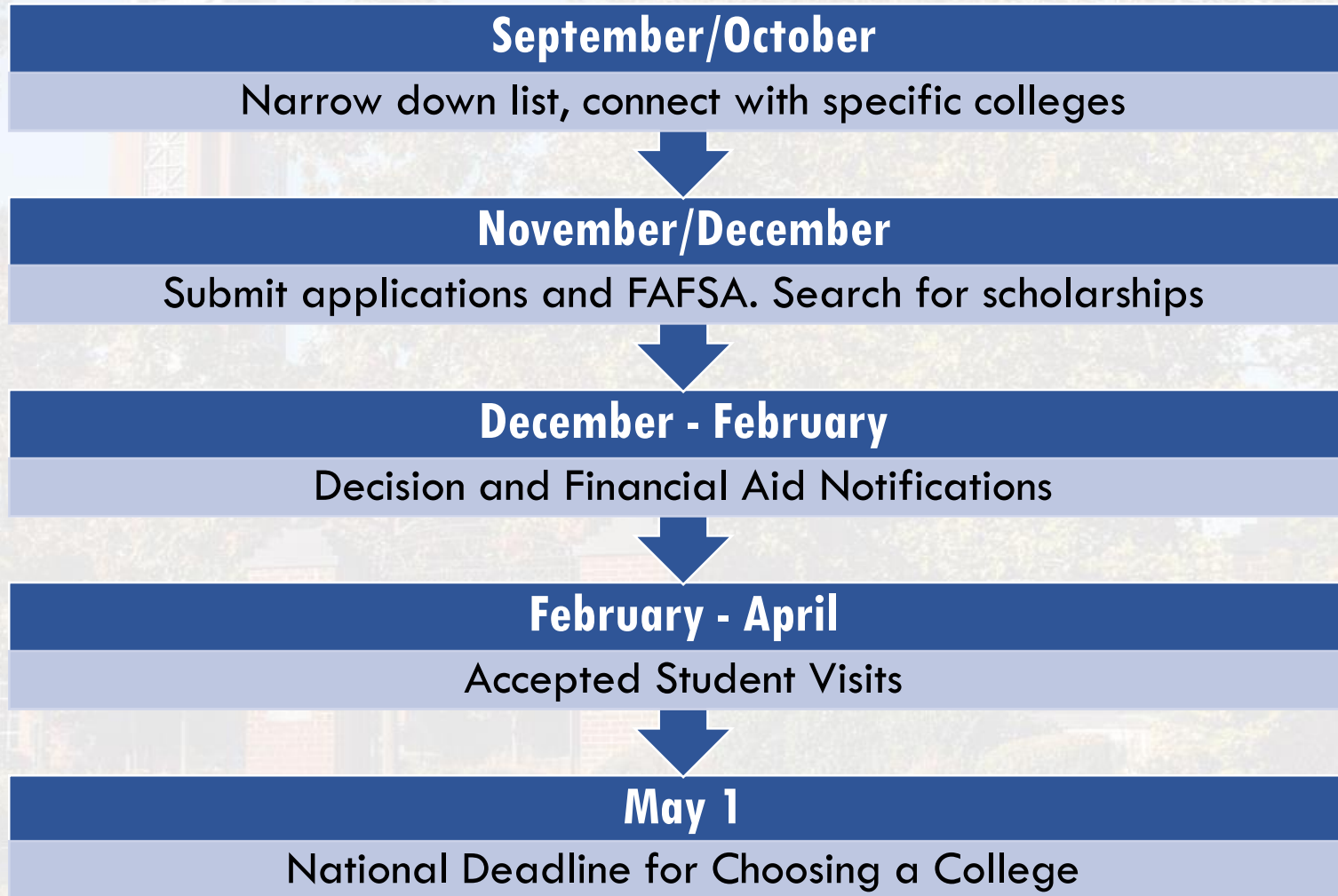


# **Tips for Navigating the College Admission Process**

# Timeline for Seniors



# Narrowing Down Your Options

- University/Class Size
- Location and setting
- Academic Fit (GPA/SATs)
- Cost (Net Price Calculator)
- Programs of study, special focus

September/October

# Narrowing Down Your Options – Even More!

- College Fair
- College Rep Visit
- Virtual Tour
- In-Person Tour
  - Take pictures, make a pro/con list after each visit

September/October

# Application Process

- Stay organized!
- Admission Plans
  - Early Action vs. Early Decision (binding), Regular Decision, Rolling
- Types of Applications
  - Common App, Coalition, Institutional
- Provide good contact information and proofread
- Student is responsible for following deadlines and making sure apps are complete

November/December

# Parts of the Application

- Transcript
- Essay(s)
- Letter(s) of recommendation
- Test Scores
- Resume or activities
- Other supplements – auditions, portfolios
- Interviews
- Fee

November/December

# Finances

- Net Price Calculator
- FAFSA and CSS
- Types of Aid:
  - Grants
  - Scholarships
  - Loans
  - Work-study
- Appeals
- Bottom-Line Cost

Fall/Winter

# Decision Time!

- Accepted Student Decision Days
- In-depth tours
- Talk with students and professors
- Shadow days
- Compare costs
- May 1

February - April

# Parting Wisdom

- From our student workers:
  - “Tour schools twice because the second time you will see things you didn’t before. And don’t stress! I know it’s a scary process but everything falls into place. Utilize your resources (school counselors and teachers) too! Good luck!”
  - “Give yourself grace and don’t doubt yourself. Know that your hard work will pay off.”
  - “My advice would be to pick the best school for you, not where your friends are going or the most popular university. Look at all aspects of the school: social, academic, club life, faculty, beliefs, and surrounding area.”
- Expand comfort zone
- Social media
- Ask questions

# Questions?