

# EHS Senior Year Planning Guide

## SEPTEMBER

- Utilize the EHS Guidance Page for useful information throughout the course of the year. This page can be found at <https://ehs.home.elida.k12.oh.us/quick-links/guidance>
- Secure both a “Transcript Permission Form” and a “Transcript Request Form” from the academic office cubbies. The “TPF” must be completed and turned in to your counselor one time...it gives us your (and a parent) permission to send out your transcript. The “TRF” is a form you complete and hand in to your counselor each time you need a transcript sent...it tells us where you need it to go.
- Be sure that you have completed your two “PE Waiver” forms if you are using those as an alternative for PE credit
- If you are unhappy with your ACT score, sign up to take the ACT again. Pay attention to registration deadlines as well as know if that score will reach your college by your application deadline. The ACT site can be found at <https://www.act.org/>
- Senior checks will begin in mid-September. Schedule a meeting with your counselor earlier if you feel you have a credit issue.
- College rep visits will begin this month and continue throughout the fall. Check announcements each day to see if your school or schools will be visiting. Also...as you narrow your colleges down to your top two or three, look into scheduling a campus visit. See the Guidance Page for a list of questions to ask college reps or while on a college campus visit.
- Start looking at the EHS Scholarship page to see what national, state, and area scholarships we’ve been made aware of. Our Elida “Local” scholarships will be added in late winter.
- Go to some national scholarship sites such as fastweb.com and scholarships.com to see what scholarships are out there for which you may qualify. You may need to set up an account on each site to get complete access.
- For CCP students, go to Transferology.com to see how your CCP courses may transfer to your college.
- Start contacting teachers, coaches, counselors, bosses, and/or other community members who you want to write your letters of recommendation. A “Senior Survey” in the academic office cubbies will help you provide important information about you to them. If you are applying to college using the Common Application, your counselor will need the “Senior Survey” to write a letter of recommendation.
- If you will be applying to college, you and a parent will each need to get a separate FSA ID. You do this at <https://studentaid.gov/> More information on the FSA ID can be found on the Guidance Page (“FAFSA Information”). The FAFSA for next year will be available October 1, but both the student and parent will need their FSA ID to start a FAFSA.
- If you plan to walk at graduation, you MUST have the cap, gown, and tassel...this is all part of the Josten’s order that generally takes place in September each year.

### SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

- Apply for admission to college
  - ❖ CommonApp
  - ❖ Through your university's website
- Once you have completed AND submitted a college application, turn in a "Transcript Request Form" to your counselor to let them know where you need your transcript sent. Don't turn the "TRF" in until you have completed and submitted your application because they need your application on file to accept your transcript.
- Take a look at this link from CollegeBoard explaining/clarifying terms you may see on college applications [CollegeBoard Application Terminology.pdf](#)
- Complete your FAFSA online at <https://studentaid.gov/> The FAFSA opens October 1 each year. Students MUST complete a FAFSA each year in order to qualify for any federal grants (don't need repaid) or loans (must be repaid). Both student and a parent will need to have their separate FSA ID's as discussed in September section. The FAFSA is what colleges will use to determine your financial package.
- Potential college students need to bring a parent and attend Financial Aid Night (scheduled each year for early to mid October)
- By now, you have probably created a very short list of 1-3 colleges you may be considering. Consider setting up a college visit, which can typically be scheduled through the college website. You would need to complete a "Vacation" form for a college visit and have your counselor sign it...then turn in to the attendance office.
- October ACT???
- Be sure that you are taking care of business in the classroom whether it's courses you need to make sure you graduate high school or doing well to put yourself in the best possible position for college acceptance, scholarships, etc. It all matters!

### DECEMBER/JANUARY

- If you haven't already, you should narrow your short list of colleges down even further
- Pay attention to your college's deadlines...housing, financial aid, acceptance, etc.
- December ACT?
- Continue searching for scholarship opportunities. Keep in mind that there will be fewer applicants for scholarships requiring more work (such as essays), so those may be good ones to target!

### FEBRUARY/MARCH/APRIL

- **LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS** will begin being added to the scholarship page. These are the scholarships provided by local Elida families in honor or memory of a loved one or local groups who support our graduates! These scholarships are awarded at "Senior Honors Night" in May. Deadlines for these scholarship applications will be the first Monday of April (this year is April 3<sup>rd</sup>). This means ALL scholarship materials (application, letters of

recommendation, counselor signatures, transcript request, etc.) MUST be completed and turned in ready to go.

- If you plan to enter the work force after high school, be sure that you have your resume updated...ask to meet again with our Ohio Means Jobs rep, if necessary, to get leads on potential jobs and/or ask questions you have.
- Tidy up college things...housing deposit, roommate selection, etc. Colleges typically have deadlines for these things that they have communicated to you. Reach out to your college admissions office or advisor with any questions you have.

## MAY

- Make sure your business (grades) is getting taken care of in the classroom for graduation, scholarship purposes, GPA, etc.
- AP Testing for those involved
- "Senior Honors Night" by invitation
- Senior Final Exams
- Graduation Practice and Future Plans Informational Sheet (typically Thursday of Graduation Week)
- GRADUATION!!!!!! Congratulations!

## OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS

- 1) **Always be "in-the-know"**...pay attention to announcements, Schoology posts, teachers, postings in the hallway, etc. Don't hesitate to ask questions!
- 2) **When it comes to filling out any forms (college applications, scholarships, etc.), you should be completing your own forms.** Your parents should not be doing this for you! You may need their assistance on certain parts of these things, but you should be the one completing these things.
- 3) **Pay attention to any deadlines** you have...class, college apps, etc.
- 4) **Never pay to apply for financial aid or any scholarships!**
- 5) **Final Transcripts**...your college will tell you that they need your final transcript following graduation. Keep in mind that those will NOT be finalized until typically mid-June. Once finalized, the guidance office will be able to send your final transcript to the college you specified at graduation practice. Please understand that, if you schedule your college orientation before mid-June, your college will NOT have your final transcript. Your college may keep hounding you that they need that final transcript for your orientation...unfortunately they cannot be sent out to them until we finalize them. We highly encourage you to schedule your orientation for later in June if you believe this will become an issue.