

Junior Class of 2027

College Bound One-Pager

Walla Walla High School *GEAR UP: Class of 2027 – Your Roadmap to Becoming College Ready*

1. Meet Your Support Team

- Meet with your **school counselor** and **GEAR UP Student Achievement Specialist** to review progress and post-high school plans.
- Visit **GEAR UP A131** for tutoring, mentoring, and college/career support.

2. Make Grades Count

- Check **Skyward** weekly to monitor grades.
- Prioritize academic improvement – junior year GPA is critical for college admissions.
- Attend tutoring or homework help in A131 regularly.

3. Take the Right Classes

- Take a **full academic schedule**, including math, science, English, and world language.
- Enroll in **AP, Dual Credit, or Honors** courses when possible.
- Explore **CTE pathways** for hands-on learning and career skills.

4. Prepare for College Admission Tests

- **Fall:** Take the **PSAT/NMSQT** to qualify for National Merit and scholarships.
- **Spring:** Take SAT/ACT practice tests. Register for the SAT or ACT.
- Review results with your counselor.

5. Explore Career Options

- Update your career assessments in SchoolLinks.
- Investigate 3–5 potential careers and required education.

- Participate in job shadows or GEAR UP career events.

6. Explore Colleges

- Make a list of **5–10 colleges** or training programs that interest you.
- Attend college presentations in the **WA-HI Career Center and GEAR UP room (A131)**.
- Use **BigFuture** (Collegebound.org) to compare colleges, majors, and admission requirements.

7. Get Involved & Build Leadership

- Participate in WA-HI clubs, sports, music, CTE, or leadership roles.
- Volunteer with organizations you care about. 10 hours per year.
- Take on leadership positions when possible.
- Join GEAR UP Ambassadors program.

8. Review Your Graduation & Senior-Year Plan

- Review your transcript and make sure you are on track for graduation.
- Plan your **senior-year schedule** with your counselor.
- Track community service hours and extracurricular involvement.

9. Practice Healthy & Safe Habits

- Maintain good physical and mental health.
- Stay safe online; review social media privacy settings.
- Build a strong circle of positive and supportive friends.

10. Resume, Email & Professional Prep

- Keep a **professional email** for all college-related communication.
- Update your resume with activities, awards, and volunteer work.
- Practice writing scholarship or college essays.

Junior Timeline & Success Calendar

August – September: Start Strong

- Organize your planner and review your class schedule.
- Check Skyward from day one.
- Join the GEAR UP Ambassador program for leadership training and trips.
- Meet GEAR UP staff in A131.

October: PSAT/NMSQT Month

- Take the PSAT/NMSQT.
- Attend fall conferences.
- Explore college fairs and WA-HI Career Center events.

November – December: Career & College Research

- Update SchoolLinks career list.
- Make a first draft of 5–10 colleges to explore.
- Visit A131 for academic support.

January – February: Prepare for Senior Year

- Review your transcript and 4-year plan with your counselor.
- Plan senior year classes (AP, CTE, Dual Credit, pathways).
- Prepare for spring SAT/ACT. Take the SAT Prep class in May 2026

March – April: Engagement & Testing Prep

- Participate in GEAR UP-sponsored college trips.
- Attend workshops on majors, careers, or financial aid.
- Explore volunteer and leadership opportunities.

May – June: Final Preparation

- Take SAT/ACT.
- Sign up for an SAT Prep Course if available.
- Update resume with junior-year accomplishments.
- Create a summer plan including volunteering, job experience, or GEAR UP summer programs.

GEAR UP Room A131 – Open Daily

Tutoring • Homework Help • Mentoring • College & Career Planning • Field Trips • Resources

Junior year is the most important year for college admissions—stay organized, stay involved, and stay focused!