

## 17 JULY

- Create Common App account
- Start your activities list (10 max)
- Brainstorm your personal statement
- Build your preliminary college list
- Review testing plans & scores

## 17 AUGUST

- Common App opens August 1
- Finalize personal statement
- Complete Common App Profile + Family + Education sections
- Add colleges + check their essay requirements
- Begin drafting supplements (Why Us, Major, Community)
- Request teacher recs (if not already done)
- Request transcripts through school counselor

## 17 SEPTEMBER

- Finalize college list
- Submit first round of apps (if applying Early Action/Decision or Rolling)
- Continue writing supplements
- Follow up with recommenders
- Confirm deadlines & testing policies
- Add colleges to FAFSA/CSS list (if ready)
- Check any housing requirements

## 17 OCTOBER

- FAFSA opens October 1
- Complete FAFSA + CSS Profile if needed
- Finalize and submit Early Action / Early Decision apps
- Continue working on regular decision apps
- Draft Additional Information section (if needed)

## 17 NOVEMBER


- Final check on deadlines and submission confirmations
- Submit remaining EA/ED applications
- Send official test scores if required
- Touch base with school counselor

## 17 DECEMBER

- Submit all Regular Decision apps (many due Jan 1-15)
- Celebrate finishing apps!
- Track confirmations and portal login info
- Check email regularly for updates or missing materials

## 17 JANUARY

- Submit any last RD apps
- Complete scholarship applications
- Check financial aid portals
- Breathe. The hard part is done.

 **Pro Tip:** Don't let the deadlines drive the energy. Build in buffer time, celebrate small wins, and remind your teen this process is about *finding their fit* – not just finishing forms. Aim to finish apps at least **one week early** in case of tech issues, transcript delays, or last-minute edits. You'll all breathe easier.