



# Junior-Senior Checklist



## Spring Semester and Summer of Junior Year

- 1. Early on, talk about your post-high school plans with your parents or legal guardians.
- 2. Take the **ACT** and/or **SAT** this spring or summer. Even if you are attending a two-year institution, taking one of these tests is a good idea. Looking at any competitive schools? Check to see if they require the ACT writing assessment or SAT II's. Registration is online using a credit card or electronic check.

ACT website is [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)  
SAT website is [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- 3. Campus visits can be very informative. Plan to visit schools that interest you. See what schools are like when classes are in session and students are in on campus. Visit classes, look inside the dorms, speak with college advisors and admissions personnel.
- 4. Request admissions information and applications from colleges. Make certain you request applications for the year you will begin college. Use the internet, the mail, or the telephone to request these materials. Some technical programs have waiting lists, so inquire early.
- 5. Sign up to visit with college representatives who visit Southeast. Schedules are listed in the Daily Bulletin, Counseling Center Announcements and on the LSE website. Register for these visits in advance through the Counseling Center.
- 6. Discuss how you will finance your education. Family pays? You pay? Scholarships, loans, grants? Visit EducationQuest (13th and "O" Streets) to learn about the free services they provide students and their families.
- 7. Make an appointment to have your senior pictures taken. Deadline for yearbook submission is in October.

## Fall Semester of Senior Year

- 1. Take the **ACT**, **SAT**, or **SAT II's** in the fall, if needed. For four-year schools, take them on or before the December test dates. As long as you submit your scores to the same institutions each time, most schools will take your best scores. Watch for testing workshops at LSE, through LPS, and in the community. **ALWAYS** take the practice test that is on the website before the test. You will be much better prepared to do your best.
- 2. Most community colleges, junior colleges, technical schools, trade schools, and the military will require their own admissions test. For example, if you are applying to Southeast Community College, plan to take the **Compass** early in your senior year.
- 3. **IF** your application (or scholarship) requires a letter of recommendation, submit your request, your Student Request for a Letter of Recommendation folder, and any other necessary information to the teacher or counselor with 2-4 weeks notice. **IMPORTANT:** For applications with December 15-January 15 deadlines, request letters by December 1.

## **Fall Semester of Senior Year, continued**

- 4. Apply to the schools that you are most serious about. Many students apply to more than one school. Read your application forms and follow directions carefully. Request your transcript at least 24 hours in advance. Transcripts will be mailed directly from Southeast to the college or university you have requested.
- 5. Watch the Scholarship Bulletin Board (across from the main office) and read the Counseling Center Announcements (CCA) for scholarships. Scholarships are also posted on the LSE website at [www.lse.lps.org](http://www.lse.lps.org). The bulletin board, the CCA and the website are updated weekly to reflect new applications available in the Counseling Center files. You and your parents or guardians should also pursue all avenues possible for financial aid and assistance. Talk to employers, club sponsors, organizations of which you or family are members, churches, and places you volunteer. You can also use one of several internet college scholarship searches or the scholarship search program at EducationQuest.

Don't forget that financial aid is also available from the colleges and universities you apply to. When applying, remember to fill out any additional college scholarship/financial aid forms and send them in by the stated deadline. Deadlines are firm.

- 6. Continue to meet with college representatives who visit Southeast High School. You can register for a visit in the Counseling Center.
- 7. Order your cap and gown and your graduation announcements. The dates to do so are published in the Banner and posted in the Counseling Center Announcements and Daily Bulletin. The dates are also printed in a mailing you receive over the summer.

## **Spring Semester of Senior Year**

- 1. Pick up your "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" (FAFSA) from the Counseling Center in December or January and begin to work with your parents to fill it out. Some schools will have a priority filing deadline as early as March 1.
- 2. Continue to check for scholarship and financial aid opportunities. New applications arrive well into March and early April.
- 3. Before graduation, complete your "Final Transcript" form to request that your final transcript be sent to the college or university you will attend. Final transcripts will be mailed directly to the colleges and universities after grades are posted and class rank is figured in mid-June.

# Junior Timeline

## Fall of Junior Year

- ❖ Fall meetings for juniors at LSE: September 21<sup>st</sup>
- ❖ Utilize resources provided by LSE Counseling Center's web site at <http://lse.lps.org/counseling>
- ❖ Use information available through EducationQuest's web site at [www.educationquest.org](http://www.educationquest.org)
- ❖ Graduation Demonstration Exams
  - Math GDE October 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Reading GDE October 4
  - Writing GDE October 4 & 5
- ❖ PSAT test
  - Registration dates: October 2<sup>nd</sup> through October 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Test date: October 21<sup>st</sup> \* Alternate test date: October 18<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ ASVAB test: Information available at [www.military.com](http://www.military.com)
  - Offered October 19<sup>th</sup> at LSE
- ❖ Attend financial aid program
  - Financial Aid Night: December 12<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Use reputable online scholarship searches
  - FastWeb at [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  - Scholarship Quest at [www.educationquest.org](http://www.educationquest.org)
  - Discover Card Scholarship <http://www.discoverfinancial.com/data/philanthropy/tribute.shtml>
- ❖ Research colleges that interest you
  - EducationQuest's College Profiles at [www.educationquest.org](http://www.educationquest.org)
  - Explore the Career Cruising web site at [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com) (Username: southeast \* Password: knights)
  - Attend Lincoln Area College Fair: October 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - Visit with military and college admissions representatives who visit LSE

## Spring of Junior Year

- ❖ Spring meeting for juniors at LSE: February 28<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Meeting for junior parents during Parent/Teacher Conferences on March 5<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Begin college visits
  - Schedule campus visits two weeks in advance
- ❖ Ask teachers, counselors, coaches, & other potential references for letters of recommendation
- ❖ Start a scholarship file to organize scholarship applications and materials
- ❖ Use EducationQuest's *College Funding Estimator* to estimate your financial aid eligibility
- ❖ ACT test: Register at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
  - Spring semester test dates: February 10<sup>th</sup>, April 14<sup>th</sup>, June 9<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ SAT & Subject tests: Register at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
  - Spring semester test dates: January 27<sup>th</sup>, March 10<sup>th</sup> (SAT only), May 5<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Later dates are preferred for students applying to selective schools, which will expect several Subject tests scores
- ❖ ASSET/COMPASS tests
  - Schedule tests at Southeast Community College at [www.southeast.edu](http://www.southeast.edu)