

# Senior Year Guidance Info. – Class of 2023

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## College/Career Readiness Timeline for 2022-2023 School Year

(Use the resources provide by *Calvary Christian Academy* – [the CCA Guidance Page](#))

- **General CCA Graduation Guidelines** are...

- 4 **Bible** (*1 credit each year enrolled in CCA*)
  - 4 **English**
  - 4 **Math** (Algebra I, Geometry, and 2 more at or above Algebra I level)
  - 3 **Science** (*2 with substantial lab*)\*
  - 3 **Social Studies** ( $\frac{1}{2}$  Government,  $\frac{1}{2}$  Economics, 1 World History, & 1 U.S. History)
  - 1 **Performing or Fine Art** (*chorus, drama, etc.*)
  - 1 **Physical Education** (*including health element or with separate  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit health class*)
  - 4 **Electives – College Admissions requirements include 2 credits of a foreign/world language** (*sequential in the same language*)
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- 24 TOTAL CREDITS** (*should include at least 1 completely online course – NOT Driver's Education*)

*\*State requirement is only 3 sciences but a 4<sup>th</sup> science may be needed for some career paths.*

## NOW

- Make an [appointment](#) to meet with Mr. Russell to confirm course selections and discuss after high school options.
- Take the [O\\*NET Interest Profiler](#) to help determine viable career choices.
- Register for the [ACT](#) and/or [College Board SAT](#) (with the exception of SAT School Day on October 13)

## September

- Request **letters of recommendation** (which can be done through Naviance), especially if you are applying early.
- Visit campuses** and interview with college admissions representatives.
- Request applications from all the schools to which you might apply.** (Create an account with [The Common Application](#) or the [Coalition Application](#) if the colleges you've selected use them.)
- Create a calendar of deadlines. (Pay attention to **early decision**, **early action**, and **preferred application deadlines**.)
- Register for and attend **college fairs in the fall term.**
- Work on **college essays**, seek out a **leadership position** in an extracurricular activity, and work to **strengthen your academic record.**

## October

- Continue to research schools to **narrow your list to roughly 3 - 5 schools.**
- Take advantage of **college tours (in-person and virtual).**

- ❑ Complete your applications if you are applying [early decision or early action](#).
- ❑ Research **financial aid and scholarships**. (Do your parents' places of employment offer college scholarships for employee children?)
- ❑ Request your **high school transcript and *check it for accuracy***.
- ❑ **Keep track of all application components and deadlines**: applications, test scores, letters of recommendation, and financial aid materials. An incomplete application will ruin your chances for admission.
- ❑ Research **financial aid and scholarships**.
  - Gather **financial aid information** (consult [FastWeb](#), [College Board](#), and/or [Go College](#)).
  - **Continue to research scholarships** (consult [Florida Shines](#), [Cappex](#), and/or [Chegg](#)).
  - Use the scholarship searches in the [CCA Guidance webpages](#).
  - Do your parents' places of employment offer college scholarships for employee children?
- ❑ Get your **college essay** in shape. Get feedback on your writing from an English teacher.
- ❑ **If desired, apply for Federal Aid at FAFSA (*Selective Service registration is part of the process*)**. – Review the **Student Aid Report (SAR)** for accuracy. Errors can cost you thousands of dollars.

## November

- ❑ **Don't let your grades slide**. It's easy to be distracted from schoolwork when working on applications. "*Senioritis*" can be disastrous for your admissions chances.
- ❑ Make sure you've submitted all components of your college applications with November deadlines for early decision or preferred application.
- ❑ Put the final touches on your **application essays and get feedback**.
- ❑ Ask for **recommendations** from teachers and/or school counselor.

## December-January

- ❑ **Complete your applications for regular admissions**.
- ❑ Make sure you've had your **test scores** sent to all colleges that require them.
- ❑ **Confirm** that your **letters of recommendation** have been **sent**.
- ❑ If you are accepted to a school through **early decision**, be sure to follow directions carefully. Submit required forms and notify the other schools to which you applied of your decision.
- ❑ Continue to focus on your grades and **extracurricular involvement**.
- ❑ **Apply for [Florida Financial Aid](#) in January**.
- ❑ **Have midyear grades (at the end of Semester 1) sent to colleges**.
- ❑ Continue to keep track of all **deadlines and application components**.
- ❑ **Continue to research scholarships**. Apply for scholarships well in advance of deadlines.

