INTRODUCTION

The High School Planning Timeline can help you get ready for high school and have a successful high school experience. Follow the steps in the timeline throughout the school year. You can print the timeline page and use it as a checklist or a reminder. All the steps you need to follow for high school planning, college planning and financial aid planning are shown for each grade. In this section, the high school planning steps are highlighted. Steps for alternate pathways after high school are also included. There's lots to do. Stay on track.

CHECKLISTS FOR:

- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade
- 9th Grade
- 10th Grade
- 11th Grade
- 12th Grade
☐ Counselors, teachers, parents and friends are all good sources of information. Ask them any questions you have about college, in addition to doing research on your own.

☐ Study hard! Make sure you use good study habits and keep your grades up.

☐ Start saving for college. You might want to consider signing up for a college savings account.

☐ Start thinking about the courses you'll take in 9th grade.

☐ Find out about academic enrichment programs, including summer and weekend programs, available through your school or local colleges.

☐ Don't forget about extracurricular activities like sports, performing arts, volunteer work or other activities that interest you.

☐ Investigate Advanced Placement (AP) and other honors-level courses you can take in high school to help you prepare for college.

☐ Take the ACT EXPLORE test to evaluate your skills in English, math, reading and science reasoning. It's good practice and your scores won't count towards your college application.