SENIOR CHECKLIST

1. **GET FAFSA ID**- Any time after October 1st
    A. https://fsaid.ed.gov/
    B. A parent needs one (Parent can use same one for every child)
    C. Student needs one (Every student needs their own)

2. **FILL OUT YOUR FAFSA FORM-** October 1st-February 15th (Sooner the better)
    A. http://fafsa.ed.gov/
    B. Watch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTvBJuSTaww for detailed advice
    C. Need 2019 tax information
    D. Fill out Tap app. If attending NY state school at https://www.hesc.ny.gov/ (also can be accessed from your fafsa form)

3. **APPLY TO COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES/TRADE SCHOOLS**-Any time
    A. https://www.commonapp.org/ **OR**
    B. Individual College Applications from their website
    C. When applying do your research!! www.collegeboard.org/
        1. COA- (Cost of Attendance)
        2. Distance from home
        3. Acceptance criteria
        4. Do they have my major??
        5. Financial aid options
        6. COMMUNICATE with School(s)
        7. ASK teachers, counselor and/or employers for recommendation letters.
        8. Promote yourself

4. **APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID-** Depends on due dates
    A. GRANTS- Pell and Tap (if attending NYS school)
    B. SCHOLARSHIPS: **DO NOT PAY FOR SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES**
        1. www.fastweb.com/
        2. www.finaid.com/
        3. www.bold.org/
        4. Local Scholarships on CCS website (updated as they come in and check your email frequently as I get them)
        5. College based scholarships-Check with their Financial aid office
    C. LOANS-
        1. DIRECT LOANS-Usually through College
            a. SUBSIDIZED- Best option-Do not need to pay back until 6 months after graduation from college. Gov't pays interest on loan while in college.
            b. UNSUBSIDIZED- Interest accumulates while you are in college and is added to your principle once you graduate from college.
        2. PRIVATE LOANS- Low interests right now
        3. PARENT PLUS- High interest rates right now-WORST option at this time
    D. WORK STUDY- Through college

APPLY FOR SERVICE IN THE MILITARY
1. Meet with recruiters
2. Letters of recommendation
3. Check options in military

PREPARE FOR WORKFORCE
1. Job Shadow
2. Letters of recommendation
3. Set Goals