



# LANSING CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Equipping young men and women to **engage** and **transform** the world for **Jesus Christ**.

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## **12th Grade College/Career Planning Checklist**

- **Stay organized.**

Keep track of all of your academic and extracurricular commitments and write them on a calendar. This should include:

- ACT/SAT tests you'll take and their registration deadlines
- College application due dates
- Required financial aid or scholarship forms and deadlines
- Other materials you'll need (transcript, teacher recommendation, essays, etc.)

Staying organized will help you plan ahead and ensure that you don't miss important deadlines.

- **Stay focused.**

Your performance senior year MATTERS to a college, so stay focused on doing well.

- **Meet with Mrs. Lohman.**

You will have an individual meeting with Mrs. Lohman once in the fall and once in the spring. Come prepared with any questions you have about your current or future plans when it is time for your meeting.

- **Retake the SAT or ACT if necessary.**

If you're not happy with your previous tests, make sure to sign up for a fall ACT or SAT. Usually the last test date that will be accepted by a college is in October for **regular** decision deadlines.

- **Send official test scores to colleges.**

Most colleges will require you to submit official scores directly from the testing agencies as part of the application--either through [actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org) (ACT) or [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com) (SAT). Ensure you submit with plenty of time before a deadline (3-4 weeks).

- **Use the advising time well.**

Use the material given during whole grade level info sessions and individual meetings with your advisor to inform your current and future plans. The more you invest in this time, the more we hope you learn what your unique purpose is in God's story.

- **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).**

To apply for most financial aid, you'll need to complete the FAFSA. October 1st is the first day you can file the FAFSA. Discuss this timeline with your parents and work out a plan for completion.

**Accredited by Christian Schools International and AdvancEd.**

3405 BELLE CHASE WAY | LANSING, MI 48911 | 517.882.5779

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- **Complete any Early Action, Early Decision, Priority or Rolling applications.**

Most of these plans will require you to submit your application by November 1st. Decisions for early application are typically sent out in mid-December; however, with rolling applications, the earlier you submit them, the earlier you receive a decision.

- **Ensure that your teachers are writing required recommendations.**

It's always a nice touch to write a handwritten "Thank You" note to express your gratitude. Make sure to communicate deadlines clearly to your recommenders and give them plenty of time to complete your request (minimum of 2 weeks).

- **Ensure you have made official high school transcript requests.**

Make all transcript requests through Naviance for each college you are applying to.

- **Investigate scholarships.**

Continue to search for sources of financial support for college (see "financial aid" tab on LCS college/career webpage for scholarship resources as well as Naviance).

- **Complete Regular Decision applications.**

Most regular decision deadlines fall in January and February, but it's a good idea to have these completed before Christmas break.

- **Decision time!**

Most regular decision colleges will tell you a final decision between March and April. Carefully consider all of your options and talk to your parents, Mrs. Lohman, adviser and teachers about this decision. Don't forget to consider your financial aid/scholarship packages as well. Once you've decided on your final choice, make sure to submit your enrollment deposit by **May 1st**. Also, sign-up for orientation and complete any housing or supplementary forms that are required.

- **Keep active and continue to work hard.**

If you are deferred or waitlisted at a college, the college will want to know what you've accomplished since you applied. Your second semester grades will also be sent to the college to which you enroll and if you have a serious decline, your admission could be rescinded. **Finish strong!**

- **ENJOY YOUR GRADUATION AND CELEBRATE!**

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