

College Planning Timeline

FRESHMEN

Fall

- Learn your user name and password for Naviance.
- Get familiar with Grade Point Average (GPA), what it means, and how it's calculated.
- Check out Vanguard graduation requirements.
- Plan ahead for college! Check out Colorado Higher Education Admission Requirements (HEAR).
- Check out Family Connection by Naviance.
- Complete all required ninth grade ICAP tasks.
- Learn how to study. Find out when your teachers have off periods and are available. If you are struggling with any classes, don't wait to ask for help.
- Find out where the College Counseling office is and introduce yourself to the counselor.
- Adjust to high school; check out clubs, extracurricular activities, and ways to get involved.
- Focus in classes and develop academic interests. Do your best from the start. Ninth grade counts. Colleges will look at your freshman year grades.

Spring

- Start asking questions about college: Talk to your parents about how you will pay for college, where you might go, what you might study.
- Complete all required ninth grade ICAP tasks.
- Thinking about playing sports in college? Check out the NCAA eligibility requirements: http://web1.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp
- Look into summer jobs, volunteering, and/or enrichment opportunities. Consider those that will expand your academic and leadership capacities.
- Talk with your parents about your academic strengths and weaknesses. Explore tutoring resources to improve in weak areas.
- Enroll in AP courses in subjects in which you excel.
- Keep talking with the adults in your life about your future plans. Ask them about how their own decisions and plans worked out.
- Get to know your teachers, coaches, and activity advisors. The adults in your life will be your most important advocates when you get to the college admission process. The more you let them get to know you as a person, the better.