



## COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

### Freshmen

If planning to attend a college/university:

- Track activities, community service, employment, awards, etc.
- Talk with other people about their college choices.
- Take courses that you will maximize your college options.
- Develop good study habits that will help you to be successful in college.
- Monitor your GPA so you will maximize your college options.

If planning to attend a community college:

- Review and evaluate the skills that will be needed for success after high school. (See the third column of the Performance Profile.)
- Identify any academic problem areas.

### Sophomores

If planning to attend a college/university:

- Continue to keep track of activities, community service, employment, awards, etc.
- Visit as many colleges as possible; even if just to drive through campus.
- Talk with people about their college choices.
- Take the PSAT in October, if ready.
- Continue to monitor transcripts in order to meet college requirements.
- Develop good study habits that will help you be successful in college. (See the fourth and fifth columns of the Performance Profile)
- Check your GPA and make plans to have at least a 3.0, or better yet, a 3.5 or better.
- Develop a plan to repeat any courses where you received a “D.” This should be completed by the end of your junior year.

If planning to attend a community college:

- Begin gathering college information.
- Plan college visits.
- Review and evaluate your skills that will be needed for success in school. (See the third column of the Performance Profile.)
- Continue to identify and begin to develop plans for working on any problem academic areas.

## **Juniors**

If planning on attending a college/university:

- Attend the spring semester college counseling evening.
- During the spring semester, make an appointment with the college counselor to begin developing a list of potential colleges.
- Continue to gather information about colleges on your list.
- Plan college visits when the college is in session.
- Take PSAT in October.
- Take college examination prep class second semester.
- SAT and/or ACT in March, May and/or June.
- Begin to complete the College Comparison Chart.
- Continue to keep track of activities, community service, employment, awards, etc.
- Develop a plan for repeating the classes in which you received a “D.” This must be completed by the end of your junior year.
- Review and evaluate the skills that you will need to be successful in school. (See fourth and fifth columns of the Performance Profile.)
- Attend college fairs and meet with on campus college representatives.
- Begin working on college essays during the summer after the junior year.

If planning to attend a community college:

- Continue to gather college information.
- Continue college visits.
- Review and evaluate the skills that you will need in order to be successful in school. (See third column of Performance Profile.)

- Continue to develop and implement strategies for working on problem academic areas.
- Decide whether to attend a local community college or a community college that has residence facilities.

## **Seniors**

If planning to attend a college/university:

- Set up college interviews if recommended or required.
- Finalize the colleges to which you are applying.
- Complete and monitor the College Application Checklist in order to meet application requirements and deadlines.
- Take SATs in October, November or December if needed.
- Arrange for teacher/college recommendations well in advance of due dates.
- Meet deadlines for financial aid.
- Check email on a regular basis for communications from colleges.
- Secure housing promptly.

If planning to attend a community college:

- Stay in close communication with the college counselor.
- Request information from schools/visit school websites.
- Finalize decision about where you want to attend school.
- Make an appointment with the community college counseling office.
- Take placement examinations if necessary.
- Register for classes.