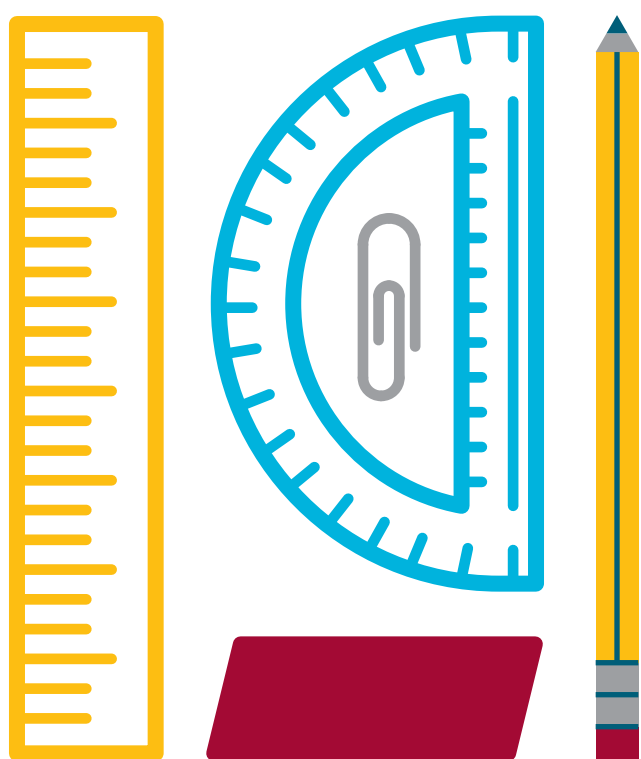


## College & Scholarship Checklist

# Get Started



## Get Connected

- ☐ **Get involved** in your school and your community. Participate in sports, after-school clubs and programs, the school band or choir. Volunteer at your local YMCA, community center, place of worship or food bank. Talk with school staff and school programs to see other ways to get involved.
- ☐ **Stay active** and involved in your community and in your school during the summer.
- ☐ **Stay sharp.** You can prevent summer learning loss by reading books, reviewing classroom material from the school year and planning for the upcoming school year. Enroll in a summer camp or program focused on themes in which you are interested.

## Understand

- ☐ **College** (noun): any training/education beyond high school, including two-year junior/community colleges, four-year universities, apprenticeships, certification programs, or vocational, technical or professional instruction.
- ☐ **Become “college savvy.”** Visit college campuses and attend family financial aid nights and other college-planning themed events at your school or district. Bring your parents/guardians along so they can learn how to best support your educational goals. Talk to relatives, neighbors or friends about their college experiences.

## Aim High & Plan Ahead



- ☐ **This is the best time** to develop good study habits, such as taking good notes and setting aside time for any assigned reading.
- ☐ **Think about which** academic classes will make you college ready (math, language arts, science, social science and world languages) and readiness programs like AVID – Advancement Via Individual Determination.
- ☐ **Challenge yourself** by paying attention, staying engaged and learning as much as you can in all of your classes, not just your favorites.

## Seek Wise Counsel



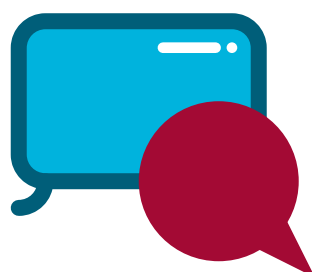
- ☐ **Need help?** Get help! If you need extra help with your schoolwork, ask your teacher or advisor, find time before or after classes and attend homework help sessions or open library hours for quiet study space.
- ☐ **Learn ways** you can practice and plan for state standardized tests so that you go into each test feeling confident and prepared.

## Search For Treasure



- ☐ **Begin searching** for scholarships by creating your own account on theWashBoard.org. It connects Washington students with Washington scholarship providers all of types for FREE. Building a profile early will give you the best results in high school.
- ☐ **If you are eligible,** sign up for the College Bound Scholarship beginning in seventh grade. College Bound is an early promise of financial aid help to make sure that eligible students will have most or all of their tuition covered (at public-institution rates) for four years of college.

## Get Talking



- ☐ **Keep your parents informed** about what you are learning in school and your academic goals.
- ☐ **Ask about visiting** different high schools in your area, if you get to choose which high school you will attend.
- ☐ **Seek out the college and career coach** or college experts at your school. Ask questions about how to best prepare for college and what advice they might have for you to succeed in school.

