

Senior Year College Planning Checklist

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 peers' experiences applying to college

ACTIVITIES

PART 1

Content Knowledge

Students should review MEFA's blog post, [Senior Year College Planning Checklist](#), 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 reviewing the college planning checklist, instruct them to login to their MEFA Pathway accounts and view the *Journey to College* video series by clicking on *See all videos*, located on the right-hand side of their *Dashboard*.

Optional: the educator may choose to project the video series to the entire class instead of having students watch them on their own devices. Through the video series, students will learn about their peers' experiences applying to college.

After students finish watching the video series, have a class discussion. Ask students the following:

- What did you learn about the college application process?
- What do you still have questions about?
- How do you feel about the college application process? Are you nervous, excited, or overwhelmed?
- Were there any pieces of advice offered by your peers 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.

Grade Level: 12

MEFA PATHWAY SECTIONS WITHIN THIS LESSON:

- Goals & Strategies
- Journey to College Series

DOMAIN:

- College & Career Exploration

TIME:

- 45 minutes

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Internet connection to work with the MEFA Pathway website
- MEFA's [College Application Manager](#)
- MEFA's blog post, [Senior Year College Planning Checklist](#)

FUTURE READY SKILLS:

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

VOCABULARY:

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

Email any questions to:
info@mefapathway.org

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LESSON PLAN

Evaluating Information

Instruct students to log in to their MEFA Pathway account and navigate to the *Goals & Strategies* page under the *Build Career Plan* tab and add a new academic goal. Students can use any of the steps they identified for their college application process as their goal. Students should list at least two strategies for their goal.

Example:

Goal: Complete my FAFSA when it opens on October 1

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

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