
OCTOBER

(1) Document Accomplishments.

- Make a list of all the activities and awards you have received.
- Make a sample résumé.
- Accomplishments are important. When someone is writing you a recommendation letter, giving a list of accomplishments allow the individuals to make the letters specific to you.

(2) Tell your story.

- Practice writing college and scholarship essays; write a personal statement about who you are and your unique qualities.

(3) Narrow the field.

- Narrow your list of colleges— 3-5 is a good number. Always have a backup plan.
- Visit colleges and attend college fairs. You can also find great information online about many colleges with virtual tours.

(4) Complete the FAFSA.

- Fill out and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid to be eligible for federal grants, loans and work-study. If you are non-citizen, you'll use the Texas Application for State Financial Aid. You will need information from your family including tax returns for 2018. Be sure to enter the names of any college you might apply to.
- Attend a Financial Aid night hosted by the high school. Contact the school for upcoming dates.

(5) Request letters of recommendation.

- Think carefully about whom to ask for letters of recommendation.
- Give individuals plenty of time to write them, with your résumé, and any specific instructions.

(6) Take or re-take the ACT or SAT.

- Review practice tests.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

<https://www.kaptest.com>

KEY TERMS:

RÉSUMÉ: A list of your accomplishments and achievements in paid work, volunteer service, or other extracurricular activities.

FAFSA: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is the form you and your parents will complete to apply for financial aid from the federal and state government.

NEXT MONTH:

Finalize your list of college choice and get your application submitted!