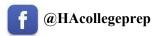


Countdown to College - Senior Year

Fall

Follow:





Attend your parent/scholar Senior Information
Night in August Important dates throughout the year
will be discussed. Meet with college and university
representatives.

Gateway: Tuesday, August 13, 6:00 pm **Laveen**: Tuesday, August 27, 6:00 pm **Mesa**: Thursday, September 5, 6:00 pm

Enroll in your Dual Enrollment eligible courses by the end of August. See your college advisor for assistance. All section numbers can be found on the Rio Salado website under "Participating Schools"

Register to take or retake the ACT/SAT. Take the test as many times as you want to see if you can improve your initial score. Check with the colleges you are interested in to see what tests they require.

Gateway School Code: 030764 Laveen School Code: 030768 Mesa School Code: 030231

Narrow down your list of schools. Research the schools on your list and try to visit as many of them as possible. https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/

Tour colleges.

Revise your essay. Review and polish your application essays. Ask a teacher to proofread them so you can work on your final drafts.

Request letters of recommendation. Provide the individuals you've chosen with a few notes about your academic record, extracurricular involvement, and accomplishments. Be sure to give them any guidelines or forms the school has provided as well as stamped and addressed envelopes. Let them know the deadline, which should be at least a month out!

Schedule your appointment with your Heritage
Academy College advisor. Make sure you are on
track with college admissions requirements. Let them
know where your transcripts and test scores should be

sent, and provide any additional forms the college requires.

Gateway - appointment link
Laveen- appointment link
Mesa - appointment link

website: heritageacademyaz.com

Submit early decision applications/early action applications or rolling admissions applications, if desired. The application deadlines will vary, so keep a close eye on those dates for each school you're applying to!

Search and apply for scholarships! Check the list of resources on the next page.

OCTOBER 1: BEGIN FAFSA (Some school's have deadlines as early as Nov). The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available on October 1. This application determines your access to federal, state and even some private aid. Be sure to submit it as soon as possible, as many schools award aid on a first come, first served basis. After you submit the FAFSA, you should receive your Student Aid Report (SAR) within three days to three weeks. This document lists your answers to the questions on your FAFSA and gives you some basic information about your aid eligibility. Quickly make any necessary corrections and submit them to the FAFSA processor. https://fafsa.ed.gov/

Winter

Send in your application. Regular applications usually have due dates January 1 to March 1.

Checkout "The Common Application" https://www.commonapp.org/

Adapted from Big Future and The College Board

Register and Pay for your AP exam. Information will go out through your AP course. Your payment is your registration.

Heritage Laveen: <u>AP Registration and Payment</u> Heritage Mesa: <u>AP Registration and Payment</u> **Follow up with colleges**. Make sure your application, recommendation letters, test scores, transcripts and all required materials have been received.

Continue searching and applying for scholarships. Senior year is full of scholarship opportunities so keep looking and applying! (See list on next page)

Spring

LOGIN WEEKLY TO YOUR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY PORTAL

- Update FAFSA info, if necessary
- Submit your deposit. Once you've chosen your school, you will need to pay a deposit to secure your spot. This is usually due on May
- Attend your school's orientation
- Accept/decline your offers
- Complete entrance/placement exams
- Submit your 7th semester transcripts, if needed
- Secure housing

Compare financial aid packages. Take a good look at what is being offered by the schools that accepted you. Carefully consider the total costs of your top choices.

May 1 is National College Decision Day! Make your decision. It's finally time to decide which school is the best fit and communicate that decision to all the schools by May 1.

May: Take AP Exams. Be sure to take the exams for any AP courses you took during your senior year, so you can receive college credit. https://ap.collegeboard.org/

Attending a Maricopa Community College?

- Get admitted apply now
- Complete accuplacer testing
- Apply for Presidential Scholarship (GPA 3.25 or better)

Transcripts and Scholarships

Order Final Transcripts (June). Request final transcripts from both your high school, as well as, any college or university that you received Dual Enrollment credit.

- Heritage Academy Gateway: See front desk for Transcript Request form
- Heritage Academy Laveen: <u>Submit an online</u>
 request
- Heritage Academy Mesa: See front desk for Transcript Request form
- Rio Salado College: Login to your <u>Student</u> <u>Center</u>. In the "Academic History" choose the drop-down and scroll to "Transcript Request, then "Official Transcript"
- University of Arizona: Login to your <u>Student</u> <u>Center</u> then select "Other Academics" choose the drop-down and scroll to "Transcript Request, then "Official Transcript"

Scholarship Search Resources:

Top 3 Favorites:

- Arizona Gear Up by NAU
 https://in.nau.edu/gear-up/scholarships/
- 2. Big Future by The College Board https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarshipsearch
- College Depot by Phoenix Public Library
 https://www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org/collegedepot/ Pages/Scholarships.aspx

Cappex Chegg Scholarships

Fastweb Niche

Peterson's Scholarships.com

ScholarSite Scholly Unique Zinch

Adapted from Big Future and The College Board		

*Check the Financial Aid/Scholarship webpages of your

College or University.