

College and Career Preparation: 11TH GRADE

Fall: Consider signing up to take the College Board's PSAT. This test is a practice test for the SAT and is used to qualify students for the National Merit Scholarship.

- ★ Attend College Fairs and visits from admission representatives in the College/Career Resource Center.
- ★ Use MCIS' college sort to create a list of colleges that meet your criteria including:
 - Making decisions about which colleges you think are a good fit for you
 - Learn about the college application process
 - Learn to compare schools by academic rigor, admission criteria, financial expectations
- ★ Consider being a mentor for others and have a mentor for yourself. See your counselor for help.

Winter: Discuss PSAT results with your counselor if you took the test.

- ★ Review/update your plans for selected high school courses and options after high school
- ★ Meet with your counselor before course registration for senior year to discuss:
 1. Your personal credit situation (and address any concerns)
 2. Your college plans
 3. Your intended major
 4. Your capstone
 5. Your next steps in choosing and applying for college
- ★ Register for college admission exams (ACT, SAT or SAT subject tests) coming in the spring. Check with colleges you are interested in to see which exams they require.
- ★ Begin to research scholarships for juniors. Check the College/Career Resource Center for more info.

Spring: Take the ACT, SAT or SAT subject tests

- ★ Visit colleges/universities during the summer if you can. Set up college visits with admission counselors. Even visiting a university or college in the Twin Cities will help you learn more.
- ★ Use the FAFSA⁴caster financial aid estimator on studentaid.ed.gov and compare results to the actual costs at the college to which you will apply.

11
TH
H

College and Career Preparation: Every Year

Take the most challenging classes you can handle and keep focused on your school work.

Most colleges require 4 years of English and math, 3 years of social studies and science, and many require 2 years of a world language.

Be involved in school or community activities that you enjoy.

Consider working or volunteering to create a strong résumé. Some places of employment have tuition reimbursement options.

Remember it's important not to overdo it. It is better to have experiences that are of value to you. You can't do it all, so choose carefully.

Enroll in a summer program: See your counselor for a list of options.

Keep track of your academic, athletic, work and volunteering along with other achievements – you need this information when you build your résumé.

Talk to family, teachers and mentors about their career path and high school success.

Keep your grades up to attain the highest GPA possible. All of your grades count towards your cumulative GPA.

Review your graduation planner and transcript for accuracy and to make sure you are on track to graduate.

Know what is required for high school graduation.

