

Senior Year Checklist

Alabama Homeschool Connection

AUGUST–SEPTEMBER

Get the senior year organized

- ☐ **Review your student's high school record**
Make sure coursework from ninth grade forward is accounted for.
- ☐ **Identify anything still needed for graduation**
Review your homeschool requirements and your student's next-step requirements.
- ☐ **Start or update the transcript**
Record completed courses now and add current senior courses as in progress.
- ☐ **Talk about what comes next**
Start a practical conversation about your student's plans after graduation.
- ☐ **Create a senior-year calendar**
Put important deadlines and senior events in one place.
- ☐ **Decide how your student wants to celebrate graduation**
Talk about the kind of graduation experience your senior wants.
- ☐ **Start an accomplishment file**
Keep activities, awards, service, work, and achievements together.

OCTOBER–NOVEMBER

Start working on the next step

- ☐ **Research requirements for plans after graduation**
Find out what your student's likely next step actually requires.
- ☐ **Handle college applications if applicable**
Work through applications and required supporting materials.
- ☐ **Request recommendation letters early**
Give recommenders enough time and useful information.
- ☐ **Review ACT or SAT plans if relevant**
Check whether testing is useful or required for your student's plans.
- ☐ **Research scholarships and financial aid**
Look beyond a single application or scholarship source.
- ☐ **Complete the FAFSA when appropriate**
Use current official information for the 2027–28 aid year.
- ☐ **Schedule senior pictures**
Book photos early enough to use them throughout senior year.

DECEMBER–JANUARY

Do the midyear check

☐ **Update the transcript with first-semester work**

Record completed fall coursework and current progress.

☐ **Check progress in every remaining course**

Make sure senior coursework is on track for completion.

☐ **Review application and scholarship deadlines**

Recheck the calendar so winter deadlines do not slip by.

☐ **Begin a senior résumé if needed**

Turn the accomplishment file into a useful résumé.

☐ **Save important high school records**

Keep copies of records you may need later.

☐ **Make time for the senior-year experience**

Senior year is more than paperwork and deadlines.

FEBRUARY–MARCH

Graduation is getting real

☐ **Finalize graduation details**

Confirm the ceremony or celebration plans that apply to your senior.

☐ **Order or prepare the diploma**

Make sure the diploma will be ready for graduation.

☐ **Decide who presents the diploma**

Choose the person who will share this moment with your graduate.

☐ **Plan announcements or invitations**

Decide who needs to know about the graduation celebration.

☐ **Gather slideshow or memory-display photos**

Start collecting photos before the last-minute rush.

☐ **Think about the graduation cap**

Plan decoration or personalization if your graduate wants it.

☐ **Start planning the celebration**

Work out the practical details for any party or gathering.

APRIL–MAY

Finish well

- ☐ **Complete remaining coursework**
Finish the educational work required for your homeschool program.
- ☐ **Verify final grades and credits**
Review the academic record before finalizing it.
- ☐ **Update the transcript**
Replace in-progress work with final information as courses are completed.
- ☐ **Record dual-enrollment and outside coursework accurately**
Make sure outsourced coursework is represented clearly.
- ☐ **Prepare the final transcript only when it is actually complete**
Do not label an unfinished academic record as final.
- ☐ **Take more pictures**
Capture ordinary senior-year moments too.
- ☐ **Celebrate the graduate**
Mark the completion of this chapter in a way that fits your family.

AFTER GRADUATION

Don't throw away the records

- ☐ **Create and save the final transcript**
Keep the completed academic record in a durable format.
- ☐ **Keep a signed permanent copy**
Preserve an administrator-signed version for your records.
- ☐ **Preserve course and academic documentation**
Keep supporting records that may be useful later.
- ☐ **Send final transcripts where required**
Provide official records to the organizations that need them.
- ☐ **Keep the diploma, certificates, test records, and achievements**
Store important graduation and achievement records together.
- ☐ **Send additional final transcripts when requested**
Be prepared for later record requests.
- ☐ **Be finished**
Enjoy the accomplishment.