

Sophomore Year College Readiness Checklist

	<p>Plan a challenging program of classes to take. The courses you take in high school show colleges what kind of goals you set for yourself. Are you signing up for advanced classes, honors sections, or accelerated sequences? Are you choosing electives that really stretch your mind and help you develop new abilities? Or are you doing just enough to get by? Colleges will be more impressed by respectable grades in challenging courses than by outstanding grades in easy ones.</p>
	<p>Continue to build a file of important documents and notes. Copies of report cards and certificates, lists of awards and honors, and lists of school and community activities in which you are involved, including both paid and volunteer work with descriptions of your responsibilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start building your formal resume
	<p>Get involved with academic enrichment programs, summer workshops, and camps with specialty focuses such as music, arts, and science.</p>
	<p>Stay active in clubs, activities, and sports that you enjoy. Colleges look at more than just your academic record for admission. It's important that you demonstrate your abilities outside of the classroom, too.</p>
	<p>Begin exploring college and career options with Naviance. Find out about the different types of schools. Decide which characteristics are most important to you, such as the size of the school, distance from home, cost, and extracurricular activities.</p>
	<p>Prepare to take the PSAT. This valuable test can help you prepare for the actual SAT, a college entrance exam, which you will take during your junior year. Your first PSAT is strictly for practice, but can help you make a plan of action for junior year.</p>
	<p>Sign up for junior year courses. Keep in mind that you will want to challenge yourself with tougher courses. Talk to your counselor and teachers about Advanced Placement courses. AP courses can earn you college credit for achievement in exams during high school covering different college-level subjects.</p>