



COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE for ...

Grade 9 FRESHMEN

Congratulations! You're in high school now. Laying the foundation of your academic and extracurricular high school career is what this year is all about.

Remember that every grade counts towards your overall grade point average (GPA) and is a part of your official transcript. Being organized and practicing good study habits will help in earning top marks.

All Year

- **Create a four-year high school plan.** Think about what you'd like to accomplish in the next four years. Make sure you know what high school courses are required by colleges, and that you're taking the right classes as early as ninth grade. Get to know the levels of courses offered by your school.
- **Start thinking about your life after school, including the types of jobs that might interest you.** Of course these will change — often — but it's good to start thinking about the possibilities.
- **Participate in extracurricular activities.** Academics aren't everything. Explore your interests in a sport, school club, music or drama group, or community volunteer activity.
- Talk to other people about careers you might find interesting. Try talking to your school counselor, teachers, recent college graduates who are working professionals in the community, etc.