

12th Grade Timeline

JULY

Recharge for and reflect on the coming year!

- Review your junior Advisory post-Hillsdale unit results, digging into the college search by using college matching resources, including updating Naviance with potential colleges.
- Create a spreadsheet that tracks user names/passwords, scholarships, college requirements, due dates, etc.
- If you took the SAT or ACT, review if you want to take the test in Fall. Sign up. Prepare using Khan Academy. or borrow a book from Ms. Burtness.
- Talk with family, friends & mentors & review your Naviance work. What are your plans for after high school? What are you interested in?
- Check out the scholarship although many scholarships aren't open, you can look FORWARD to those that you will be eligible for.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

Finalize your plans for after Hillsdale!

- Check in with your counselor about your plans for after Hillsdale.
- Students/Families should attend Senior College kNight & college rep visits
- If you are applying Early Action/Early Decision, meet with your counselor
- Start or continue work on college essays. Ask for help from your counselor or Ms. Burtness.
- Make UC and Common Application accounts. If you are using Common App (for private colleges, usually), connect your account to Naviance. (This is must-do!)
- August 1: UC application portal opens
- Parents/Caregivers: Start preparing financial paperwork & have financial conversations.

OCTOBER

Keep track of your applications!

- Oct 1: FAFSA/DREAM Act opens! (workshops will be offered!)
- Oct 1: CSU opens! (workshops will be offered!)
- Order transcripts through Naviance, both midyear & initial (not for UC, CSUs, or CC)
- Get college help in the College & Career Center.
- Finalize college essays.
- Attend all financial aid & college workshops.
- Sign up for AP exams

OCTOBER, CONTINUED

- Early Action or Early Decision? Remember that deadline & submit!
- Attend SMUHSD College & Career Night
- Attend SMUHSD Fin. Aid Night
- Check the last day to request LOR for EA/ED
- Complete final/virtual college visits.

NOVEMBER

Keep the momentum going!

- Having trouble affording 4 year college application fees? Contact your counselor or Ms. Burtness
- Submit FAFSA/DREAM Act or CSS Profile
- Nov. 30: Submit UC & CSU applications
- Order transcripts through Naviance, both midyear & initial (not for UC, CSUs, or CC)
- Get college help in the College & Career Center.
- Finalize college essays.
- Attend all workshops.
- Early Action or Early Decision? Remember that deadline & submit!
- If you haven't had your 1:1 meeting with your counselor, make an appointment.
- Keep your grades up & update your Naviance.
- Many 4 year colleges have Honors Colleges. Consider applying to them if you want the extra push!
- Check the last day to request regular deadline college LORs

DECEMBER

Full steam ahead into break!

- Check due dates! Finalize & submit private/out of state college apps. Jan 1 tends to be a Regular Decision deadline for private college.
- Make sure supplemental materials like test scores, transcripts and letters of rec were submitted.
- Finish FAFSA/DREAM and/or CSS Profile
- Start or continue your scholarship search. Talk with Ms. Burtness for support.
- Heading to a community college? Attend workshops to learn about the certificate programs, majors, and how to transfer.

Relax during break! Phew!

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JANUARY

Get your "docs" in a row!

- Make your college portals and check once a week.
- Submit community college applications & move onto your FAFSA/DREAM Act (HHS will have workshops for it all!)
- Review scholarships
- If you are interested in trades or apprenticeships? Contact Ms. Badet, the Career Coordinator
- Some schools request additional documents, like mid year transcripts, supplemental questions, or the CSS Profile. Make sure you follow through on these requests.
- If you are deferred from a 4 year college, send an email to your admissions representative to reaffirm your interest in the school & offer updates on your activities, awards, etc.

FEBRUARY

Keep up your momentum!

- If you have heard from some let your counselor, advisor (and Naviance!) know.
- Did you submit FAFSA/DREAM? They're due March 2 for most colleges.
- Attend or complete community college online orientation & then make an appt with community college counselor.
- Applying to colleges with rolling admissions or late deadlines? Submit, submit!

MARCH

Get excited. Stay focused.

- You'll start to hear from many CSUs & UCs. Share the news!
- Are you getting financial aid award letters from colleges? Talk with Ms. Burtness to understand what they all mean!
- Lots of scholarships due... you gotta be in it to win it, so apply!
- Plan in-person or virtual visits to those colleges to which you have been accepted. Attend local admitted student events when possible.
- Make an appointment with your community college counselor to discuss classes for Fall.

APRIL

Decision time!

- Most college decisions will begin this month. Sit down with parents, caregivers, mentors, counselors to review your options and financial aid packages before finalizing your plans.
- Attend open house or virtual events for your potential colleges and stay on top of your student portal.
- Ask Ms. Burtness to put you in touch with HHS alumni who are at colleges in which you are interested.
- Have you been waitlisted at college? Talk with a counselor to discuss.
- Plan out your community college schedule for Fall. Meet with your HHS counselor or Ms. Burtness for assistance.
- If you haven't applied to a community college, do it today!

MAY

Whoo-HOO! This is your graduation month!

- Celebrate your decision! May 1st is Commit to your Future day! If you will attend a 4 year college, make sure you submit your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) and notify colleges you will not be attending.
- Register for your community college classes.
- If you will be taking AP scores, remember to send those scores to your choice college, including if you will be attending a community college. Order through College Board.
- Claim your Cal Grant award (if you received one) by verifying your school of attendance and your graduation date on mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov.
- Finish the HHS Senior Survey. Within that survey, you'll request a final transcript to be sent to your 4 year college choice.
- Email or write a note to those people -- advisors, teachers, counselors, friends-- who have helped you get to this place!