



College Now
Greater Cleveland

Preparing for High School & Post-Secondary Success 9th & 10th Grade

Freshman

1st Semester:

- ☐ Schedule a meeting with your Guidance Counselor to prepare for High School success
- ☐ Obtain Naviance login (or other College and Career Tool)
- ☐ Being to prepare and practice for the PSAT using Khan Academy
- ☐ Take the PSAT 8/9 (October)
- ☐ Take advantage of tutoring opportunities
- ☐ Begin to develop healthy time management and study skills
- ☐ Learn how to calculate a Grade Point Average (GPA)
- ☐ Review 1st quarter grades and develop a plan to improve or maintain grade before the end of the 1st semester
- ☐ Familiarize yourself with organizations, clubs, and/or sporting groups at your school or in the community

2nd Semester:

- ☐ Review 1st semester grades, and evaluate GPA
- ☐ Complete Career Interest Profiler in Naviance or other College and Career Tool
- ☐ Meet with your Guidance Counselor to discuss enrollment in college prep/credit programs such as Advanced Placement, and College Credit Plus
- ☐ Participate in extracurricular activities at school or in the community
- ☐ Explore summer enrichment programs, career shadowing opportunities, internships, or volunteer opportunities
- ☐ Begin to think about your skills and interests and how those relate to careers, majors, and colleges
- ☐ Start developing a list of your awards, honors, and extracurricular activities

Summer:

- ☐ Visit a college campus and/or a college fair
- ☐ Participate in an enrichment program, career shadowing opportunity, internship, volunteer opportunity
- ☐ Develop a SMART goal for next school year

Sophomore

1st Semester:

- ☐ Schedule a meeting with your Guidance Counselor to ensure that you are on track for high school graduation, and taking courses that will prepare you for post-secondary education or career tech
- ☐ Utilize Khan Academy to prepare for the PSAT
- ☐ Take the PSAT (October), and review results to identify areas where improvement is needed
- ☐ Begin to research and familiarize yourself with college admissions requirements
- ☐ Consider shadowing a professional in your career interest area
- ☐ Get involved: continue to participate in extracurricular activities, and volunteer in your community
- ☐ Develop a resume, using the list you have created of your accomplishments, awards, honors, and activities

2nd Semester:

- ☐ Review 1st semester grades, and evaluate cumulative GPA
- ☐ Compare cumulative GPA with admissions requirements for institutions you are interested in
- ☐ While continuing to participate in extracurricular activities: work towards moving into a leadership position in the activities you enjoy most
- ☐ Read news reports, articles, and books and practice your writing skills
- ☐ Use Naviance or other College and Career tool to being researching colleges, develop a list of at least 5 schools you are interested in
- ☐ Revisit your SMART goal for the year, determine if you are on track to meet your goal
- ☐ Investigate summer opportunities
- ☐ Finish the school year strong!

Summer:

- ☐ Begin preparing for the SAT and/or ACT
- ☐ Visit a college campus and a college fair
- ☐ Participate in an enrichment program, career shadowing opportunity, volunteer opportunity, or job
- ☐ Begin saving money for college (if you have not already started)
- ☐ Develop a SMART goal for the next school year