduation practice if you intend to walk at graduation on Friday in Bowers Gymnasium.
- ★ Attend graduation. Details will be announced.
- ★ Those not participating in graduation may pick up diplomas in the Counseling Center.