

PLANNING FOR COLLEGE & TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Things to Remember During Your Junior Year

- ★ Consider taking classes at YVTech or YVCC
- ★ Challenge yourself by IB, AP or Running Start classes
- ★ Join clubs and sports
- ★ Join community activities and volunteer in the community
- ★ Stay on-track with graduation requirements or make-up missing classes (plan on taking summer school if it's offered!)
- ★ In order to meet 4-year college entrance requirements, you must be in year 1 or higher of a foreign language this year!

Do you meet the extra requirements for entrance into a 4 year college?

- 3 years of math (through Algebra 2) must be completed
 - * Algebra 2, Chemistry, Physics or math-based CTE course must be taken during your Senior Year
- At least two years of biology, chemistry, physics or applied physics must be completed
 - * Western Washington University and University of Washington require one year of algebra-based chemistry or physics.
- 2 years of the same foreign language must be taken
- SAT or ACT test must be taken Junior or Senior Year (or both years)

YVTech

- Business and industry training classes offered off-campus at YVTech Skills Center

Culinary Arts	Fashion Marketing	Computer Technology	Carpentry
Metal Fabrication/Machining	Law Enforcement/CSI	Nursing	Cosmetology
Automotive Technology	Physical Therapy	Digital Media	Auto Body Repair
Legal/Medical Office Procedures	Office Skills	Dental Assisting	Applied Math
- Morning classes: 8-10:30am; Afternoon classes: 12-2:30pm; Evening classes: 3-6pm (3 classes are also taken at the high school)
- Classes count for occupational credit and can count for other requirements (see your counselor); some programs offer certification so you can go directly into a job
- Sign up with your counselor

TIMELINE

FIRST SEMESTER

- ★ Take the PSAT in October
- ★ Look at college brochures, websites, & go to college visits at your school
- ★ Apply for scholarships
- ★ Check with counselor if you are on-track for graduation

SECOND SEMESTER

- ★ Take the Compass test (for Running Start)
- ★ Apply for Scholarships
- ★ Visit Colleges
- ★ Sign-up for SAT, SAT Subject Tests and/or ACT
- ★ Check with counselor if you are on-track for graduation

TAKE THE PSAT

(practice test for the SAT)

- only this test can qualify you for the National Merit Scholarship Program
- Measures critical reading, math problem-solving and writing skills
- Helps you understand your strength and weaknesses in the measured areas and your performance compared to others who will also be applying for college
- Given at your high school in September for a fee

Running Start

Students take classes (part-time or full-time) for both high school and college credit at YVCC

The Process:

- Attend an informational night at your high school (February or March)
- Fill out an application from the website (www.yvcc.edu) or your counselor.
- Take the Compass test @ YVCC (schedule an appt. @ 574-4738; \$15.75 test fee)
- After you meet Compass test score requirements, meet with your school counselor
- Questions? Contact Skye Field @ sfield@yvcc.edu or 574-4971

COMPASS Test

(for 2 Year Schools only)

- Evaluates reading, math & writing skills for placement in college classes
- Untimed test (about 3 hours long)
- Available @ YVCC (\$15.75)
- Practice tests available @ www.act.org/compass

Scholarships & Financial Aid

- Start saving your money (from a job, allowance, gifts, etc)
- Talk honestly as a family about how you will pay for college
- Start applying for scholarships

Tips about Scholarships

- * Sign up for scholarship search engines like thewashboard.org and fastweb.com
- * Go to the Counseling Center often for updates (bulletin boards, paper bulletins, school website)
- * Get involved in school clubs and sports
- * Get involved in the community (activities and volunteering)

ACT

(Given @ West Valley High School)

Vs.

SAT

(Given @ Ike)

(for 4 year schools only)

★ Subjects Tested: English, Math, Reading, Science (+ optional Writing)

★ Accepted nationally

★ Curriculum-based: tests knowledge you've acquired through subjects taught in high school. It measures your readiness for college

★ No penalty for incorrect answers

★ All multiple-choice

★ Basic Fee: \$34.00

★ Writing Essay: Optional (add \$15.50)

★ Total Test Time: 2 hours 55 minutes (+ the optional writing test)

★ Perfect score: 36

★ Register online @ www.actstudent.org

★ Subjects Tested: Critical Reading, Math, Writing

★ Accepted nationally

★ Reasoning based: measures critical thinking skills students need for academic success in college; allows students to demonstrate their analytical & problem-solving abilities regardless of formal instruction

★ Penalty for incorrect answers

★ Math grid-ins (student writes in answer)

★ Basic Fee: \$49.00

★ Writing Essay: Mandatory

★ Total Test Time: 3 hours 45 minutes

★ Perfect score: 2400

★ Register Online @ www.collegeboard.com

Tips for Parents:

- Ask your child about his/her dreams, goals, fears, etc
- Tell your child about your expectations (regarding grades, school involvement, college, etc)
- Check your child's grades often using Skyward Family Access
- Keep in contact with your child's teachers and counselor
- Plan on your child attending summer school if they have failed required classes
- Make sure your child signs up for the PSAT test in the fall & the SAT and/or ACT tests in the spring
- Take your child on college visits beginning in the winter, spring or summer