



College Planning Guide - Sophomore Year

Concentrate on academic preparation and continue to develop basic skills and co-curricular interests.

September

- Select challenging courses, and maintain or improve your GPA.
- Take NCAA-approved courses if you want to play sports in college. (Visit and register (\$80 fee) <http://eligibilitycenter.org>. *(You can register and begin uploading your stats)*)
- For more info about NCAA:
- http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Student_Resources/Registration_Checklist.pdf
- Info about NAIA: registration fee (\$90) and view the list of colleges that are NAIA (\$80) colleges (<https://play.mynaia.org/>)

October

- If you were selected to take the PSAT for practice in October, the results will not be used for college admission. The **PSAT** is a preliminary test that will prepare you for the PSAT/MMSQT next year which is the qualifying PSAT for National Merit.. Detailed information about test can be found at:
<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html> .
- Practice for the PSAT also on <http://www.khanacademy.org>
- Sign up, if you have not done so already, for **co-curricular activities** that interest you. **The level of involvement and accomplishment is most important, not the number of activities.**
- Keep a record of your co-curricular involvement, volunteer work, and employment (all year), and input the information into your resume.
- Keep your resume up-to-date on a resume template (found on College Info folder on Canvas).

November

- **Make sure you are "on top" of your academic work.** If necessary, meet with your teacher for additional help. **At the end of sophomore year, 2/3 of your high school GPA that colleges use for applications will be completed.**

December/January

- Keep studying!
- **Volunteer** - a great way to identify your interests and to develop skills.
- If possible take **ACT and/or SAT** in the spring. It is offered several times. If you have time, take it more than once. Detailed information and practice tests can be found at: <http://act.org> and <http://www.actstudent.org/index.html> or <https://academy.act.org/> or <http://sat.collegeboard.com/practice> .
- Memorize Rummel's CEEB code. If you are out of town and decide to take the SAT or ACT, please input our school code: **191778**.

February/March

- You will be introduced to SCOIR, an extensive college database where you can access a myriad of college information. Input your personal information and begin researching colleges. **Please include your parents' e-mail address so that they can register and have access to SCOIR.**
- Browse through the college literature in the college hallway and surf Naviance to get an idea of what kinds of schools may be of interest to you.
- **Maintain exemplary grades**

April

- Continue to work hard.

May

- **Plan now for wise use of your summer.** Consider taking a summer course or participating in a special program (e.g., for prospective engineers or journalists or for those interested in theatre or music) at a local college or community college. Consider working or volunteering.
- Remember to visit college campuses whenever you are out of town. Also, you should visit local campuses to help you decide about college size, atmosphere, etc. If possible, schedule a campus tour. Ask questions and send a "thank you note" (or e-mail) to the college after your visit. "Interest level" is extremely important.

June/July

- Remember to visit college campuses on family vacations, before or after camp, or anytime that you are near a college campus.
- Update your resume with any new summer jobs, activities or volunteer work