

Every Year in High School Guide

Students:

To Do:

- Work with one of your parents to update your information in FAFSA4caster at www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov, and continue to save for college.
- Take challenging classes in core academic subjects. Most colleges requires 4 years of English, at least 3 years of social studies (history, civics, geography, economics, etc.), 3 years of mathematics, and 3 years of science, and many require 2 years of a foreign language. Round out your coarse load with classes in computer science and the arts.
- Stay involved in school or community based activities that interest you or let you explore career interests. Consider working or volunteering. Remember- its quality (not quantity) that counts.
- Talk to your school counselor and other mentors about education after high school. Your counselor can answer questions about what classes to take in high school, how to sign up for standardized tests, and where to get money for college.

To Explore:

- Check out *KnowHow2Go: The Four Steps to College*, which suggests some actions you can take as you start thinking about education beyond high school. The online version of the brochure is at www.knowhow2go.org.
- Get answers to common questions about college: Read the "college Q&A question of the week" at www.college.gov.
- Learn about managing your money in the "Financial Literacy" section of www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov/preparing.

Parents:

To Do:

- Continue to talk to your child about college plans as if he or she will definitely go to college.
- Encourage your child to take Advanced Placement or other challenging classes.
- Watch videos from parents on www.ed.gov/parents.

To Explore:

- Explore www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov/parent for information on academic preparation, home schooling, financial literacy, saving, and borrowing for college.