MAKING A COLLEGE VISIT









PLAN YOUR VISIT

- Decide when to make your visit. The spring of your junior year is usually a good time to visit.
- Schedule your visit(s) online or by phone. Check college websites for open houses and visitation days.

LEARN ALL YOU CAN

- A group tour is a great way to see a campus. Ask your tour guide questions such as, What is this college best known for? What are the strongest majors?
- Check out the nearby city or town.

TALK TO PEOPLE

- Schedule appointments with people who can answer your questions, such as admissions counselors, financial aid counselors, program directors.
- Talk to students. Ask them what they like and don't like about the college, what they do on weekends, etc.

TAKE NOTE OF YOUR IMPRESSIONS

- As you explore the campus, make a note of your impressions and what you like and don't like.
- Visualize yourself as a student there. Do you feel comfortable? Does the college feel like a good fit?
- Take pictures to help you remember the campus.



For information on choosing a college, watch this quick video!



If you're thinking about going to college, that's great! There's no better way to prepare yourself for a bright future than to continue your education.

Here are some things you can do this year to plan and prepare for college. Do the following and you will be on your way to achieving your college goals!



Work hard in your classes.

To be ready for college, and to have an impressive high school record, work hard to get good grades in all of your classes.

Now that you're a freshman, everything "counts." Your freshman grades will be used to calculate your grade point average—and all of your freshman courses, grades, and credits will be on your transcript (an official copy of your high school record).



Make a four-year high school plan.

In order to be prepared for college-level work, colleges recommend that students take the following courses in high school:

- 4 years of English
- 3-4 years of math (Algebra I & II, Geometry)
- 3-4 years of science
- 2-3 years of the same foreign language
- 3 years of social studies
- 1 year of fine or performing arts

To make a four-year high school plan, list the courses you intend to take each year of high school. If you want to go to college, try to include all of the above courses in your plan.



10th Grade COLLEGE PLANNING

Now that you're a sophomore, it's time to get more serious about planning and preparing for college. To help you stay focused and on track, here's a list of the things you need to do this year.



Work hard to get good grades.

The stronger your high school academic record, the more college options you'll have. Grades are the first thing colleges look at when determining whether to accept an applicant—particularly their grades in college prep classes.



Take college prep courses.

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Develop your interests and be involved.

Colleges are looking for students who are active and involved in their school and community. Participate in school activities, do some volunteer work, and take time to develop your interests and talents.



For tips on how to build an impressive high school record, watch this video!



As a college bound junior, there's a lot you need to do this year to plan and prepare for college. To achieve your college goals, do the following and stay focused. The future is yours!

Strengthen your academic record. Take college prep courses and get the best grades possible. The stronger your high school academic record, the more college options you'll have. What can you do this year to strengthen your academic record?	
Be involved in meaningful activities. Colleges are looking for students who are active and involved in their school and community. What activities/interests will you pursue this year?	
Make a testing plan. Many juniors take the PSAT/ NMSQT in October and the ACT and/or SAT in the spring, if required by the schools they are applying to. Visit act.org and collegeboard.org for information What tests will you take? When will you take them? PSAT/NMSQT ACT SAT Other	



The following are things college bound seniors need to do to plan and prepare for college.

Use this checklist to help you stay focused and on track. Check items off as they are completed.

Get Organized

Take the ACT/SAT, If necessary. Unless you know you don't need to submit test scores, take the ACT or SAT if you haven't already. For information and to register, go to act.org or collegeboard org.
Set up a master calendar. Use this calendar to help you keep track of test dates, college visits, application deadlines, and college events at your school.
Have a folder for college Information. In this tolder, keep copies of test scores and applications, notes on college visits, and anything else that's important.
Plan college visits. If you haven't visited a college you are seriously considering, schedule a visit as soon as possible.
Meet with your counselor. Talk to your counselor about your college choices, possible majors, and financial aid.

CHOOSING A COLLEGE

Choosing a college is about finding a school that's a good match for you. Knowing what you're looking for will help you find a college that's a good fit.

The following questions and information will help you determine what's important to you in a college.

Type of College

Two-year colleges offer affordable one- and twoyear career programs. Students can also transfer to a four-year college after a year or two. Four-year colleges offer a wide variety of majors and programs.

What type of college are you interested in?

two-year college	four-year college
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Size

Larger colleges offer lots of majors, programs, and activities; smaller colleges usually have smaller classes and a more personal feel.

What size college do you want to attend?

small	medium	large					
Location							
Where do you want to attend college?							

close to home in my home state near a big city close to nature

Other_