

# Road Map to Success- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

General Time Frame	Focus Points
August - September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to improve your organizational skills.</li> <li>• Update your resume.</li> <li>• Stay active in extracurricular activities and volunteer work and take on more responsibility in your club or organization.</li> <li>• Refine your list of colleges and make further visits to colleges.</li> <li>• Pay close attention to the Dulles High School College Application Handbook that will be given at a senior general assembly. This is a comprehensive guide on how to handle the college application process and is invaluable as you progress through your senior year. This handbook is provided by the College and Career Advisor.</li> <li>• Formally ask one or two teachers for letters of recommendation for colleges that require the Common Application. You will give them your resume either on paper or electronically and the teachers will upload their letters of recommendation to Naviance.</li> <li>• Attend college information sessions offered through the DHS College and Career Center.</li> <li>• Pay attention to the College and Career Advisor's senior newsletters, which offers scholarship opportunities and college information.</li> <li>• Register for the ACT or SAT if you have not already taken one of these tests or if you would like to improve your scores.</li> <li>• Start gathering your tax information and that of your parents from the previous year to start filling out the FAFSA.</li> </ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The FAFSA application process opens on October 1.</li> <li>• Start making a final decision on which colleges are most appropriate for you and start filling out applications for these schools. For Texas Colleges, use the Apply Texas Application at <a href="http://www.applytexas.org">www.applytexas.org</a>. Some of the more selective and/or private colleges require the Common Application. Out of State college will have their own application procedures.</li> <li>• Attend one of the Fort Bend ISD College Fairs.</li> <li>• Attend the DHS College Day where you will have sessions on college admissions and financial aid, college applications, and a college fair followed by a motivating presentation in the auditorium.</li> <li>• Students who are applying to Common App colleges must inform their counselor and formally request that the counselor complete a recommendation in Naviance. You will need to supply your counselor with a resume.</li> </ul>
November – December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue submitting scholarship applications. Make sure to prioritize all the deadlines and be sure to have all requirements submitted.</li> <li>• Start gathering your tax information and that of your parents from the previous year to start filling out the FAFSA.</li> <li>• During break, continue filling out scholarship applications. Start organizing all the information about the college you want to attend and be ahead of deadlines.</li> </ul>
January – March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fill out the financial aid forms required by the colleges to which you are applying. Make copies for personal records.</li> <li>• Scholarship deadlines should be ending soon so have all scholarship applications submitted for the ones for which you qualify. Do not wait until the last day to submit.</li> <li>• Register for SAT Subject tests if required by certain colleges.</li> <li>• Register for AP Exams.</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;">April – May</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you submitted an early application, acceptance letters should be received during this time. Schools will also send out financial aid packages to be completed and returned (these may be done electronically). Compare each school that responded back to you and see which school best meets your needs academically, socially, and financially.</li> <li>• Make final decision on which college you will be attending (usually due about May 1).</li> <li>• Take AP exams. Make sure the schools you are going to attend accept AP exams for credit and find out how much credit is given for a score of 3, 4, or 5.</li> <li>• Schedule a freshmen orientation with the college you're planning to attend. The earlier the orientation, the more likely you would get the courses you need.</li> <li>• There might be just a few scholarships left out there that have late deadlines so continue searching and applying.</li> <li>• Begin to research different loans from your school (if necessary)</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;">Summer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue with a summer job for next year's expenses.</li> <li>• Prepare yourself for the transition from high school to college. Make a budget and share it with your parents.</li> <li>• Congratulations you're finished with high school. Welcome to College!</li> </ul>

## Helpful Websites

### College Readiness Information

[collegefortexans.com](http://collegefortexans.com)

### College Entrance Exams

[collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org)

[act.org](http://act.org)

### Virtual College Tours

[eCampusTours.com](http://eCampusTours.com)

### Volunteer Work

[VolunteerMatch.org](http://VolunteerMatch.org)

### College Entrance Test Prep through

Khan Academy

[Khan Academy](http://Khan Academy)

### College Applications

[ApplyTexas](http://ApplyTexas)

[Common Application](http://Common Application)

### Financial Aid

[FAFSA](http://FAFSA)

#### Did you Know?

Students who qualify for the Free or Reduced Lunch Program have the following benefits:

- Free Lunch or Reduced Lunch Cost
- Reduced Cost for Summer School
- Reduced Cost for AP Exams
- SAT and ACT fee Waivers
- College Application Fee Waivers
- NCAA Eligibility Center Registration Fee Waiver

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