Be mindful of crucial deadlines and continue to do well in your class work and you’ll be heading to your college of choice next fall.

**September to December**

- Make sure that you have the appropriate courses for your potential college. Do not reduce the level of difficulty of your courses.
- Take the SAT/ACT and SAT II tests if needed.
- Attend college fairs in your area and talk with college representatives of colleges that interest you.
- Plan additional college visits or revisit colleges that you saw during the summer.
- Finalize your essay and have a teacher critique.
- Request letters of recommendation early on in September and October.
- Attend information sessions at colleges that interest you.
- Attend with your parents the Senior Year College Planning and Applications Night at your school.
- Apply to colleges in November for early action or early decision programs.
- Attend with your parents the Financial Aid Program at your school.

**March to April**

- Provide any additional information that colleges might ask for.
- Compare all offers of admission, housing, and financial aid and weigh each carefully.
- Plan a visit to your first choice school(s).
- Consider an overnight visit at your first choice school(s).
- Attend Accepted Students Open House events.
- Speak with admissions/financial aid staff.
- Make your decision and send to the college the required deposit no later than May 1. Many schools require that your notification letter be postmarked by this date.
- Notify other colleges of your decision to attend school elsewhere.

**January to February**

- Prepare income tax information for FAFSA and CSS Profile forms as soon as possible after January 1.
- Submit your FAFSA and CSS forms by February 1 if possible.
- Follow up with your guidance counselor if mid-year grades are required.
- Write thank you notes to those who wrote letters of recommendation for you.

**May to August**

- Do well on your final exams.
- Have your school send your final transcripts to the college that you will be attending.
- Enjoy your graduation day!
- Look for a summer job.
- Attend orientation sessions at your college of choice.
- Make an appointment for medical/physical exams.

Note: Notifying colleges of your decision is a great gesture of appreciation for the acceptance, and you always want to leave a positive impression of yourself.