

11TH-GRADE COLLEGE ROADMAP

NOVEMBER

Becoming a Well-Rounded Student

- Join a community service project and use the opportunity to explore possible careers (and make new friends).
- Sign up for group assignments and learn to work in teams to achieve a goal.
- Choose opportunities where you can build your leadership skills.
- Don't forget to add these activities to your resume!

DECEMBER

Maximizing Your Break

- Talk to older friends or siblings who are already in college about their experiences and how they adjusted to life as college students.
- Participate in a school or community service project over the holidays.
- Research college websites and take virtual tours—add this information to your portfolio.
- Find a part-time job and save your earnings for college.

SUMMER

Focusing on Fall

- Update your personal goals for college.
- Learn as much as possible about the colleges you want to attend, and visit those that interest you the most.
- Attend summer activities/classes offered at school or colleges.
- Volunteer for a local community project.
- Practice your leadership, academic and social skills at your summer job.

OCTOBER

Building a College Foundation

- Explore various types of postsecondary institutions to determine entrance requirements.
- Check on registration requirements for dual-credit courses that might be available this coming spring or next school year.

JANUARY

Learning About Finances

- Learn about the FAFSA & TASFA. Get your PIN.
- Begin managing your personal finances and understanding banking processes.
- Learn about financial literacy and smart money ideas.
- Use the FAFSA 4Caster to investigate the costs of various postsecondary institutions.
- Know the differences between various types of financial aid.

FEBRUARY

Taking Ownership of Your Future

- Develop a set of study habits, behaviors, and attitudes that show you are serious about your future.
- Put your best foot forward and clean up your online image.
- Decide which advanced courses you will take next year.

SEPTEMBER

Planning Your Future

- There are a lot of reasons to go to college, including higher earnings and more opportunities. Learn more about the benefits of postsecondary education.
- Do your research! Visit schools you're interested in, check out catalogs, take virtual tours, and attend college and/or career fairs.
- There are many different paths to a postsecondary degree—figure out the path that will lead you to your dream career.

MAY

Coping with Change

- Register for summer programs at school or local colleges and take advanced courses, if offered.
- Evaluate your academic, social and behavioral performance this year. What changes will you make?
- Find a summer job or internship related to your college major, if possible, and continue saving your money.
- Set your goals for summer.

MARCH

Understanding Academics & Course Planning

- Narrow the choice of careers that interest you and decide on a postsecondary path.
- Check your class rank, GPA (grade point average), credits, and attendance records.
- Register for advanced and/or dual-credit courses.
- Learn about AP/IB exams now so you can plan ahead.

AUGUST

Learning About Yourself

- Update your resume using information from your portfolio.
- Draft college essays and add them to your portfolio.

APRIL

Investigating Required Tests

- Learn about passing standards and strive to do your best on benchmark and STAAR end-of-course tests.
- Find out about pre-college admissions tests and study guides or classes offered for SAT and ACT, THEA and other college entrance requirements.
- Take advantage of mentors, tutors, and extra study sessions.