College Prep Checklist

9th Grade

Student's 9th Grade Checklist

- Create a GAfutures account at **GAfutures.org**. GAfutures is a great resource to help you explore and plan for college and your career.
- Review your ***Plan&Pay4CollegeGA*** **9th grade** letter found on your GAfutures Dashboard.
- Start thinking about what careers you may be interested in and choose your classes accordingly. Check out the Career Exploration section of GAfutures to help you determine your interests and career paths here in Georgia.
- Be sure to introduce yourself to your school counselor. Make an appointment to discuss your classes and ask questions about education options after high school.
- Ask your counselor or teachers what Advanced Placement courses are available, whether you are eligible and how to enroll.
- Keep track of your extracurricular activities (volunteering, sports, band, etc.), awards and recognition.
- Create a schedule that includes good study habits and commit to it. Your HOPE GPA* begins calculating as soon as you set foot into high school.
- Discuss financial aid and college saving options with your family.
- Participate in school- or community-based activities that interest you.
- Talk to your counselor about dual enrollment (you may be eligible in the 10th grade) and your education opportunities after high school – college, military, career.
- Check your HOPE GPA through your GAfutures account beginning in 10th grade to see if you are on track to be eligible for the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship.*

*High schools must provide transcript data to GSFC in order for a student's HOPE GPA to be available through their GAfutures account.