

GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL

College and Career Ready!

Choose your future!



Continue your extracurricular involvement. Take leadership roles whenever possible. Remember college admissions counselors are looking for consistency and demonstrated examples of leadership skills.

Select and research 10 postsecondary institutions (colleges, universities, vocational and technical programs, etc.) and related scholarship options.

Participate in college fairs and tours (in-state and out-of-state schools) and determine what factors are important to you in a college. Review college admissions requirements against your current course load. Make adjustments as necessary.

Participate in an ACT/SAT/PSAE test preparation course. Remember that the more you read and write, the better your scores will be on these exams.

Register for the ACT and/or SAT exam. Check your colleges of interest and make sure you register for the appropriate test.

Special populations of students (athletes, students interested in military academies, students with disabilities) should begin to gather information about special admissions processes, any special certification requirements, and whether additional testing/diagnoses are needed.

Research and apply to college access programs that interest you (such as Chicago Scholars or Posse).

Meet with your counselor to confirm you are on track for promotion.

Plan your senior year. Take the most challenging options available to you (AP, honors, IB, virtual High School, dual credit).

Complete an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) calculator to estimate the amount of federal and state financial aid you are eligible to receive.

Awareness Readiness Access Success



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Junior year

The Office of College and Career Preparation prepares students for success in college and careers by providing targeted academic programs; planning support for postsecondary awareness, readiness, access and success targeted to students, parents and school staff; and youth development supports, in collaboration with schools and partners.