



SENIOR TIMELINE

September:

-Consider your options for after high school: Work, Apprenticeship, Certification, Military, Community College, and College/University. Note –in most cases, you can begin at any level and progress to a college degree. This site can help you explore career and education options: <https://www.mynextmove.org/>

-Create a Parchment Account to send your high school transcript to colleges. You can find instructions in your high school guidance office. <https://www.parchment.com/> (Tip: to save time – answer “no” to the question about helping you find colleges and scholarships – if you say yes – it requires much more time, and you may get emails you don’t want).

October- November:

Note: All Seniors will participate in “Do You Have a Plan?” week at your high school.

INVESTIGATE AND APPLY: POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

Apprenticeship -[Become an Apprentice | Michigan Road 2 Work \(miroad2work.org\)](#)

Certificate Programs: [Michigan Community Colleges \(michigancc.net\)](#) (community colleges have certificate programs as well as degrees)

Military: [Eligibility Requirements — Today's Military \(todaysmilitary.com\)](#)

College:

-Complete and submit applications for college/community College. **Most colleges in Michigan waive the application fee in October.**

_Some colleges and universities require the Common App: www.commonapp.org

---If you are potentially going to be a college athlete, be sure to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at www.ncaa.org

December - March

APPLY- FINANCIAL AID

There is **no deadline for the FAFSA, you are advised to complete the FAFSA before March if possible.** The FAFSA is available on December 1st. IMPORTANT : BE SURE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER DECEMBER 1ST AND CHOOSE THE CORRECT FAFSA APPLICATION (25-26). <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

Some colleges and universities require a supplemental financial aid form called CSS Profile:
<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/> College web sites tell you if they require this

Look at these links for good information about the **Federal and State aid options**:

Federal: <https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/do-you-need-money.pdf>

State: <https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/students-families>

IMPORTANT! Here is an abbreviated form about the financial aid options through the State of Michigan. Be sure to be aware of the **Community College Guarantee** and the **Michigan Achievement Scholarship**. Most students/families qualify for these scholarships.

[5112 MI Student Aid Programs at a Glance \(michigan.gov\)](#)

.Scholarships:

_Apply for scholarships through the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation. **.Check the website for application dates and deadlines:** <https://www.ghacf.org/scholarships/>

_Check your high school counseling web page or office for local scholarships.

_Be apply for college-based scholarships. Each college has information about scholarships on their website.

_Check FASTWEB.com for your eligibility for other scholarships, Fastweb is free and has a database of thousands of scholarships. www.fastweb.com

-You and your parents should be aware of the **American Opportunity Tax Credit**. It is a way to claim college expenses on an income tax return... <https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/aotc>

February - March

_Don't forget about the deadline for the Community Foundation scholarships: <https://www.ghacf.org/scholarships/>

-You can still apply for college or community college and financial aid. (See information above)