

# SEPTEMBER

## (1) 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.
- Figure out the right fit; think about the most important criteria in choosing a college.
- Make a list of the five colleges/schools you are interested in with deadline information.

## (2) Stay on track.

- Review your transcript and your senior classes. Check with your school counselor to make sure you have all the classes you need to graduate.

## (3) Clean up your online information.

- Create a professional, not school related email account.
- Set privacy settings on social media accounts.

## (4) Explore how to pay for college.

- Explore scholarships on counseling webpage.
- Create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID in order to be able to apply for FAFSA when it opens Oct. 1.
- Gather all of the information you will need to apply for financial aid.

## (5) Sign up for the SAT or ACT.

- Sign up for the ACT or SAT if you haven't taken it or want to re-take it.

## (6) Look out for special circumstances.

- If you are interested in the arts, military, or playing sports in colleges, make sure you know the deadlines and requirements for the programs.
- If you are undocumented, you may be eligible for in-state tuition and state financial aid.
- If you are male, you must register with the selective service within 30 days (before or after) your 18th birthday. If you do not register, you will not be eligible for federal financial aid for college.
- If you have a special circumstance (ex. Foster care, homeless, disability) talk to a trusted adult and explore specific resources and support for your situation.

### KEY TERMS:

**TRANSCRIPT:** A formal record of all your classes you have taken in high school.

**FINANCIAL AID:** Money that can help you pay for college, including, scholarships, loans, grants, and work study.