

Senior Year Timeline & Planner



Provided by American Indian Education Fund, a program of
Partnership With Native Americans: www.aiefprogram.org

September:

- Begin thinking about what type of school you want to attend. Contact the schools you want to attend or learn more about, and ask them to send you an application and admissions requirement. If you know what each school requires (the ACT or SAT, which classes you need), and how much it will cost, it helps your guidance counselor ensure you take all of the necessary steps.
- Make an appointment to speak with your high school guidance counselor (or the school's main office) about your plans for college. Discuss the different types of schools and ask if they know of any scholarships and grants that can help you pay for college. Confirm you have taken all the required high school classes and have enough credits for admission to the school of your choice.
- Register for the Fall ACT or SAT test.

October:

- Begin reviewing applications and information from the schools you may want to attend.
- Take the ACT or SAT. Remember to list which schools you want to receive your scores.
- Register for the winter tests (December/January) and ask your counselor how to raise your score.



November/December:

- Fill out applications for any school you would like to attend and mail it to the school.
- Ask your counselor or main office to send your transcripts to all schools to which you will apply.
- Review the timeline above and finish anything you have not done up to this point.

January:

- Take the ACT or SAT test again and have your scores sent to your list of target schools again.
- Fill out your FAFSA and list the schools you want to attend. Your FAFSA info will automatically go to those schools.
- Ask your tribal education office if you are eligible for a scholarship. If so, ask for an application.
- Start looking for other Native American scholarships you can apply for, being mindful of deadlines. (Usually, scholarship deadlines are sometime in the spring).

February:

- Within 5 weeks after sending in your FAFSA, you will receive an SAR (Student Aid Report). Follow the directions to make any changes and return the form to the address marked.
- Contact the admission offices at each of the schools you applied to and make sure they have all of the application materials they need from you.

March/April:

- The schools you applied to should begin sending you acceptance letters.
- Of the schools that accepted you, begin thinking about which one you would like to attend.
- Contact the school and ask about housing options for students on campus. The school may have already sent you information on housing by this point.

May/June:

- Narrow down your choice of schools to one.
- Have your high school send your final transcripts to the school you chose to attend.
- You will begin receiving final award letters from the schools that received your FAFSA.
- You will also begin hearing back from scholarship programs to which you applied.
- Let the Financial Aid Office at the school you will attend know of the awards you received.
- Make a financial plan to pay for your tuition, expenses and housing.

July/August:

- Ask your school's Admissions Office about participating in an "orientation." If they don't provide orientation, schedule a time when you can take a tour of the school.
- If you plan to live on campus, start working out the details of those arrangements now.
- Get ready for your new life as a college freshman!