

# Senior Year Advice From Recent WHS Grads

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Don't put too much pressure on yourself during the college application process. Remember that you are a separate person from your acceptances and where you go to school does not define you. As you excitedly wait to be free and leave high school, don't forget to appreciate WHS for everything it has given you and all the memories you have created here. Cherish the time you have left because it'll end much too soon and you'll miss it more than you imagined, trust me.

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Keep an open mind and don't let other people's personal processes affect your own. Don't let peers who are applying to dozens of schools make you feel like you need to apply to more. Do what's best for you and don't stress because your guidance counselor can help you out.

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Keep your friends close! Senior year can get very stressful and you'll need them! Don't entirely discount your chances of getting into a reach college! It doesn't hurt to apply!

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Do your applications before the day they are due; the DUE date is not the DO date.

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Don't stress out too much, enjoy senior year, get involved in as much as possible to get the best senior year experience.

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Go to a school that you actually enjoy, not one that has a "good reputation."

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Make sure your process is YOUR process. Do your own research (lots of it!!) and explore all the options, but don't let your friends and the rest of your class affect what you are doing. Everyone is so different and you can't get wrapped up into how everyone else is going about things in course selection or the college process. If you stay in your own zone and work with your counselor closely, the process works out for the best. **YOUR COUNSELOR IS YOUR BEST FRIEND!** Make sure you access them as a resource!

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Chillax

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Keep a pro and cons list for the colleges that you get into that only you see and just get as much research as you can to your colleges. This helps you see how each school lines up on one page. Also, find someone who is not in your family to talk to about college. This could be anyone like a guidance counselor or teacher because they can give you an opinion that won't be influenced by the amount of money or a school your parents love.

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Do what you love, and do it well. When asked “How do you get into the school of your dreams?” that is my only response. So many people will preoccupy themselves with doing things purely for a resume or an application or for some superficial reason. The best piece of advice I could ever give to someone at any stage in their life is to do what they do because they enjoy it and sincerely think it makes a positive impact in the lives of others. Yes, success is a work ethic, and you need to push yourself to make it anywhere in life; however, such effort should be genuine, passionate, and self-motivated. Just be yourself. You’ll end up where you need to be.

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Be proactive and keep everything organized. There isn’t too much to do as long as you stay on top of it. If you need help or are unsure about anything, ask for help!

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Yes, it is your senior year, but don’t slack off. You can have fun while still taking it seriously. Also, don’t procrastinate, you don’t want to deal with it all the day before the deadline.

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Don’t let anyone tell you what you should do after high school or where you should go; do whatever you want to do and go wherever will make you the most happy. If you’re not happy with what you’re doing there is no point.

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Make sure you are 100% satisfied with your safety college.

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