



College Planning: 10th Grade

Get Focused

For this year, you will want to narrow down your long-term college goals and choose courses and activities that give you the most options for your future.

Checklist

Below is a timeline to help provide the best options for student readiness.

FALL

- ❑ **Take a PSAT.** Taking the PSAT as a sophomore will help prepare you for the real SAT. It also allows you to release your name to colleges so you can start receiving brochures and information from them.
- ❑ **Get ready for the SAT.** Download the free Daily Practice for the New SAT app to get a feel for the kinds of questions you might face on test day. Link to KHAN Academy for specialized practice plans.
- ❑ **Begin learning about college admissions processes.** Get familiar with general college entrance requirements. College websites list detailed information on their admissions process.
- ❑ **Attend college and career fairs.** Watch for opportunities through the College and Career Readiness Center to attend informational events and take advantage of on-campus college visits.
- ❑ **Continue exploring potential careers.** Explore career options in more detail and research possible careers to learn about the tasks, education and training necessary for occupations that draw your interest.

WINTER

- ❑ **Stay involved with extracurricular activities.** Work toward leadership positions in the activities you like best. Extracurricular activities can help you develop time management skills and enrich your high school experience.
- ❑ **Become involved in community service.** Investigate and choose some volunteer opportunities in areas that interest you.

SPRING

- ❑ **Keep your grades up.** It's important to remain focused on doing well in classes. Your grades permanently affect your GPA and class rank.
- ❑ **Continue gathering information.** Visit college's websites and social media accounts to get an idea of what campus life and classes are like. This will help build your college list.

SUMMER

- ❑ **Use your summer wisely.** Work, volunteer or take a summer course.
- ❑ **Tour college campuses.** If possible, take advantage of vacation or other family travel time to visit colleges and see what they're like. Even if you have no interest in attending the college you are visiting, it will still help you learn what to look for in a college.
- ❑ **Read and write.** Develop your reading and writing skills. No matter what path you pursue, these skills will help prepare you. Stay up on current events and learn what's going on in your community.