

Senior Year Guidance Timeline



OCALA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Fall

- ★ Attend Orientation
- ★ Attend Senior & Parent Night (date to be announced the first week of school)
- ★ Edit & update a college resume
- ★ Meet with Mrs. Cumbie, Mrs. Loyd, or Mrs. Castillo for senior meeting and go over your HS transcript to verify all your courses are accurately recorded.
- ★ Have ready your list of colleges to TOP 3 colleges (pray over those colleges)
- ★ Review your list with your family...make sure everyone is on the "same page"
- ★ Make your own, personal MASTER calendar of application deadlines, test dates, financial aid deadlines, etc. **START THIS NOW!**
- ★ Write a *generic* college and scholarship essay that can be modified and tweaked based upon the essay instructions.
- ★ Submit FFAA (Bright Futures) AND Submit FAFSA after **October 1**
- ★ Make sure you have completed the ACT and SAT with the scores you want.
- ★ Start the college application process. – **November 1 Goal Deadline**
 - This is also a great time to ask teachers, coaches, pastors, etc. to write recommendation letters or complete the forms. This will give everyone ample time to get them in without missing the deadlines.
 - Recommendation request forms are in MS Guidance Office (See Mrs. Cumbie)
- ★ Start seeking out financial aid and scholarships.



- ★ If you're hoping to be recruited by a Division I or Division II school for sports, you **MUST REGISTER** through the **NCAA eligibility center** or **NAIA eligibility center**.
 - <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>
 - <https://play.mynaia.org/>

Winter

- ★ Get your applications in ON TIME!
- ★ Keep praying about where God wants you to be!
- ★ Contact the admissions counselors at the colleges and double-check to make sure all of your information, recommendations, and transcripts arrived.
- ★ Check with your TOP picks' financial aid offices. Request an "institutional financial aid packet"
 - Identify scholarships to apply for and discuss with your counselor & parents what scholarship opportunities are best for you.
 - Institutional Financial Aid deadlines are normally in January-March, so fill out those scholarship applications in a hurry!
 - Remember to add those deadlines to your Master Calendar.
- ★ Make sure your community service hours are complete and turned in to Mrs. Davis.

Spring

- ★ WAIT FOR THOSE ACCEPTANCE LETTERS!
 - Let Mrs. Cumbie know when and where you get accepted!
- ★ Financial Aid award letters from colleges start arriving by mid-April.
 - Let Mrs. Cumbie know when and where you get a scholarship!
- ★ If you're unhappy about what the award letters offer you, CALL the financial aid office at the college.
- ★ Make your final decision about which college you will attend **ON or BEFORE May 1**.
 - Then, call and decline the other acceptances from the other schools.
- ★ Graduation!!!

Summer

- ★ Ask OCA to send your final transcripts to your college when your grades and graduation information are posted.
- ★ Enjoy your summer!
- ★ Start preparing for college
 - Attend college orientation
 - Start packing if you're staying in the dorms
 - Set up a budget for spending while at college. SERIOUSLY!
 - Research part-time jobs at your college if you need extra money.
 - Think about taking summer classes!