

COLLEGE PLANNING CHECKLIST



YOUR GUIDE TO
THE COLLEGE PROCESS

QUESTIONS?

 1.800.442.6459

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UW HELP, a program
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Freshmen

- It's normal to feel shy as you transition to high school, but if you have any questions, ask friends, a teacher or a trusted advisor.
- Try new classes and extracurricular activities. Explore your interests!
- Develop good study habits. College admission offices will evaluate your grades from ALL four years.
- Discuss your options after high school with your counselor.
- Plan to take challenging and advanced level courses.
- Start a brag sheet: a list of activities, achievements, awards, and other notable accomplishments.
- Search for part-time or seasonal jobs and volunteer experiences, especially for the summer after freshman year.
- Save for college. Money from holidays, birthdays, or part-time jobs can go a long way.
- Think about how your skills and interests might direct you toward a career.
- Ask people how they got their current jobs. If possible, shadow careers that interest you.

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Sophomores

- Evaluate the extracurricular activities that you began your freshman year. Try to pick up something new.
- Level up involvement in your activities. Grow your leadership skills by taking on a new project or contributing new ideas.
- Revisit the plans that you made last year with your counselor.
- Learn the requirements to take advanced courses your junior and senior years.
- If possible, take a PSAT and/or PLAN test to help you prepare for the ACT or SAT. Free resources are available online.
- Explore ways to use financial aid, grants and/or scholarships to pay for attending a UW school.
- Reexamine the careers you found interesting in your freshman year. Job shadow someone if you can.
- Talk to your parents and friends about how your career interests align with college majors.