

Senior Year Checklist

Summer & Fall

- ☐ Explore career options that interest you & learn about yourself so you can plan your future
 - Visit <https://wcsd.nv.headed2.com/signin> use school email to register & use the Career Explorer
- ☐ Start the college admissions process (July/August)
 - Explore colleges via research, tours, college fairs & identify your top choices
 - Set aside plenty of time to draft, edit, and re-write application essays
 - Keep track of documents you will need to submit at their deadlines
 - Find out if there is a fee to apply for admission
 - Some colleges can defer this fee (UNR does!)
- ☐ Meet with a counselor to review transcript to ensure you're on track to graduate and to check you meet your preferred college admissions requirements (August)
 - Ex: UNR requires a certain number of credits in English, math, social studies, and natural science along with a minimum GPA. Make sure you're on track to meet the requirements of whatever school you want to go to!
 - Consider AP classes & Dual Credit classes to start earning college credit
- ☐ Subscribe to the SHS Scholarship Twitter, Instagram, & TEAMS page!
 - Find all the social media profiles here: https://linktr.ee/Scholarship_shs
 - SHS College and Career website: <https://www.washoeschools.net/Page/3720>
- ☐ Fill out the Letter of Recommendation worksheets & ask teachers/coaches/counselors to write you a letter
 - Ask for multiple copies of the letter
- ☐ Register for the ACT or SAT if needed (August)
 - It's recommended to get retakes done in 1st semester so best scores are available in time for "Scholarship Season" which is primarily in 2nd semester. Test results may take up to a month or longer to post online!
- ☐ Get measured for your Cap and Gown (August/September)
- ☐ Explore military options- attend a lunch time table-talk with recruiters to learn more if interested

☐ Gather documents needed to complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) (Opens October 1st)

- Social Security card (yours and one of your parents)
- Driver's License (if applicable)
- Tax Returns of the previous year
- Create an FSA ID for student and parent

☐ Register for FAFSA Workshop Events at SHS where you can get expert help filling out your application! (October)

☐ Get involved! Keep track of your extracurricular activities!

- If you don't have any volunteering experience, now is the time to get some. **Most** scholarships will require volunteer work and a record of that work!
- Join a club or sport!!

☐ Every senior should apply to the *TMCC Nevada Promise Scholarship* (Due October 31st)

☐ Know for sure where you want to attend college? Early Admissions applications are typically due in November

☐ Apply for a Spring *WCSD Internship* (October-November)

- Internships are for the medical field, STEM field, and Radio/Journalism field

☐ Stay updated on the requirements for the *Nevada Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship*

☐ Take the exam to earn the Seal of Biliteracy for your diploma if applicable

Winter

☐ Start submitting Admission Applications to colleges if you haven't already!

- Most colleges have online portals where you can submit your documents and receive instructions. Check these portals frequently!

☐ If applicable, find out if there is an application/deposit due to secure on-campus housing (February)

☐ Ensure you have copies of common documents scholarships ask for:

- Letters of recommendation, resumes, official transcripts, proof of college acceptance, FAFSA SAR etc.

- ☐ Attend SHS "Scholarship Clinics" during WIN and Saturday Schools to get help with all things scholarship related
- ☐ TURN IN **THE SPARKS HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP** APPLICATION! (February)
- ☐ Ensure the spelling of your name on file with the school is how you want it printed on your diploma (Paperwork to do this is collected in senior Government classes)
- ☐ Request that 7th semester high school transcripts be sent to colleges

Spring (SCHOLARSHIP SEASON!)



- ☐ Check scholarship postings for deadlines
 - Brush up on how to mail an envelope- some scholarships require applications to be mailed & postmarked (Yes, some organizations still use "snail mail!")
- ☐ Ensure your FAFSA is submitted and your Student Aid Report (SAR) is accurate and sent to your choice colleges
- ☐ Send colleges immunization records if applicable
 - Try using <https://webiz.ny.gov/> to complete this task
- ☐ Register for AP exams, if applicable
- ☐ Attend SHS Senior Meetings to learn about Graduation Practice (required)
- ☐ Last chance to take the exam to earn the Seal of Biliteracy for your diploma if applicable
- ☐ First big TMCC Promise Scholarship Deadline (**March**)
- ☐ Pick your senior quote for the yearbook (**March**)
- ☐ Vote for Senior Superlatives (**March**)
- ☐ Review financial aid award letters
- ☐ Officially accept admission offers as instructed by institution and send tuition deposit if applicable

- Check your online college portal frequently!
- Give notice to colleges not attending if required

☐ Sign up to take college placement tests like ACCUPLACER if applicable

☐ Send SHS Scholarship Committee proof of scholarships awarded to you so you will be included in the Scholarship Night ceremony (April/May)

☐ Sign up and pay for Safe and Sober- usually seniors go on a trip to an amusement park!

☐ Settle your accounts with the bookkeeper so you can pick up your Cap and Gown!

- Library late fees are the number one outstanding balance on senior accounts!
- Don't forget to turn your library books in before the end of the year!

☐ Register for and take AP Exams (May)

- Verify all AP grade reports have been received by your selected college

☐ Notify the college of any private grants or scholarships received as this may affect the other financial awards

☐ Find out when payment for tuition & room and board is due

☐ Understand how your financial aid will be disbursed and if bill payment can be deferred until funds are available

☐ Attend Graduation practice

☐ Register for college classes! (April & May)

- Don't wait, they fill up quickly and you might have less choice to build your schedule how you want
- You can utilize college advisors and even college recruiters to help make sure you choose classes you need



GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL!