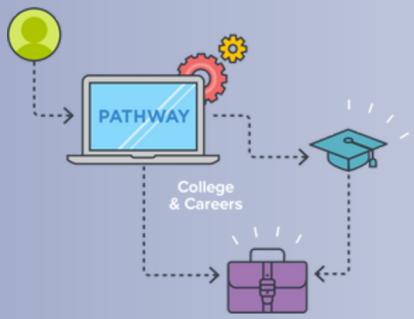


Senior Year College Planning Checklist

**Grade Level:** 12**Domain:**

College & Career Exploration

TIME:

45 Minutes

This lesson is designed to help students understand the college application process and timeline.

Objectives

Students will:

1. Review the senior year timeline.
2. Learn the steps of applying for college.
3. Learn about deadlines and guidelines.
4. Listen to other students' experiences applying to college.

MEFA Pathway Activities

- My Goals

Materials Needed

- Internet connection
- MEFA's [College Application Manager](#)
- MEFA's article, [Timeline for College Admissions and Financial Aid](#)
- The MEFA Podcast episode, [College Admissions: Three Student Experiences](#)

Vocabulary

- Application
- Scholarships
- Deadline
- Financial Aid
- Common App

Future Ready Skills

- Self-Management
- Problem Solving
- Time Management
- Organization

PART 1

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE



Students should read MEFA's article, [Timeline for College Admissions and Financial Aid](#) to learn the steps of applying to college. Students should take notes and identify the things they need to decide on or learn more about, such as their college deadlines, essay topic ideas, and letters of recommendation writers.

Once students have finished reading the timeline article, have students watch the MEFA Podcast episode, [College Admissions: Three Student Experiences](#). Through the video, students will learn about the experiences of three different students as they applied to college.

After students finish watching the podcast episode, have a class discussion. Ask students the following:

1. What did you learn about the college application process?
2. What do you still have questions about?
3. How do you feel about the college application process? Are you nervous, excited, or overwhelmed?
4. Were there any pieces of advice offered by the students that resonated with you?

PART 2

APPLYING INFORMATION

Students should identify steps applicable to their college application process. Once they have identified their steps, students should establish an organizational system, such as a calendar, that shows important college application dates and deadlines.

Students can use MEFA's [College Application Manager](#) to stay organized. Have students mark their calendar with time they will use for college prep.

PART 3

EVALUATING INFORMATION

Instruct students to log in to MEFA Pathway and click on **My Goals** under the *Self-Discovery* tab. Have students click *ADD GOAL* in the **ACADEMIC** section and add a new goal related to any of the steps they identified in their college application process. Students should list at least two strategies for their goal.

Example:

Goal: Complete my FAFSA when it opens on October 1st.

Strategy 1: Talk to my parents about completing the FAFSA early so we can gather all of the required documents.

Strategy 2: Create an FSA ID for a parent and myself.