

# COLLEGE BOUND MICHIGAN

## 12th Grade Checklist

### September

- Make a post high school plan
  - Review your graduation plan
  - Prepare for college Applications
  - Explore how to pay for college
  - Sign up for the SAT or ACT
  - Take the SAT
- 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 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
  - Create a professional email account.
  - Set privacy settings on social media accounts.
  - 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 ACT or SAT if you haven’t taken it or need to
  - Take or retake the SAT

### October

- Take the SAT
  - Prepare for college applications
  - Participate in Michigan College Month activities
  - Continue completing college applications
  - Complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
  - Explore how to pay for college
- Take or retake the SAT
  - 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
  - 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)
  - Continue working on and submitting college applications and following up on transcripts, letters of recommendation and sending test scores.
  - Create your [FSA ID](#)
  - Gather the documents needed to file the FAFSA including tax returns and W2 Forms
  - Continue searching for and applying for scholarships

### December

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

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## 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 your email regularly to stay on top of communication from colleges
- Compare acceptance offers and scholarship amounts
- 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
- Check for news on college acceptances
- Meet with your counselor to review your graduation plan
- 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
- Decision time!
- Compare acceptance offers and scholarship amounts
- 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)