

Senior Year Checklist

Summer & Fall

- Explore career options that interest you & learn about yourself so you can plan your future
 - Visit <https://wcsd.nv.headed2.com/signin> use school email to register & use the Career Explorer

- Start the college admissions process (July/August)
 - Explore colleges via research, tours, college fairs & identify your top choices
 - Set aside plenty of time to draft, edit, and re-write application essays
 - Keep track of documents you will need to submit at their deadlines
 - Find out if there is a fee to apply for admission
 - Some colleges can defer this fee (UNR does!)

- Meet with a counselor to review transcript to ensure you're on track to graduate and to check you meet your preferred college admissions requirements (August)
 - Ex: UNR requires a certain number of credits in English, math, social studies, and natural science along with a minimum GPA. Make sure you're on track to meet the requirements of whatever school you want to go to!
 - Consider AP classes & Dual Credit classes to start earning college credit

- Subscribe to the SHS Scholarship Twitter, Instagram, & TEAMS page!
 - Find all the social media profiles here: https://linktr.ee/Scholarship_shs
 - SHS College and Career website: <https://www.washoeschools.net/Page/3720>

- Fill out the Letter of Recommendation worksheets & ask teachers/coaches/counselors to write you a letter
 - Ask for multiple copies of the letter

- Register for the ACT or SAT if needed (August)
 - It's recommended to get retakes done in 1st semester so best scores are available in time for "Scholarship Season" which is primarily in 2nd semester. Test results may take up to a month or longer to post online!

- Get measured for your Cap and Gown (August/September)

- Explore military options- attend a lunch time table-talk with recruiters to learn more if interested

Gather documents needed to complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) (Opens October 1st)

- Social Security card (yours and one of your parents)
- Driver's License (if applicable)
- Tax Returns of the previous year
- Create an FSA ID for student and parent

Register for FAFSA Workshop Events at SHS where you can get expert help filling out your application! (October)

Get involved! Keep track of your extracurricular activities!

- If you don't have any volunteering experience, now is the time to get some. **Most** scholarships will require volunteer work and a record of that work!
- Join a club or sport!!

Every senior should apply to the *TMCC Nevada Promise Scholarship* (Due October 31st)

Know for sure where you want to attend college? Early Admissions applications are typically due in November

Apply for a Spring *WCSD Internship* (October-November)

- Internships are for the medical field, STEM field, and Radio/Journalism field

Stay updated on the requirements for the *Nevada Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship*

Take the exam to earn the Seal of Biliteracy for your diploma if applicable

Winter

Start submitting Admission Applications to colleges if you haven't already!

- Most colleges have online portals where you can submit your documents and receive instructions. Check these portals frequently!

If applicable, find out if there is an application/deposit due to secure on-campus housing (February)

Ensure you have copies of common documents scholarships ask for:

- Letters of recommendation, resumes, official transcripts, proof of college acceptance, FAFSA SAR etc.

Attend SHS "Scholarship Clinics" during WIN and Saturday Schools to get help with all things scholarship related

TURN IN **THE SPARKS HIGH SCHOOL GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP** APPLICATION! (February)

Ensure the spelling of your name on file with the school is how you want it printed on your diploma (Paperwork to do this is collected in senior Government classes)

Request that 7th semester high school transcripts be sent to colleges

Spring (SCHOLARSHIP SEASON!)



Check scholarship postings for deadlines

- Brush up on how to mail an envelope- some scholarships require applications to be mailed & postmarked (Yes, some organizations still use "snail mail!")

Ensure your FAFSA is submitted and your Student Aid Report (SAR) is accurate and sent to your choice colleges

Send colleges immunization records if applicable

- Try using <https://webiz.ny.gov/> to complete this task

Register for AP exams, if applicable

Attend SHS Senior Meetings to learn about Graduation Practice (required)

Last chance to take the exam to earn the Seal of Biliteracy for your diploma if applicable

First big TMCC Promise Scholarship Deadline (**March**)

Pick your senior quote for the yearbook (**March**)

Vote for Senior Superlatives (**March**)

Review financial aid award letters

Officially accept admission offers as instructed by institution and send tuition deposit if applicable

- Check your online college portal frequently!
- Give notice to colleges not attending if required

Sign up to take college placement tests like ACCUPLACER if applicable

Send SHS Scholarship Committee proof of scholarships awarded to you so you will be included in the Scholarship Night ceremony (April/May)

Sign up and pay for Safe and Sober- usually seniors go on a trip to an amusement park!

Settle your accounts with the bookkeeper so you can pick up your Cap and Gown!

- Library late fees are the number one outstanding balance on senior accounts!
- Don't forget to turn your library books in before the end of the year!

Register for and take AP Exams (May)

- Verify all AP grade reports have been received by your selected college

Notify the college of any private grants or scholarships received as this may affect the other financial awards

Find out when payment for tuition & room and board is due

Understand how your financial aid will be disbursed and if bill payment can be deferred until funds are available

Attend Graduation practice

Register for college classes! (April & May)

- Don't wait, they fill up quickly and you might have less choice to build your schedule how you want
- You can utilize college advisors and even college recruiters to help make sure you choose classes you need



GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL!