

COLLEGE BOUND MICHIGAN

12th Grade Checklist

September

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make a post high school plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a list of three careers you are interested in and the training or education (including program or major) you will need. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Strengthen your college list in BigFuture™ so that it has a minimum of one (1) “safety,” two (2) “match,” and three (3) “reach” colleges |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review your Graduation Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Review your transcript and your senior year class schedule with your counselor or advisor to make sure you have the classes you need to graduate and apply to college. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask questions you have about the college application process |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for College Applications | <input type="checkbox"/> Create a professional email account. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Set privacy settings on social media accounts. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Explore how to pay for college | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign up for scholarships on GoingMerry! |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Create your Federal Student Aid (FSA ID) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Research financial aid/scholarship options at your list of colleges |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sign up for the SAT or ACT | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign up for the ACT or SAT if you haven’t taken it or need to retake it. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Class of 2021) Take the SAT | <input type="checkbox"/> Take the SAT on September 23rd OR October 14th |

October

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Class of 2021) Take the SAT | <input type="checkbox"/> Take the SAT on September 23rd OR October 14th |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for College Applications | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a list of awards you have received and extra-curriculars you participated in |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Write a rough draft of application and/or scholarship essays. Check out Story2 for support telling your story |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Request letters of recommendation if required for applications or scholarships |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Check application due dates and develop a plan for submission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in College Month Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Complete at least 2 applications before October 31st. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Send your transcripts to the schools you applied to using Parchment |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Send your SAT scores (if applicable) through College Board |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Request and follow up on letters of recommendation (if applicable) |

November

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continue completing college applications | <input type="checkbox"/> Continue working on and submitting college applications and following up on transcripts, letters of recommendation and sending test scores. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) | <input type="checkbox"/> Create your FSA ID |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Gather the documents needed to file the FAFSA including tax returns and W2 Forms |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for Financial Aid |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Explore how to pay for college | <input type="checkbox"/> Continue searching for and applying for scholarships |

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December

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

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 for news on college acceptances**
 - ☐ Check your email regularly to stay on top of communication from colleges
 - ☐ Compare acceptance offers and scholarship amounts
- ☐ **Meet with your counselor to review your graduation plan**
 - ☐ 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
- ☐ **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 before March 31st.
- ☐ **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! *Getting your taxes done on time is critical to making sure you have access to federal and state financial aid.*
- ☐ **Check for news on college acceptances**
 - ☐ Check your email regularly to stay on top of communication from colleges
 - ☐ Compare acceptance offers and scholarship amounts
- ☐ **Decision time!**
 - ☐ 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)

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