

COLLEGE BOUND MICHIGAN

12th Grade Checklist

September

- Make a post high school plan**
 - Make a list of three careers you are interested in and the [training or education](#) (including program or major) you will need.
 - Strengthen your college list in [BigFuture™](#) so that it has a minimum of one (1) “safety,” two (2) “match,” and three (3) “reach” colleges
- Review your graduation plan**
 - Review your transcript and your senior year class schedule with your counselor or college advisor to make sure you have the classes you need to graduate and apply to college.
 - Ask questions you have about the college application process
- Prepare for college applications**
 - Create a professional email account.
 - Set privacy settings on social media accounts.
- Explore how to pay for college**
 - Sign up for scholarships on [GoingMerry!](#)
 - Create your Federal Student Aid ([FSA](#)) ID
 - Research financial aid/scholarship options at your list of colleges
- Sign up for the SAT or ACT**
 - Sign up for the ACT or SAT if you haven’t taken it or need to retake it.
- Take the SAT**
 - Take or retake the SAT

October

- Take the SAT**
 - Take or retake the SAT
- Prepare for college applications**
 - Make a list of awards you have received and extra-curriculars you participated in
 - Write a rough draft of application and/or scholarship essays. Check out [Story2](#) for support telling your story
 - Request letters of recommendation if required for applications or scholarships
 - Check application due dates and develop a plan for submission
- Participate in Michigan College Month activities**
 - Complete at least 2 applications before October 31st.
 - Send your transcripts to the schools you applied to using [Parchment](#)
 - Send your SAT scores (if applicable) through [College Board](#)
 - Request and follow up on letters of recommendation (if applicable)

November

- Continue completing college applications**
 - Continue working on and submitting college applications and following up on transcripts, letters of recommendation and sending test scores.
- Complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
 - Create your [FSA ID](#)
 - Gather the documents needed to file the FAFSA including tax returns and W2 Forms
 - [Apply for Financial Aid](#)
- Explore how to pay for college**
 - Continue searching for and applying for scholarships

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December

- Finish applying for colleges**
 - Continue working on and submitting college applications
 - Send your transcripts to your schools using [Parchment](#)
 - Send your SAT scores (if applicable) through [College Board](#)
 - Request and follow up on letters of recommendation (if applicable)
- Explore how to pay for college**
 - [Apply for Financial Aid](#)
 - Continue searching for and applying for scholarships

January

- Explore how to pay for college**
 - [Apply for Financial Aid](#)
 - Continue searching for and applying for scholarships

February

- Explore how to pay for college**
 - [Apply for Financial Aid](#)
 - Continue searching for and applying for scholarships
- Check for news on college acceptances**
 - Check your email regularly to stay on top of communication from colleges
 - Compare acceptance offers and scholarship amounts
- Meet with your counselor to review your graduation plan**
 - Make sure your semester 2 schedule gets you the classes you need.
 - Ask any questions you have about college decision making and paying for college
- Visit a Campus**
 - If you haven't already, visit the campus of some schools you applied for.
 - Talk to current students about their experience.

March

- Last chance to submit the FAFSA**
 - Complete the FAFSA
- Check for news on college acceptances**
 - Check your email regularly to stay on top of communication from colleges
 - Compare acceptance offers and scholarship amounts

April

- Tax Filing Deadline: April 15th**
 - Make sure taxes are filed!
- Check for news on college acceptances**
 - Check your email regularly to stay on top of communication from colleges
 - Compare acceptance offers and scholarship amounts
- Decision time!**
 - Think carefully and critically about where to attend for college. Compare cost, opportunities, size, academics, and more. Seek out wisdom from family, friends, and school staff

May

- Decision Day Events**
 - Participate in your institution's Decision Day Events on or around May 1st.
- Finish strong and start thinking ahead**
 - Complete required graduation courses
 - Take AP exams or college placement tests
 - Complete required college forms (housing, financial aid, etc)