

# Grade 9 College Planning Checklist

---

□ **TALK** to your counselor about your college plans, and review your schedule to be sure you are enrolled in the necessary college-preparatory courses. Colleges prefer four years of English, history, math, science and a foreign language. Create a Four-year High School Plan.

□ **SET** up a file of important notes and records including report cards, awards and honors, school and community activities, volunteer work, and leadership positions.

□ **SET** up an account on the [California Career Center](#) so you can use this resource to your fullest advantage for career and college planning.

□ **GET** involved in extra-curricular and community service activities. Colleges look for students who are involved, who have a highly developed talent or skill, and who have worked on their leadership skills.

□ **FRESHMAN** grades count! Strive for academic excellence and get tutoring if you need it.

□ **LEARN** how to calculate your Grade Point Average (GPA)

□ **USE** the [California Career Zone](#) to start exploring careers and the college majors related to them.

□ **BEGIN** researching possible colleges. The [California Career Zone](#) has information about all the colleges in California and the nation.

□ **TAKE** the PSAT/NMSQT®, offered in October. Ask your counselor for specific dates the test is conducted in your area. The test is administered through the College Board. Not only is it a good precursor to the SAT®, your PSAT® scores may qualify you for a National Merit Scholarship.

□ **RESEARCH** information on colleges and universities you are considering. Explore their websites and check on their entrance requirements.

□ **CHECK** with your counselor about AP® courses and university summer school programs for high school students. Take on a summer job, internship or service project

## NOTES: