

THE BANFF SCHOOL

College Planning Checklist: Senior Year

- ✓ This is it! You are applying to colleges this year! Take ownership of your grades, your activities, your time management, and your college preparations! You must want to go to college, and you must prove it!
- ✓ Make sure to that you are taking the most advanced courses that make sense for you and your goals. Double-check that you are enrolled in the right classes to meet graduation requirements for your chosen degree plan.
- ✓ Study, study, study!!! Although college applications will take a chunk of your time, you must still focus on academics! Colleges may admit you based on your grades before your senior year, but they expect you to maintain or surpass those grades and will require final transcripts.
- ✓ You should know now the colleges to which you intend apply. Realistically assess your chances of admission. A good guideline is to apply to one or two “dream” schools that may seem out of reach (academically or financially), two or three “good chance” schools, and at least one “I know I’ll get in” school in the event something unforeseen happens (illness that affects grades, financial difficulties, etc.). MAKE SURE YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH EACH SCHOOL’S APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINES!!!
- ✓ Call and/or visit with admissions counselors from your chosen schools. They will help with questions.
- ✓ Determine if you need to take again the SAT and/or ACT. If so, take the first ones offered this school year.
- ✓ Assume *leadership roles* in extracurricular activities. Don’t forget to keep track of your hours!
- ✓ Continue your community service! You still need a minimum of 20 hours this academic year!
- ✓ Craft/fine tune your college résumé. Refer to your activity spreadsheets/preliminary résumé to help you reflect your activities.
- ✓ Ask teachers for letters of recommendation early and give them plenty of time. Teachers will give the letters directly to the office to be put in your file. Copies will be sent to schools at your request.
- ✓ Begin writing college essays immediately if you haven’t already done them. Allow ample time for revisions!
- ✓ Apply for college scholarships and financial aid. The deadlines will come quickly!
- ✓ Do not procrastinate! Your future is in your hands; make the most of your opportunities! All your hard work can only pay off if you meet your deadlines!