College Application Timeline

For parents wanting more information on the college selection and application process, browse:

- “The College Search and Application Process”  
- “College Here We Come: The College Application Process”  

Before applying:

1. Update the high school transcript  
   (https://www.hslda.org/highschool/Newsletters/2016/november.asp) with all courses (homeschool, co-op, online, outside, or dual enrollment) that count towards high school graduation.
   a. Calculate cumulative GPA for 9th through 11th grades.
   b. List all 12th-grade courses, plus credits that students plan to take during the senior year. Place IP (in progress) or SP (spring) in grade column.

2. Update the student’s extracurricular activity sheet  

3. Complete course descriptions  
   (http://www.hslda.org/highschool/academics.asp#CD) for all academic 9th- through 12th-grade courses for your records.

4. Search for scholarship opportunities  
   (https://www.hslda.org/highschool/Newsletters/2017/april.asp) and make selections. List requirements, documentation, and deadlines.

5. Research and determine the final list of colleges for applications  

August/September:

1. If necessary, register for ACT, SAT, or CLT exam online  
   (http://www.hslda.org/highschool/college.asp#testing).

2. Ask teen to request letters of recommendation from teachers who can attest to the student’s academic and leadership abilities  

3. Begin scholarship application process  
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October:


2. Begin to complete individual college applications or the Common Application (http://www.commonapp.org/) online. Students benefit by using their extracurricular activity sheets (https://www.hslda.org/highschool/docs/Extracurricular_Activities_Sheet_Example.pdf) to fill in application information.

3. Make a list of deadlines to ensure on-time submission of applications.

4. Send an official transcript (sign and date) to each college per the application instructions.

5. If needed, take a final ACT, SAT, or CLT exam.


7. If needed, work on college essays.

November:

1. Check application status on college website.

2. Send thank-you letters to recommenders.

3. Continue with scholarship applications.