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
Now that you're in 9th grade, it's time to get serious about your post-secondary plans. By starting early, you'll be better prepared.

Don't neglect your study habits! Keep up the good work, and continue to improve your study skills.

Add to or open a college savings account. Every bit you and your parents put aside for college helps when it's time to enroll.

Talk to your school counselors, teachers, family members or trusted adults about your plans for college. If you're not sure if college is the best option for you, talk to your counselor.

Use Your Plan of Study to keep track of your courses and grades. Invite your counselor to view Your Plan of Study.
Find out about college entrance requirements for the schools you’re interested in.

Create a file of the following documents and notes:
• Report cards
• Lists of awards and honors
• School and community activities
• Volunteer work.

Find out about AP and other honors-level courses.

Continue to get involved in campus and community activities.

How are you spending your summer?
Volunteering and educational programs can help give you a better idea about what kind of training or career would be right for you.

College life can be a big change — you’re on your own!
Try taking some small steps towards independence this year, perhaps with more responsibility around your house.