**SENIOR YEAR – PREPARING FOR COLLEGE CHECKLIST**

### Summer Before
- Visit the campuses of your top five choices
- Develop a financial aid application plan
- Narrow down which colleges you may want to attend
- Compose rough drafts of your college essays
- Make a calendar showing application deadlines
- Proofread your final essay at least three times

### Fall
- Check your class ranking
- Begin applying at applytexas.org
- Retake the SAT/ACT to improve your scores
- Ask your counselor to send your official transcript to schools where you have applied

### Spring
- Make sure you have a social security card
- Update your college resume
- Copy and print extra copies of each application sent
- See your school counselor for help in finding scholarships
- Volunteer in your community
- Follow up to make sure the colleges have received all applicant information
- Meet with your school counselor to verify that all application forms are in order and transcripts were sent to all colleges that you applied
- Contact school for information regarding housing, dining, deposits, advisement & registration

### Summer After
- Fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- Stay involved in extracurricular activities
- Watch your mail for acceptance letters
- Compare financial aid packages from the schools where you have been accepted
- After each college interview, send a thank you note to the interviewer
- Notify your college about any outside scholarships you may have received
- Receive New Student Orientation schedule
- Get resident hall assignment
- Have final official transcript sent to the college

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**SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

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