

College Admissions Checklist for Student-Athlete & Parents

Freshman Year

- ☐ Verify with your high school guidance counselor and the online core-course listing to make sure you are on track.

Sophomore Year

- ☐ Plan to take your PSAT during your Sophomore year and start studying for the ACT, SAT or both
- ☐ Take the PSAT
- ☐ Visit college campuses and ask friends in college for their advice.
- ☐ Verify with your high school guidance counselor and the online core-course listing to make sure you are on track.

Summer after Sophomore Year

- ☐ Register at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and complete the amateurism questionnaire.

Junior Year

- ☐ Start thinking about your college choices. Make an appointment to talk with your high school guidance counselor and register with www.admissions.com so the right school can find you.
- ☐ Request an application and brochures from your top list of colleges.
- ☐ Register with fastweb.com to find the money you need for college
- ☐ Register and plan to take your ACT, SAT or both during your Junior Year
- ☐ Visit more college campuses if possible.
- ☐ Get started on college and scholarship application essays by writing sample drafts.
- ☐ Make a list of application requirements (essays, transcripts, etc) and deadlines. Get you applications in by creating files for your top schools.
- ☐ Take some time out to prepare for the state required standardized tests.
- ☐ Request your high school guidance counselor to send an official transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center after completing your junior year. (The Eligibility Center does NOT accept faxed transcripts.)

Summer after Junior Year

- ☐ Talk about college cost. Decide how much you can afford and explore your options for funding.
- ☐ Visit www.finaid.org to learn more about financial aid.
- ☐ Start applying for scholarships from private organizations. Check FastWeb for new scholarships.

Senior Year in September/October/November

- ☐ Request letters of recommendation from teachers and community leaders
- ☐ Re-take the ACT, SAT or both if necessary.
- ☐ Work on those college applications! Many applications are due in early December and/or early January.
- ☐ If you're applying through early action or early decision, get your application in during these months.

January

- ☐ File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after January 1.
- ☐ Check with you prospective colleges about additional financial aid application forms and requirements.

February/March/April/May

- ☐ Check the mail for admissions letter and financial aid awards.
- ☐ Compare your admissions offers. Ask your high school guidance counselor to help you weigh your options.
- ☐ Most schools ask that you choose your school by May 1. Time for a decision!
- ☐ Don't forget to notify schools you have decided not to attend.
- ☐ Double-check any final deadlines for housing, financial aid etc.

May/June

- ☐ Have your final transcripts sent to your new school.

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Web Site Links:

College is Possible: <http://collegeispossible.org/>

NCAA Clearinghouse: <http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net>

NCAA Amateurism Certification: www1.ncaa.org/membership/ach/index.html

Admissions and Funding Info.:

<http://www.window.state.tx.us/scholars/mspmain.html>

College for Texans: <http://www.collegefortexans.com/>

College Board: <http://www.collegeboard.com/>

The Common Black College Application is available online at

www.eduinonline.com Texas Common Application: <http://www.eduinonline.com/>

FastWeb Scholarship Search: <http://www.fastweb.com/>

Free SAT practice tests: http://www.testprepreview.com/sat_practice.htm

Free Application for Federal Aid: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Higher Education Options: <http://www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool>

Princeton Review: <http://www.princetonreview.com/>

Wired Scholar Scholarship Search: <http://www.wiredscholar.com/>