

College Planning Tips

for Sophomores

Follow these simple steps:

Take the PSAT or ACT Aspire. The PSAT and ACT Aspire tests will help prepare you for the college entrance exams.

Explore potential careers. Explore your career options in more detail. Check out the career exploration section on eCampusTours.com to get more info on possible careers.

Attend college fairs. Make sure to ask any questions you may have. Pick up a variety of college pamphlets and read through them—you may see something you like.

Continue to challenge yourself. Inquire about Advanced Placement and Honors courses for your junior year. If dual enrollment is an option, make sure to take advantage of earning college credit hours before finishing high school.

Track your accomplishments. Keep track of academic and athletic awards, extracurricular accomplishments, and community service. This list will come in handy when filling out applications for colleges and scholarships as well as jobs and internships.

Plan your finances. Learn how to make a budget. Create a savings plan for your life after high school.

Stay on track with your courses.

Meet with your counselor to make sure you're enrolled in the courses you need for college or a career. Check your class rank and GPA.

Stay involved. Continue to stay involved with extracurricular activities and work toward leadership positions in the activities you like best. Become involved in community service and other volunteer activities. Extracurricular activities can help you develop time-management skills and enrich your high school experience.

Research colleges. It's never too early to start researching schools. Get familiar with different college options by searching online at eCampusTours.com. Contact schools you're interested in attending and ask for more information about their academic requirements, deadlines, majors, and activities.

Have a summer plan. There's no formula for what defines a productive summer, but make sure you stick with activities that lead to personal growth and valuable experiences. Plan your summer around your interests and passions and remember to stay active. This is also a great time to schedule college campus tours if you have a few in mind you'd like to visit.

Google yourself. Monitor your online image with a quick search engine query to make sure what you're posting on social media and online sources is appealing to colleges and employers.

Potential careers I am considering:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Colleges or schools I am considering:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Extracurricular activities I am involved in or considering:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

High school accomplishments:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Summer plans:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

