

SHS Senior Planning Guide

Every Month

- Check updates on the SHS counselor website weekly-- shscounseling.pbworks.com
- Follow SHS updates on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and counselors' Remind account.
- Ensure you will meet all graduation requirements. See your counselor if there is a question.
- Check your grades with each teacher. See your teachers or counselor if you need suggestions, tutoring, etc.

September

- Attend the College and Career Fair **September 18th** during 2nd and 3rd period in the gym. NHS will host the evening session 5:30-7:00PM.
- Take leadership positions when possible in the school and community.
- Attend the Financial Aid Night with your parents on **September 13th** 6-7 p.m. in the auditorium. Financial Aid help and help filling out the FAFSA will be available during P/T Conferences in the Library classrooms. P/T conf are **October 16th & 18th** and **March 26th & 28th** from 3:30-6:30.
- Register for potential scholarship information on financial aid web pages (Fastweb, Finaid, etc.).
- Take/update career interest inventories and assessments on your Naviance account or other websites, i.e- www.actprofile.org, www.bls.gov/ooh
- Narrow your college/vocational/career options. Develop a schedule for submitting applications.
- Various college representatives will visit the SHS campus throughout the school year. **You must register online at www.shscounseling.pbworks.com by 2:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled visit.**
- If you plan to participate in college athletics, you **must** register with the NCAA, http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp, and inform Ms. Calhoun so she can send your transcript.
- Request letters of recommendation from two teachers. Be sure to give the teachers a copy of your resume to help them with the letter, and give about two weeks for the recommender to write the letter.
- Register for fall ACT & SAT examinations. Prepare for them by using free online ACT prep, and Khan Academy for SAT prep.
- The registration deadline for the October 27th ACT is September 28. Late Registration with fee is Oct 14.

October

- Plan college visits and interviews. Complete the SHS College Visitation Form and turn it in to Mrs. Bolton prior to your visit.
- File your FAFSA forms for financial aid after your parents file their 2017 income taxes. Check your college's financial aid priority deadline.
- The counselors will meet with you in October to help you create an ADHE/YOUniversal account to apply for all Arkansas state funded scholarships.
 - Bring your social security number that day
 - Verify your date of birth and your social security number on your transcript. If they are incorrect in the school's system and you do not change it, you will not receive this aid.
 - Have your own e-mail address that is NOT associated with Fort Smith Schools
- Extra Tip ☺...When you wish to make a college visit, call the college's prospective student services office to arrange the visit. Ask to meet the representatives in admissions, financial aid, and perhaps with students attending the college.
- ACT exam October 27th.
- If you have not scored a 19 or higher on the ACT, consider taking college placement exam, such as the Accuplacer at UAFS to qualify for the Arkansas Academic Challenge (Lottery) Scholarship. Contact your counselor to have the scores sent to state dept. in order to receive the scholarship.

November

- Take advantage of the ASVAB November 7th for an aptitude assessment. The ASVAB is the military entrance exam; it is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success. The ASVAB is the military entrance exam.
- The registration deadline for the December 8th ACT is November 2. Late registration with fee is Nov 19.

December

- Ask the SHS registrar, Mrs. Calhoun, to send an updated transcript to your desired colleges.
- Sign-up for The Basic School (night school) if you failed anything during the first semester.
- ACT exam December 8th.

January

- Be aware of your college's deadlines.
- Complete your final college visits.
- The registration deadline for the February 9th ACT is January 11. Late registration with fee is Jan 18.

February

- ACT exam February 9th.

March

- The registration deadline for the April 13th ACT is March 8. Late registration with fee is Mar 25.

April

- Review financial aid award letters from the colleges and decide which college to attend. The letters describe the amount of assistance you will receive.
- Notify the college you have selected.
- ACT exam April 13th.

May

- Complete the Advanced Placement Exams for any AP courses you are taking.
- Notify colleges you have declined, so they can offer the spot to other students.
- If you have completed the Common Application form on-line, then let your counselor know which college you have chosen so the final report can be sent to your selected college. Otherwise, ask the registrar, Mrs. Calhoun, to send a final transcript to the college you have chosen.
- Check your ADHE/YOUniversal to accept or decline state scholarships.

Stay Up-to-Date with the latest messages and announcements.



Southside High School Mavericks



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