

College Prep Checklist – 11th Grade

To best prepare for college, certain steps and procedures must be accomplished prior to enrollment. This is a chronological checklist designed to help assist in being well-organized and as ready as possible for college. See the College Prep Resources for additional information.

August through October

- _____ Focus on academics! Maintain at least a 3.0 GPA.
- _____ List only 3 colleges of choice with only 2 possible majors.
- _____ Contact the high school counselor if interested in ROTC program.
- _____ Create/update an interest and learning style inventory profile, update yearly. See *Career: Kuder Navigator*.
- _____ A social security number (SSN) is required. Contact local social security office. See *College Information: SSN*.
- _____ Hold leadership positions in various school- and community-based activities, clubs, and/or sports.
- _____ Continue to contact college coaches to request possible scouting, if athletics are desired.
- _____ Complete all college campus visits by the end of the junior year. Call ahead for appointments. Request an application, talk with current students, and take a campus tour.
- _____ Create a 3-year calendar, covering the last 2 years of high school and 1st year of college, noting college admission, financial aid application, scholarship, and testing registration deadlines as well as testing dates.
- _____ Register no later than **October** to take the *ACT* in **December**. See *Testing: ACT*.



November through January

- _____ Use all collected documents and personal milestones to create an education portfolio.
- _____ Visit college websites to view estimated cost, application process, and enrollment information.
- _____ Attend local career, financial aid, and college fairs. See *College Information: College Fair*.
- _____ Keep resume updated with all extra-curricular activities, recognitions, and employment, if any.
- _____ Review websites which assist with applying for college scholarships, grants, and financial aid. Make note of all application deadlines on calendar. See *Financial Aid: Scholarships*.
- _____ Review college exam study guides and websites with online tutorials. See *Testing: Test Prep*.
- _____ ASVAB is a military entrance test taken either during the junior or senior year of high school. See *Testing: ASVAB*.
- _____ Register one month prior to testing date for the following tests. See *Testing: ACT, SAT, and SAT Subject Tests*.
 - *ACT* – **February, April, or June** • *SAT* – **March or May** • *SAT Subject Tests* – **May/June**

February through June

- _____ Stay up-to-date with all required shots and immunizations; retain a copy of shot records.
- _____ Finalize senior class schedule by the **end of May**, verifying all classes align with graduation requirements. Consider taking a *concurrent credit* or *digital learning* course. See *College Information: SouthArk*.
- _____ Request college recommendation letters for applications from teachers, coaches, and other mentors.
- _____ State test(s) must be passed at the end of grade level to advance to the next grade and/or graduate.
- _____ Register one month prior to **June or August** testing date to take the *ACT* test. See *Testing: ACT*.
- _____ *SAT Subject Tests* and *AP Testing* are recommended immediately following class completion usually in **May/June**. See *Testing: AP Testing and SAT Subject Tests*.

Summer after Junior Year

- _____ Explore summer internships, volunteer opportunities, and/or job shadowing in desired career.
- _____ Enroll in a summer school class if a required class was not passed during the year.
- _____ Prepare for the college application process by reviewing college essay prompts, assembling education portfolios, and gathering recommendation letters. See *College Info: Essay Writing Tips*.