

FALL (Sept. - Nov.)

- Contact your school counselor - they play a big role in helping you get college and career ready. Meet to talk about your college or career plans and review your transcripts and graduations requirements. Visit the COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER in the counseling office.
- Complete a High School and Beyond Plan. It is a graduation requirement!
- Know your options. You have many options to earn the degree or certification needed to pursue your career interests; 2-year or 4-year colleges, technical schools, apprenticeships, military, and much more.
- If you haven't already, try to visit some of the colleges, universities, or vocational schools you are interested in. Also watch for college representatives or recruiters visiting MLHS throughout the year.
- Finalize your list of colleges or vocational schools. Review applications and informational materials.
- Begin working on your college essays. Think of topics that focus on experiences and make you stand out from other applicants.
- Start applying to the colleges or vocational schools you have chosen. Prepare your applications carefully and DON'T FORGET TO PAY ATTENTION TO DEADLINES AND APPLICATION FEES, especially if you are applying to early decision or early action program.
- If you took the SAT Spring of your junior year and you used a fee waiver, be sure to be log in to your College Board account to print your four college application fee waivers. Stop by the College and Career Center if you need help with your College Board account!
- Be sure to keep copies of everything you submit in case you are asked for it again.
- Check your email daily! This is how the colleges will communicate with you. Make sure you have an appropriate email address.
- Think of who you will ask for a letter of recommendation. It can be teachers, counselors, mentors, boss, etc. Make sure to have at least 3 letters of recommendation. Ask at least 2 weeks in advance.
- Be sure to have your activities resume ready. You will need to give a copy to the people writing letters of recommendation for you.
- Transcripts can be requested on Parchment <https://mlhs.mlsd161.org/apps/pages/parchment> The counseling office does not provide students with transcripts. If you have fines your transcript will be held until fines are cleared.
- If you need to take the ACT or SAT, register! Check with the College & Career Center for questions about the registration process or sending your scores to colleges. www.collegeboard.org for SAT www.actstudent.org for ACT **All seniors will take the SAT w/Essay for FREE on Future Day- October 10th!**
- Create a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID). One for you and one for a parent. This is what you will use to electronically sign your FAFSA. Visit the College & Career Center for help!



- ❑ Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA)! The FAFSA/WASFA opens October 1st.
ALL students are encouraged to complete the FAFSA/WASFA even if you think you don't qualify for aid. Most colleges require students to complete the FAFSA to be eligible for certain scholarships.
 - ❑ Submit your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov as soon as possible after October 1st or your WASFA at <http://www.readysatgrad.org/wasfa>. You and your family will use tax information from 2017 to complete the application, which you already have!
 - ❑ If you are a College Bound student, be sure to apply!
 - ❑ Men 18 years or older, register with Selective Service to receive federal financial aid.
- ❑ Review your SAR Report on www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - ❑ Make sure all the colleges you are considering are listed.
 - ❑ Check your email for any missing information.
 - ❑ If there are corrections needed, make corrections ASAP.
- ❑ Attend a FAFSA/WASFA/financial aid workshop with your parents.
- ❑ Order graduation items like cap & gown, announcements, etc. Keep an eye out for Royal T visits to MLHS. Don't forget to purchase a yearbook!
- ❑ Start applying for scholarships. Do some research and see which ones you qualify for at the national, state, and individual college levels.
- ❑ Work hard to complete your college essays and have them proofread.
- ❑ Submit early decision and early action applications on time. Usually due by 11/15!
- ❑ If your college requests additional financial aid forms, complete them and return them ASAP.
- ❑ Work on completing regular decision applications and make sure to submit by deadline.



WINTER (Dec. - Feb.)

- ❑ If you have not completed your FAFSA/WASFA, do so ASAP!
- ❑ If you have not completed your High School and Beyond Plan, do so ASAP! It's a grad requirement.
- ❑ Continue your hunt for scholarships and apply for scholarships.
- ❑ Keep up your hard work! Remember to finish 1st semester strong.
- ❑ If colleges are asking for 1st semester transcripts, request transcript on Parchment.
- ❑ Focus on your classes during 2nd semester; avoid SENIORITIS! ☺
- ❑ Look out for local scholarships opening!
- ❑ Make sure you have ordered your cap and gown!



SPRING (Mar. - Jun.)

- ❑ Acceptance letters and financial aid offers will start to arrive. Review your acceptances, compare financial aid packages, and visit your final choices, especially if you haven't already. Visit the College & Career Center for help!
- ❑ Make sure to take any placement tests required or submit any forms needed at the college of your choice.
- ❑ Study for final exams! Good luck!
- ❑ Write thank you notes to teachers and anyone that wrote a letter of recommendation for you. Also to any committee from which you received a scholarship or award.
- ❑ Prepare for graduation! Keep updated on upcoming senior events and enjoy them! Don't forget to pick up your paid order from Royal T. Dates will be announced.

☀ VISIT <http://mlhs.mlssd161.org/apps/pages/collegeandcareer> for more info!

For more info or questions please see Miss Pruneda in the College & Career Center located in the Counseling Office.