



## **Preparing for College / Vocation**

To successfully graduate from high school enables you to successfully enter college, a vocation, or vocational training. While entering a vocation is more tailored to an individual's non-academic skills and expertise, academic colleges require different preparation. To increase your chances for acceptance and success in an academic college, there are steps that need to be taken each year. This page includes a list of some basic and important events, and a given timeline for all students.

### **FRESHMEN 9th Grade**

1. Map out your high school graduation plan by developing your Five-Year Plan.
2. Select challenging high school courses. Remember that upper math classes will help you succeed on SAT/ACT tests. Many scholarships and colleges have 2-year language requirements, as well as community service pre-requisites.
3. Choose your extra-curricular and service activities carefully.
4. Visit college fairs. Begin contacting colleges for information.

**TESTS** - You may take the PSAT, SAT/ACT/PLAN test(s) this year. It is good to do tests early to know weak areas on which to work.

### **SOPHOMORES 10th Grade**

1. Continue to contact schools for information.
2. Have people who teach or work with students write recommendation letters.
3. Develop good study habits!

**TESTS** . You may take the SAT/ACT test(s) this year.

### **JUNIORS 11th Grade**

1. Continue to develop good study habits.
2. Study SAT/ACT prep materials (see links on [www.familytreeprivateschool.com](http://www.familytreeprivateschool.com))
3. Continue gathering college and scholarship information. Many scholarships must be applied for in the Junior year. Contact College Admissions offices.

**TESTS** Take the PSAT/NMSQT or SAT Exam.

### **SENIORS 12th Grade**

1. Visit colleges and meet with college representatives.
2. Fill out state or federal financial aid forms before the 2nd semester.
3. Fill out admission forms for the college you plan to attend EARLY.
4. Plan for participating in graduation ceremonies, etc. EARLY.

**TESTS** Re-take SAT/ACT test(s). Colleges will take the best score of each section on each test to qualify the student for admissions.