## February-March

- Attend the **Senior Seminar** (*during Achievement Test Week*).
- Contact colleges** that didn't send you a confirmation receipt for your application.
- Don't delay applying to schools with rolling admissions** or late deadlines – available spaces can fill up.
- Send a deposit to the college you choose (by May 1 at the latest).
- Keep your grades up.** Colleges WILL revoke admission offers if grades take a nosedive this semester.
- Some acceptance letters may arrive. **Compare financial aid offers and visit campuses before making a decision.** (**Don't panic**; many decisions are not sent out until April.)
- Continue applying** for appropriate scholarships.

## April

- Keep track of all acceptances, rejections, and waitlists** (If waitlisted, **learn more about waitlists** and move ahead with other plans. You can always change your plans if you get off a waitlist.)
- KEEP YOUR GRADES UP!**
- If you have ruled out any colleges that accepted you, notify them.** (This is a courtesy to other applicants, and it will help the colleges manage their waitlists and extend the correct number of acceptance letters.)
- Go to **accepted student open houses** if offered.

## May

- Turn in any final community service hours** to the community service organizations and/or the Guidance Office. (Only turn in copies of community service hour log sheets. Keep the originals.)
- Avoid “senioritis”!** An acceptance letter doesn't mean you can stop working.
- Most schools have a deposit deadline of **May 1st. Don't be late!**
- If using the FAFSA, make sure it is completed by May 15 (State of Florida deadline).**
- Last chance to re-take the **ACT** and/or **College Board SAT**.
- Request a final high school transcript to be sent to your college (records request forms are available in the school office).**
- Send thank you letters** to everyone who helped you in the application process. Let your mentors and recommenders know the results of your college search.
- Keep on top of procuring student loans.** Notify your college if you receive any scholarships.
- Graduate. Congratulations!**

## June - August after Senior Year

- Read all mailings from your college or trade school carefully.** Often important registration and housing material is sent in the summer.
- Register for your classes as soon as possible.** Classes often fill, and registration is usually on a first-come, first-served basis.
- If you get your housing assignment, **take advantage of the summer to get to know your roommate** (email, facebook, phone, etc.). **Figure out who will bring what.**

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## Testing:

1. **SAT vs. ACT** – Most colleges accept either one. Check with individual colleges you are considering to see if they have a preference. (Remember that Bright Futures *super-scores*, taking **ONLY** your **best** subtests.)
  2. **SAT & ACT Scores to Consider**
    - [Bright Futures Academic Scholar](#)
      - **SAT 1330** (Math & Critical Reading – *not including WRITING*)
      - **ACT 29** (*not including WRITING*)
    - [Bright Futures Medallion Scholar](#)
      - **SAT 1210** (Math & Critical Reading – *not including WRITING*)
      - **ACT 25** (*not including WRITING*)
    - Mid-Range Average scores for **State University System Admissions** are: **SAT (Critical Reading, Math, & Writing) 1450-2090 Combined** or **ACT (English, Math, Reading, Science, & Writing) 20-32 Composite** (*Remediation may be required if scores do not meet the minimum level.*)
  3. Have your senior take **either** the **ACT** or **SAT** **at least twice** by the end of their senior year.
  4. All of our seniors must take one or the other in order to **receive a diploma** (not to walk at graduation).
  5. Look for opportunities to take **ACT** or **SAT** Test Prep. Workshops if possible. (*Costs range from \$100 up.*)
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### ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Registration)
September 10, 2022	August 5	August 19
October 22, 2022	September 16	September 30
December 10, 2022	November 4	November 11
February 11, 2023	January 6	January 20
April 15, 2023	March 10	March 24
June 10, 2023	May 5	May 19
July 15, 2023	June 16	June 23

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### SAT Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Registration)
August 27, 2022	_____	_____
October 1, 2022	_____	_____
November 5, 2022	_____	_____
December 3, 2022	_____	_____
March 11, 2023	_____	_____
May 6, 2023	_____	_____
June 3, 2023	_____	_____

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