MILESTONES FOR COLLEGE PREPARATION - RISING SENIORS

PREPARE FOR COLLEGE SUCCESS
USE THESE HANDY MILESTONES

START HERE

PICKING/APPLYING TO/ACCEPTING A COLLEGE
VISIT COLLEGE CAMPUS
SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER THINGS
STANDARIZED TESTING
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SWE PROGRAMS

SEND OUT TEST SCORES TO COLLEGES YOU'RE INTERESTED IN
APPLY FOR A SWENEXT WE LOCAL AWARD
SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER THINGS
GET TIPS FOR YOUR COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS
PICKING/APPLYING TO/ACCEPTING A COLLEGE
SIGN UP FOR SATS/ACTS OR PLAN TO RETAKE THEM
STANDARDIZED TESTING

TAKE FINAL STEPS FOR YOUR APPLICATION PROCESS
SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER THINGS
MAKE PLANS FOR THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)
PICKING/APPLYING TO/ACCEPTING A COLLEGE
KNOW YOUR APPLICATION DEADLINES
SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER THINGS
GET YOUR STUDENT AID

TAKE AP/IB/CAMBRIDGE EXAMS
STANDARDIZED TESTING
LEVERAGE THE SWENEXT COLLEGIATE VIDEO LIBRARY
SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER THINGS
KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR YOUR ACCEPTANCE LETTERS AND MORE
PICKING/APPLYING TO/ACCEPTING A COLLEGE

FOLLOW UP ON YOUR ACCEPTANCE LETTERS
PICKING/APPLYING TO/ACCEPTING A COLLEGE
APPLY FOR A SWE SCHOLARSHIP!
PICKING/APPLYING TO/ACCEPTING A COLLEGE
DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR FINAL TRANSCRIPTS
TIME TO START PACKING!
CONGRATULATIONS! YOU’RE A SENIOR!

Just one more school year until you start college.
To set yourself up for college success, take a look at the typical milestones a high school senior goes through in the next ten months.
Keep this schedule handy to remind you of the activities and deadlines.

**SUMMER BEFORE YOUR SENIOR YEAR**

**A** Visit college campuses in person if you can, to get a feel for where you think you'd like to go.

**B**
- Look into diversity or women in engineering programs at schools you’re interested in. These programs (sometimes called SWEpowers or SWEvenings for SWE-exclusive events) allow prospective seniors to experience a day in the life of an engineering student. Each university with an engineering program should have their own SWE section and diversity programming. A quick internet search will help you determine who to contact for information.
- Interested in attending SWE's Annual Conference? Apply for the Global Innovator Award, typically May through August. [Check out the program here!]
- Have questions about college? [Ask a SWE member through the High School SWENexter Facebook group page!]

**EARLY FALL SEMESTER**

**C** If you still need to, sign up to take the SATs/ACTs! Do this if you weren't happy with your SAT/ACT scores from your junior year.

**D**
- Ask two teachers you’re close to or whose classes you did well in for recommendation letters.
- Start working on your applications and essays, especially for any schools that you’re thinking about applying early decision/action (deadlines usually end up being in October/November) or rolling admissions. Send any first drafts of your essays to teachers, counselors, or even friends to look over for you to give you comments.
- Request an unofficial copy of your transcript to make sure everything looks good to send to colleges.
- If you have time on the weekends and are able, continue to visit schools you want to apply to but didn't get a chance to visit over summer.
- [Check out our SWENextTV series on the SWENext YouTube channel for a 4-part series on the college application process, which covers: what to consider when applying, resumes and letters of recommendation, college essays and The Common Application, and scholarships and financial aid.]

**LATE FALL SEMESTER**

**E** Apply for a SWENext WE Local Award September 1 - September 30. [Learn more here.]

**F** Send SAT and/or ACT scores to all of the colleges you plan to apply to.

**G**
- Continue working on applications and essays. Don't forget to keep track of application deadlines so you don't miss them!
- Send official high school transcripts to the schools you're applying to by the deadline – this date will likely differ depending on the school. Make sure to send the paperwork for releasing your transcript to your guidance counselor a couple weeks before the deadline.

**H** The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opens up for the next school year on October 1. If you need financial aid, start the application process as soon as you can.

**WINTER BREAK**

**I** Make sure to submit every application by the time they're due!

**J** Try to complete your FAFSA application by this time so you can receive your Student Aid Report by the time you receive college acceptance letters.

SWENEXT.SWE.ORG
EARLY SPRING SEMESTER

K • Keep an eye out for acceptance letters!
   Most schools will have deadlines for acceptance in April. Make sure to think long and hard about your choices!
   • If you have a chance, go to the incoming freshman open house for the college(s) you've shortlisted, especially if you haven't visited them yet, just so you can make your most informed decision when you finally do accept.

L • Check out the Collegiate Video Library on the SWENext YouTube Channel. Information about SWE sections at the schools you've been accepted at may help you make up your mind if you have multiple options.

LATE SPRING SEMESTER

M Take any AP/IB/Cambridge exams you've been in classes for – they can get you credit at most schools (requirements and number of credits vary by school).

N • Inform every college you were accepted or waitlisted for of your acceptance or rejection of their offers of admission and/or financial aid by May 1.
   • Don't miss the deposit deadline for your college! It is usually also May 1.

O • Apply for a SWE scholarship! Freshmen applications are open March 1 through May 1. Remember to keep your grades up in your Sophomore to Senior year - scholarships need a 3.5 – 3.75 GPA in some cases!!
   • Graduate! Congratulations, you did it!

SUMMER AFTER YOUR SENIOR YEAR

P • Send official high school transcripts with all grades from your senior year to the college you chose as soon as they're available. You may have to submit the forms for this before graduation.
   • Look into housing and roommate assignments as soon as you can.
   • Register for classes the moment you're able! Good classes and time slots go quicker than you think!
   • Join the SWE section at the college you will be attending. Look for a postcard from SWE with a code for free membership. (Offer is limited.)
   • Remember to thank everyone who wrote recommendation letters for you!

QUICK TIPS FOR YOUR SWE SCHOLARSHIP

• SWE judges applications based on four main criteria - academic preparation, leadership and activities, work experience, and interest in engineering. Make sure to highlight these areas on your application!

• Who is eligible? You're eligible if you:
   • Identify as female
   • Are a freshman through graduate student
   • Are studying engineering full-time (exceptions made for re-entry/non-traditional students)
   • Are enrolled in an ABET-accredited program
   • Are a re-entry and non-traditional student

SWE CAN HELP FUND YOUR FUTURE!
Visit scholarships.swe.org to learn more!