

Garden Spot High School Post-Secondary Planning Timeline

Senior Year

September

- **KNOW YOUR DEADLINES:** Some college application deadlines can be as early as mid-October. Deadlines are for ALL application materials-transcripts, letters of recommendation and any other supplemental documentation.
- **Request Teacher Recommendations:** Requests MUST be made through Naviance but should be made in person FIRST. Please give teachers at least 2 weeks to complete Letters.
- **Senior Assemblies:** The high school counselors present college application information to seniors in early September. How to apply to schools, request transcripts and utilize Naviance are reviewed. This information is also presented to students at the CTC campuses.
- **Service Learning project due:** All 30 hours must be completed by September. Students will be notified of the specific deadline at the beginning of the school year.

October

- **Senior Interviews:** You will meet individually with your counselor to discuss what your specific plans are and what assistance you may need in the application process. This information is mailed home to families so they are aware of the information that was discussed during the interview.
- **SAT/ACT:** We recommend that you re-take the SAT and ACT in October of your senior year. Both are offered at GSHS in October
- **APPLY!** The sooner the better. We recommend that your applications be complete before Thanksgiving. Some colleges may have earlier deadlines!

November

- **Attend Financial Aid night at Garden Spot High School:** Held in November, this event is intended for students and their parents to gain valuable knowledge about the financial aid process. A PHEAA (Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Association) representative will be present to answer any questions you may have.

December

- **Visit schools AGAIN:** If you are struggling with making a decision regarding where you would like to attend to school, take another tour, speak with an admissions counselor, or request an overnight visit.

January

- **Gather your tax information:** The FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available for completion on January 1st of your senior year. You will need your tax information to complete the FAFSA.
- **Apply for Scholarships:** Search and apply for scholarships. Information is available online, on Naviance and in the Guidance office.

February

- **Attend FAFSA Completion Night at Garden Spot High School:** A representative from PHEAA will be available to assist families in completing the FAFSA. Appointments are required and should be made through the guidance office.

March

- **Review your Financial Aid packages:** You will begin to receive your financial aid packages from colleges. If you have any questions regarding these packages, please contact the Financial Aid Offices of the schools to which you have applied.

April

- **Make a Decision:** At this point, you should have all information needed to decide which school you will be attending! Many schools will require a deposit to secure your spot that school or in a specific major. Know the deposit deadlines for each of the schools in which you are interested.