



Freshman Checklist



September-December

- Find out who your school counselor is. Schedule a time to discuss academic concerns and coursework needed for graduation and college. Your school counselor will write you a college recommendation in 4 years, so it is good to start connecting with them now!
- Create a 4-year academic plan & review current class schedule- are there any changes we need to make?
 1. To have the most college & FREE scholarship/financial aid opportunities you need to take a “rigorous high school curriculum” which includes: 4 credits of English, at least 3 credits of mathematics (algebra 1, algebra 2, & geometry), 3 credits of science (2 of which should be lab sciences), 3 to 3 ½ credits of social studies, 2-3 credits of a world language
- Review list of extra-curricular activities at your school. **ACADEMICS COME FIRST**. However, colleges do want “well-rounded” students who are involved in their schools and communities. Pick one activity to try!
- Maintain the highest possible grades- remember, colleges care about your grades above everything else!

December-June

- Get connected to your teachers. Give them the opportunity to know you as a person. This can be done simply by checking in occasionally before and/or after class. Talk with them a little; ask them how *they* are doing. Building relationships with teachers will help you to be more successful in school and teach you how to advocate for yourself in the future. Teachers also can write college recommendations for you!
- Explore different career options.
- Visit a college (ETS will offer a college trip at some point during the school year)
- Create a college file and put in it items such as: report cards, awards, list of school and community organizations, a list of paid and volunteer jobs

Use this QR code or visit ets.unh.edu for more resources to support you through 9th grade!

