

FOR STUDENTS 11TH GRADE CHECKLIST



ACHIEVE

Do well in school.

- Set goals for the year.
- Go to all of your classes.
- Turn in all assignments.
- Practice communication skills.
- Practice writing college and scholarship essays.

Take the right classes.

- Review your transcript and 12th grade class schedule with your counselor.
- Challenge yourself with advanced classes.
- Earn college credit: take AP or dual credits.
- Take a foreign/world language if offered.
- Take a full schedule of classes.

Get organized.

- Update your file of important documents.
- Create a résumé with your list of activities.
- Use a professional e-mail for school needs.

Prepare for college admission tests.

- FALL:** Take the PSAT/NMSQT.
- FALL:** Take practice tests and review.
- SPRING:** Sign up for and take the SAT or ACT.

ENGAGE

Get involved.

- Continue participating in school and community activities; be a leader!
- Volunteer in your community.
- Make a plan for summer.

Spend time with good people.

- Choose to hang out with friends that share positive goals and interests.
- Find a mentor – a parent, teacher, counselor, coach, other trusted adult, or older student that you can talk to.
- Be a role model and mentor for younger students.

Make good choices.

- Google yourself to see what colleges and employers see and set privacy settings.
- Be safe online and on your phone.
- Avoid risky behaviors like drinking, doing drugs and having sex.
- Be kind; treat others with respect.

EXPLORE

Explore colleges and careers.

- List 3-5 careers that interest you and the education you will need.
- Review what is most important to you in a college; refine your list of colleges to 5-10.
- Confirm that these colleges have the program or major for your chosen career and you will meet the admission requirements.
- Sign up to receive information from colleges.
- Make a list of deadlines for your top colleges.
- Research special requirements and deadlines for the arts, sports, or military or if you are undocumented.
- Explore colleges online.
- Attend a nearby college fair.

Learn about paying for college.

- You can afford college. Learn about financial aid and attend workshops.
- Explore the different costs of college.
- Complete the FAFSA4Caster.
- Explore the net prices of colleges.
- Set up and regularly contribute to a college savings account.
- Look into matched savings accounts.
- Search and apply for scholarships.

