



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLEGE PREP

SENIOR YEAR COLLEGE COUNSELING TIMELINE CLASS OF 2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ☐ Regularly visit the [SV College Corner website](#) for updates and direction on the college search process.
- ☐ Visit your College Counseling Canvas classroom for assignments and deadlines.
- ☐ Use a personal (or college specific) email for college applications and check often. Colleges use this to contact you for required information. DO NOT USE YOUR SV EMAIL.

AUGUST

- ☐ **August 20** – College Kickoff Meeting with senior students not enrolled in the College Advisory Class
- ☐ Narrow list of colleges to 8-12. (Consider all the UC's one college and all the CSU's one college)
 - ☐ Add colleges to [Maia Learning](#). Move from "Considering List" to "Applying List"
- ☐ Check transcripts to ensure they are correct and there are no errors. These are available in your Maia Drive.
- ☐ Complete activities list.
- ☐ Complete brag sheets for teachers and counselors to write college recommendations.
- ☐ List your application essay questions.
- ☐ Check [Maia](#) for upcoming SV college visits and sign up in Maia to meet with the college reps.
- ☐ Start the [Common Application](#) (for most private/out of state colleges)
- ☐ Organize and keep up with deadlines - the provided [College List Chart](#) is useful.
- ☐ Download [Simple Guidelines to Applying to College](#).

Dates in August – September

August 1 – UC and Common App opens
August 20 – Senior Kickoff 2:10pm Rm 11
Aug/Sept – 1-on-1 meeting with college counseling.
Sept 8 - Senior Parent College App Night

SEPTEMBER

- ☐ Continue finalizing college list and updating Maia.
- ☐ Meet with college counselor for one-on-one meeting.
- ☐ Brainstorm/revise essays with your essay coach.
- ☐ Contact teachers to ask for Letters of Recommendation.
- ☐ If applying early, ensure your SAT/ACT scores are sent directly to the colleges where needed.
- ☐ **Sept 12** – Last day to submit Essay Support Request Form if you are seeking essay support.

OCTOBER

- ☐ Complete applications for early action or rolling admissions.
- ☐ **Oct 1** - Predicted filing period opens for FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- ☐ **Oct 1** – UC and CSU application filing period opens.
- ☐ **Oct 1** – Filing period Cal Grant Verification Forms opens.
- ☐ **Oct 1** – Filing period for CSS (College Scholarship Service) profile opens (deadlines set by individual colleges)
- ☐ **Oct 1** – Last day to Notify to Counseling Department of any Early Decision applications you are sending.

Dates in October

10/1 – CSS profile opens
10/1 – CSU application filing opens
10/1 – Letter of Rec asking deadline
10/1 – Notify counseling of all EA/ED applications 1
10/13 – How to Pay for College Night (for parents)
10/15 – SAT at SV

- ❑ **Oct 1** – Last day to ask for recommendations from teacher AND counselor – with completed brag sheet.
- ❑ **October 15** - Take the **digital SAT @ SV**.

NOVEMBER

- ❑ **November 1 & 15** – Early Action and Early Decision applications due for many schools.
- ❑ Check applicant portal of each college you are applying for EARLY ACTION to ensure they have all your information. If they do not, you have one week to resolve.
See Canvas for password tracker
- ❑ Submit early applications.
- ❑ **Nov 27 – GOAL to have all college applications submitted.**
- ❑ **Nov 30** – UC and CSU applications due
- ❑ Submit all other regular decision applications.

Dates in November

11/1 & 11/15 – Early Acceptance
Applications due
11/27 – GOAL to have all applications submitted
11/30 – UC and CSU applications due

DECEMBER

- ❑ Do well in your classes (grades still matter!)
- ❑ Thank your teachers/counselors who wrote recommendations.

JANUARY-FEBRUARY

- ❑ Most priority deadlines for CSS Profile are in February.
- ❑ Begin searching and applying for scholarships.
- ❑ Send any additional materials requested by colleges.
- ❑ Set up college portal for all colleges that you applied to. Colleges will send an email to get this set up. Use this [password tracker](#) to keep track of all usernames and passwords for your portals.

MARCH - APRIL

- ❑ **April 2** - FAFSA deadline (check schools for individual deadlines)
- ❑ Research, visit and strongly evaluate your college acceptances and where you'd be a good fit.
- ❑ Update admissions decisions in Maia.

Dates in April

4/2 – FAFSA official deadline

MAY

- ❑ **May 1 – Make your final college decision!** Go to the college portal and submit your deposit and any forms needed for your college of choice!!
- ❑ Send in a deposit for housing.
- ❑ Update Maia with the college you will attend.
- ❑ In the portal of each college you do not plan to attend, decline their offer of attendance.

Dates in May

5/1 – Statement of Intent to register deadline