

## Senior Timeline

### **Summer before Senior year:**

- Take advantage of the time off and visit colleges to narrow down your "list". Applications can be costly, so take the time to visit a campus before you decide if you want to apply there
- Keep a calendar of all admission deadlines and make sure you are submitting all of your materials according to these
- If you plan on competing in D1 or D2 college sports and want to be eligible to be recruited by colleges, you must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center
- Register for the fall SAT/ACT

### **September:**

- Get started on applications right away if you plan to apply through early decision or early action. Deadlines for early applications tend to fall in October, November, and December. Pay attention to each college's deadline in this regard.
- Touch base with your counselor to talk about college plans
- Begin working on college essays
- Update your "resume" and/or Senior Brag Packet on Naviance (list of accomplishments, involvements, volunteer, work experience, etc.). This will help complete application essays in addition to your guide your teachers when writing letters of recommendation.
- Ask your teachers, counselor, coaches, or employers for letters of recommendation. They should be given plenty of time to meet your application deadlines. Do not wait until the last minute!
- Each month, you should check for available national and regional scholarships (our local scholarships don't come out until Spring Break time). They are posted on the board in guidance as they are received. Some other websites to check out for scholarship searches are: collegeboard.org, fastweb.com, and zinch.com

### **October:**

- If you are taking the SAT/ACT this month, make sure you send your scores directly from the testing agency to the college of your choice. Guidance does not receive copies of your scores, nor are they included on your transcript
- Early decision or early action applicants should be sure to get all necessary documentation to the college(s) by the specified deadline
- Notify your counselor that you have applied to a college so that your transcript may be sent to the institution (through Naviance). In addition, **communicate** with your counselor if there are any additional documents that need to be sent as well (counselor form, letters of recc, etc)
- Parents and students should attend financial aid night at DVHS to assist with the completion of the FAFSA (financial aid)

- **REMEMBER TO WATCH DEADLINES AND BE SURE TO GIVE YOUR COUNSELOR AT LEAST 10 WORKING DAYS TO PROCESS YOUR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS!**

#### **November:**

- You should submit early decision and early action applications on time
- Wrap up college essays. Ask your English teacher to proofread, but remember, it is your responsibility to write said essay and it should be written in YOUR voice
- Follow up with teachers to ensure that letters of recommendation are ready to be sent on time in accordance with application deadlines
- Applications should be submitted as early as possible for colleges with “rolling” admissions (decisions are made as applications are received)
- If you are taking the SAT/ACT, make sure your scores are sent directly from the testing agency to the colleges of your choice

#### **December:**

- You should try to finish up all of your applications before winter break
- If you are taking the SAT/ACT, make sure your scores are sent directly from the testing agency to the colleges of your choice
- Early decision and early action responses should begin arriving this month

#### **January:**

- Early decision and early action responses could arrive this month
- Some colleges include first semester grades as part of your application. This is called the mid-year grade report. Please make sure you are requesting this through Naviance, especially if you are using the Common App

#### **February:**

- Contact the colleges you have applied to and confirm that all necessary application materials have been received
- Stay focused on your school work! Colleges want to see strong grades for ALL of your senior year and can base their decisions on this

#### **March:**

- Some admissions decisions arrive this month. Read each letter carefully, and take note of all the reply deadlines

#### **April:**

- Most admission decisions and financial aid award letters arrive this month. READ each letter carefully and take note of reply deadlines, especially in regards to financial aid!
- You should make your final decision and mail the enrollment form and deposit check to the school you have selected **before MAY 1**. (This is the reply deadline for most schools)

- If you are on the waiting list for a school, contact the admissions office and communicate continued interest in the college

**May:**

- Study for Common Assessments and AP Exams! Don't give up yet!
- Complete the Senior Survey on Naviance (this also tells us where to send final transcripts)

**June:**

- CONGRATULATIONS! YOU GRADUATE!
- If you plan on competing in D1 or D2 college sports, please request that a copy of your final transcript is sent to NCAA Eligibility Center
- If you participated in Dual Enrollment through Lackawanna, Luzerne, or Keystone college, submit a transcript request directly to them to have sent to the college you are attending.

**July:**

- As long as you have indicated where you are attending, guidance will send all final transcripts.
- You may send your AP Grade Report to your final choice college