

## Upward Bound at MPC

### Twelfth Grade Checklist:

- Check with your counselors and teachers to make sure you are still taking the right courses
- Colleges will request your senior grades before making a final decision on your application, so keep up your studies!
- Early in September register for the [SAT I](#) and/or the [ACT](#) and the [Subject Test \(SAT II\)](#).
- Visit colleges and universities. If a college requires that you have an interview, be sure to schedule an early appointment.
- Go to college fairs and presentations by college representatives. Listen for school announcements for information about college representatives visiting your school or area.
- Consider applying to colleges electronically on the Internet.
- Update your file on each college on your final list. Make a checklist for each college: transcripts, application fees, test scores, letters or recommendation, essays and financial aid application.
- Pay attention to all deadlines – mark them down on a calendar.
- Ask your teachers and counselor to write their recommendations as early as possible. They write hundreds of recommendations, so the sooner you get yours in, the better.
- Start on your application essays in the early fall. Write a few drafts, then have other people read it and give you comments.
- Start on your applications as soon as you receive them. Make sure that your application forms are filled out completely and neatly. If the application fees are a burden, ask your counselor about application fee waivers.
- Make a photocopy of all completed forms before you send them. Keep the copies in your college files.
- Request financial aid information and an application form when you ask for an admission application. Check all deadlines!
- Ask you parents to prepare their income tax returns as early as possible this year because you need their tax information to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This form determines your eligibility for federal aid and provides colleges and others with information for administering their own financial aid. The FAFSA is available at your high school or can be accessed electronically on the World Wide Web (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>). Ask for help if you or your parents have difficulty filling it out. You should complete and mail in your FAFSA by the earliest financial aid deadline of the schools to which you are applying, generally by early February.
- In order to award their own private funds, many colleges require submission of forms in addition to the FAFSA. Be sure to find out which forms your colleges require and what their financial aid deadline is.
- Compare letters of acceptance and financial aid awards from the colleges you applied to before deciding which college to attend.
- Mail in your acceptance reply form and deposit check before the deadline stated in your letter, particularly if you are planning to live in the residence halls (dorms). Also, mail in your acceptance of the financial aid award.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** You did it. Get set for your new adventure in college. Be sure to participate in your college's orientation program. Good luck!