



# 11th Grade

## COLLEGE PLANNING

*As a college bound junior, there's a lot you need to do this year to plan and prepare for college. To achieve your college goals, do the following and stay focused. The future is yours!*

- ▶ **Strengthen your academic record.** The stronger your high school academic record, the more college options you'll have. Most importantly, take college prep courses and get the best grades possible.

What can you do this year to strengthen your academic record? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- ▶ **Be involved in meaningful activities.** Colleges are looking for students who are active and involved in their school and community.

What activities and interests will you pursue this year? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- ▶ **Make a testing plan.** Most college bound juniors take the PSAT/NMSQT in October and the ACT and/or SAT in the spring. Visit [act.org](http://act.org) and [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) for information on these tests.

What tests will you take? When will you take them?  
☐ PSAT/NMSQT \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ ACT \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ SAT \_\_\_\_\_

- ▶ **Determine your criteria.** Knowing what's important to you in a college will help you find a college that's a good fit for you.

What are you looking for in a college?  
Type of college: ☐ 2-year ☐ 4-year  
Size: ☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large  
Location: ☐ Close to home ☐ In my home state  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Criteria (e.g., specific major or activity)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
To search for the colleges that meet your criteria, go to [bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org).

- ▶ **Think about a major.** Your major is the subject you will study in depth. Think about your abilities, talents, and interests in terms of possible majors.

What major(s) are you considering? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- ▶ **Make college visits.** Making a college visit is the best way to find out if a college will be a good fit for you. Think of the college(s) you would like to visit and check their website(s) for visitation options.

Which college(s) would you like to visit? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- ▶ **Talk to your counselor.** Meet with your counselor to go over your academic record and discuss your college plans. If you have questions about college tests, financial aid, or anything else, your counselor can help you.