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## 9<sup>th</sup> grade

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- Create a four-year high school plan.**
  - You'll meet with your counselor in the spring to create your plan.
- Start thinking for life after school** by taking interest inventories and talking to others about their career plans.
  - Career interest inventories available in Naviance/Family Connection.
- Sign up for the A+ program.**
- Save for college.**
  - Start a MOST 529 Plan if haven't already.
  - <https://www.missourimost.org/>
- Explore summer opportunities.**
  - A list of opportunities is available on the counseling website.
- Get familiar with college admission exams** like the PSAT, Pre-ACT, and ACT.
- Participate in extra-curricular activities.**
- Take AP exam** (if applicable).
- Familiarize yourself** with the college/career planning and financial aid resources on the Park Hill South Counseling website.
- Follow** Park Hill South/Park Hill/LEAD Counseling on Twitter, Remind, and Facebook – to stay informed about college/career information!

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## 10<sup>th</sup> grade

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- Update your four-year high school plan.**
  - You'll meet with your counselor in the spring to update your plan.
- Get familiar with college admissions exams** like the PSAT, Pre-ACT, and ACT.
- Take the PSAT** in October.
- Take the Pre-ACT** in February.
  - All 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will take.
- Are you interested in a military academy?** Research requirements for admittance.
- Tour college campuses** (often in the spring).
- Many colleges offer "sophomore" specific events. Look on their Admissions > Campus Visit pages for details.
- Continue in A+ program.**
- Attend college and career fairs.**
  - Attend the NACAC fair at the KC Convention Center:
    - <https://www.nacacfairs.org/>
- Along with your family, do some research about how to obtain financial aid.**
- Participate in school activities, volunteer efforts and summer opportunities.**
- Take AP exams** (if applicable).
- Familiarize yourself** with the college/career planning and financial aid resources on the counseling website.
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# College & Career Planning Timeline

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## 11<sup>th</sup> grade

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- Update your four-year high school plan.**
  - You'll meet with your counselor in the fall to update your plan.
- Schedule classes that help you explore your career interests.**
- Research career options and consider job shadowing** for an up-close experience.
- Talk to your counselor about taking the PSAT** in October.
- Make a file to manage** your college search, testing, and application data.
- Start looking at college applications.**
- Sign up to take the ACT in the spring.**
- Begin a search for financial aid** resources.
- Get your FSA ID** (<https://fsaid.ed.gov>)
- Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center** (if applicable). <http://eligibilitycenter.org>
- Prepare a resume** (use the resume builder in Naviance/Family Connection).
- Make plans to meet the A+ Program requirements.**
- Take AP exams** (if applicable).
- Continue to participate in** school activities, volunteer efforts and summer opportunities.
- Learn about and explore colleges.**
  - **Develop a list of colleges** that are of interest to you. Use the College SuperMatch feature to help create a list of colleges.
  - **Attend college representative visits** at your school. Sign up in Naviance/Family Connection or in the counseling office.
  - **Attend College Planning Night** at your school. Typically during second semester.
  - **Visit colleges.** Sign up for campus visits on their website. Try to visit on days we don't have school.
  - **Attend college and career fairs.** Attend the NACAC fair on October 24 at KC Convention Center.
    - <https://www.nacacfairs.org/>
- Familiarize yourself** with the college/career planning and financial aid resources on the Park Hill South Counseling website.
- Follow** Park Hill South/Park Hill/LEAD Counseling on Twitter, Remind, and Facebook – to stay informed about college/career information!

# College & Career Planning Timeline

## 12<sup>th</sup> grade

### FALL

- Narrow your list of colleges to between 4 and 10.**
  - **Attend college and career fairs.** Attend the NACAC fair on October 24 at KC Convention Center.
    - <https://www.nacacfairs.org/>
  - **Visit with college representatives** when they come to our building (sign up in Naviance/Family Connection).
  - **Go on campus visits** (sign up for these on the college website typically on their admissions page).
  - **Apply to a “fall back” school, “perfect match” school and “stretch” school.**
  - **Prepare early decision / early action or rolling admission applications as soon as possible.**
- Create a master list or calendar** that includes:
  - **Tests you’ll take** and their fees, dates, and registration deadlines.
  - **College application due dates** (talk to your counselor about fee waivers to see if they might apply to you).
  - **Required financial aid application** forms and their due dates.
  - **Other materials you’ll need** (transcripts, etc.)
  - **Start filling out scholarship applications.**
- Take the ACT one or two more times** (September or October and December)
- Complete the FAFSA** (opens October 1, priority MO deadline February 1). <http://www.fafsa.gov>
- Ask counselor or teacher for recommendations** if you need them.
- Write first drafts of essays** and ask teachers and others to read them if you’re submitting essays (if applicable).
- Request transcripts** (in Naviance/Family Connection).
- Keep copies of applications.**

### SPRING

- Keep active in school**
- Visit your final college before accepting** (if haven’t previously visited).
- Inform every college of your acceptance or rejection** of the office of admission and/or financial aid by May 1.
- Send your deposit** to one college only.
- Take AP exams** (if applicable).
- Work with counselor to resolve any admission or financial aid problems.**
- Request your final transcript** be sent (in senior exit survey).
- Review your financial aid awards.**
- Complete A+ program requirements.**

#### Helpful tips:

- Familiarize yourself** with the college/career planning and financial aid resources on the Park Hill South/Park Hill/LEAD Counseling websites.
- Follow** Park Hill South/Park Hill/LEAD Counseling on Twitter, Remind, and Facebook – to stay informed about college/career information!