



ACTION STEPS

College Planning Timeline

For Parents and Families | 12th Grade

Check Senior Schedule.

Review your student's senior schedule to ensure they meet graduation, scholarship, and college requirements.

Maintain Strong Grades.

Encourage good study habits and grades, as colleges will request mid-year and final transcripts. In addition, Bright Futures requires senior year grades in the final evaluation to determine eligibility.

Evaluate College List.

Review your students' college list to verify it is balanced and fits well with your child's and family's goals.

Monitor Application Deadlines.

Research application decision types, such as Early Action/Early Decision, and review potential deadlines for each program. Assist your student by monitoring deadlines and ensuring your applications and supporting documents are submitted on time.

Attend School Events.

Attend open house and senior parent night events to receive important information about senior year, graduation, and postsecondary planning.

Prepare FAFSA Documents.

Start gathering important documents to complete FAFSA, which opens October 1st. Before the application opens, create an FSA ID to sign the FAFSA electronically.

Complete CSS Profile.

Work with your student to complete and submit the CSS Profile if required by any of the colleges they applied to.

Continue Scholarship Search.

Support your student in continuing to seek scholarships throughout senior year.

Check Emails Regularly.

Encourage your student to check their email daily to stay on top of any communications sent by The True North College Success Team, colleges, or scholarship organizations.

Compare Financial Offers.

Review financial aid letters and packages with your student to help them choose the one that best fits your family.

Confirm Housing Plans

Review college housing arrangements and submit deposits by the school's deadline.

Submit Final Documents.

Follow up with your student about the submission of additional documents to their chosen school as needed. These may include residency forms, immunization documents, and orientation registration.

Send Thank-You Notes.

Encourage your student to write thank-you notes to anyone who assisted with the college admissions process.

Celebrate Student Success.

Honor your student's accomplishments and support them as they transition to college.