

College Quick Checklist 2016-2017

College Selection: September - October

- Consider more than one variable in your school choice.
- Visit the schools you will apply to. Most schools have open house dates or scheduled visits
- College Fairs:
 - Duquesne – Sunday, September 18th; 2016; 8:00 am-1:30 PM, AJ Palumbo Center
 - Penn State Beaver – Monday, September 26th; 2016; 6:30 – 8:30 PM, Gymnasium
 - La Roche College, Monday October 3rd, 2016; 6:00-8:00 PM; Kerr Fitness and Sports Center
- College reps visit Freedom High School
- State schools, private schools, out of state schools
- Consider admission criteria (SAT scores, GPA etc.)
- Use your resources: ask teachers, ask people working in your field of interest, internet searches

Applying: August - November

- Go to the colleges' website and apply online
- Once you have applied, ask Mrs. Brenner to mail your High School transcript (she can mail fees and recommendation letters with your transcript if you wish). Some universities use the Common Application and SEND EDU program where information will straight to the Counselor's email!
- Recommendation letters: send them if requested or optional. Don't send them if not required. Give your reference person time to write the letter
- Applying timeline. As soon as possible – after November is getting too late

Financial Aid: Starts in October

- PHEAA is **Wednesday, October 12th, 2016 at 6:00 PM** – ask your parents to attend. PHEAA representative: Wendy Dunlap: 724-831-7317; wdunlap@pheaa.org (Presentation will be in the auditorium)
- FAFSA - you can submit **starting October 1st** using your **2015 Income Tax** (See chart on Back): www.FAFSA.ed.gov The FAFSA also serves as your application for Federal/State grants. **Important!** Different schools have different FAFSA filing deadlines. Complete your FAFSA before the deadlines!!!
- Scholarships: Most are awarded by the schools students attend (www.meritaid.com); do a **free** scholarship search (www.fastweb.com www.scholarships.com); Google search scholarships; check with Mrs. Brenner or Freedom H. S. Website for a current list; most "local" scholarships will be available in the winter/spring.
- College Loans can be taken out in the summer before you attend school. www.studentloans.gov

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND COLLEGE FROM	YOU WILL SUBMIT THIS FAFSA	YOU CAN SUBMIT THE FAFSA FROM	USING INCOME AND TAX INFORMATION FROM
JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2018	2017–18	OCTOBER 1, 2016 – JUNE 30, 2018	2015
JULY 1, 2018 – JUNE 30, 2019	2018–19	OCTOBER 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2019	2016