



Freshmen Checklist

FALL

- Take a strong course load and do your best to make good grades.**
One day a college admissions officer will actually look at your transcript (your courses and grades) and make a decision on your work ethic based on your grades, focusing initially on 9th-11th grade. (Plus, the better grades you have, the more upper level courses you will be eligible to take in the future.)
- Meet with your guidance coordinator!**
They are your advocate and will help set you up for success in high school.
- Frequently monitor the guidance page of the school website.**
This is your one stop shop for commonly requested forms and is the place to go to keep informed of any upcoming college visits and other college and career planning events.
- Attend a Christian and Public School College Fair.**
- Try something new!**
 - Inquire about your school clubs and organizations to determine which may be for you.
 - Tryout or volunteer to help with your school sports teams, dramas, or musicals.Many colleges and organizations look for the well-rounded student.
- Start/continue volunteering for community service hours.**
Keep in mind that in-depth involvement is best. While four or five hours here and there are better than nothing, look for volunteer activities where you may want to make a long-term commitment, preferably even gaining experience in an area you may be interested in pursuing as a career. For community service ideas, check out our guidance page or www.volunteens.com/
- Setup College Board www.collegeboard.org/ and ACT Profile www.actprofile.org accounts.**
Used to their potential these accounts can be your college planning organizers, your interests and skillset evaluators, as well as your scholarship researchers. Take time this year to get familiar with all they can offer.
- Find a high school resume template you like and begin to fill it in.**
There are a multitude of great templates, find one that suits your personality or create one of your own! Visit www.collegeessayguy.com/blog/college-resume-templates for ideas.
- Start looking up scholarship opportunities.**
There are hundreds of fun and exciting scholarship that can help you earn money for school. Many are unique just for you! One of many invaluable sites to check out: www.CollegeDebtFree.org
- Prepare for the PSAT.**
Go to your College Board account to practice critical reading, math, and writing skills questions.

SPRING

- Continue to work hard on your grades.**
Proactive preparation today will avoid last minute reactive panic. If you find that you are struggling in any of your classes, please ask your teacher for help. If that is not enough, see your guidance coordinator for information on tutoring.
- Continue your activities and community service work.**
- Take the PSAT in class.**
- Choose your 10th grade courses wisely.**
It is extremely important that you initiate/maintain a challenging schedule if you plan to attend a competitive college.
- Pray about taking a summer enhancement program at a college you are interested in.**
Almost every college in the country offers some type of program for high school students. This is a great way to get on campus and investigate colleges.