

College Planning Guide

Planning for college is a team project that requires involvement from the school, the parents, and the student. It can be overwhelming for any one team member but, working together, it does not have to be burdensome. Below is a guide for parents and students at each grade level:

Sophomore Year

- Hopefully, your transcript this year will show growth over last year. Stay on top of things and do your very best in each class. Ask for help when you need it.
- Begin thinking about and investigating careers that interest you. Talk to people who are knowledgeable in the field.
- Start checking into colleges that you think you might want to attend. Watch for summer opportunities at those schools and visit as many as you can. Become familiar with their admission requirements and deadlines.
- Join and participate in extracurricular activities.
- Attend as many college related workshops as you can. Just learning some of the lingo associated with college admissions give you an edge later on.
- Keep track of your community service hours and time spent volunteering. Download the Student College Survey on the previous page to help you keep up with it all.
- Visit helpful websites such as www.collegeforalltexans.com, www.actstudent.org, www.collegeboard.org/student, www.edulaunchpad.com. Each has a wealth of information for finding the right college and paying for it. Try the online practice tests.
- Send for a FREE copy of the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation Compendium. This is a comprehensive college handbook that will serve you well.

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- You will be taking the PSAT this year. Pay close attention in those classes that will prepare you for the test, especially English and Math.
- Find summer enrichment programs or consider getting a job. Almost anything you do will enhance your resume.
- Consider taking your initial ACT and/or SAT at the end of this year (June).