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# HSPVA

## Timeline to Graduation

### Prioritize Mental & Emotional Health

Seniors typically have a lot of goals they want to achieve

- Write down your goals
- Make a timelines of your goals
- Be realistic with time commitments
- Don't forget to have fun and be happy, enjoy the moments
- Carve out time for "college free" conversations with parents and loved ones
- Its ok to say "No"

### Opt out of No Rank Decision

- Seniors will receive a copy of their unofficial transcript with updated rank and GPA in August/September
- Seniors can decide to "opt out of no rank" HSPVA policy which means sending rank to every school

### Complete Essays

- Common Application Essays
- Coalition Application Essays
- Apply TX Essays

### Complete FAFSA/ TAFSA

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- Texas Application for State Financial Aid
- Texas graduation requirement
- Opens October 1
- January 15th priority deadline

### Apply for Scholarships

- Scholarships are available through specific schools or organizations offering them.
- Deadlines are throughout the year
- Some based on need and some based on merit

Scholarships can be found:

- Naviance Scholarship list
- HISD Hot Scholarships  
<https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/181035>
- Fastweb: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- Cappex: [www.cappex.com](http://www.cappex.com)
- Unigo: [www.unigo.com](http://www.unigo.com)
- Scholar Snapp: [www.scholarsnapp.org](http://www.scholarsnapp.org)
- College Board Opportunity Scholarships:  
<https://opportunity.collegeboard.org/>

### Collect Admissions Decisions & Award Letters

Depending on what type of deadline students use they can start hearing from schools as early as December or most typically right before or after spring break.

Some admissions decisions letters also include award letters for financial aid but sometimes those can arrive much later

### Graduate & Become a member of the HSPVA Alumnis

### Capstone

- HSPVA required course for Seniors
- Counselor lessons on the application process and how to order transcripts and letters of rec
- Imbedded time to work on applications, essays, resumes, and scholarships
- Time for application problem solving
- Information and assistance with FAFSA

### Academics and Attendance are Still Important

- Graduation is still the #1 Priority and seniors need to pass your required courses to graduate
- Colleges require Midyear transcripts at the end of 1st semester and will review grades, attendance, and rank- **this CAN impact an admissions decision**

### SAT/ ACT

Some students may want to take the test again before college deadlines

- Register with CollegeBoard.org and ACT.org to sign up for test dates

### Begin College Applications

- Make or update a spreadsheet with application requirements for each school
- Research each school's website for specific information about the application process and deadlines
- Most schools use more than one application to choose from
  - Common Application
  - Coalition
  - Apply Texas
  - Other
- Applications are due by 11:59 PM on the deadline day, this includes all parts of the application including test scores

### Track Your Portals

Once a school receives a student's application, many schools will have them create an online portal through their website to track important documents, deadlines, and communicate admissions decisions or questions.

### Enroll Deadline

- Once a student receives an admissions offer and award letter, they are given a deadline of when to accept and put a deposit down on the school
  - May 1st is a common acceptance deadline

### Celebrate!

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