

10th Grade Checklist

Check In With Your School Counselor.

Make sure you are on track as a sophomore. Ask about dual credit courses. Keep talking with your friends and family about your post secondary plans. You may have some new interests or ideas about life after graduation. Ask for input and advice.

Keep Grades Up

The GPA you'll submit on applications starts accumulating in 9th grade so set some specific academic goals. To give yourself the best chance at being accepted to an Idaho institution, you'll need at least a 2.25 GPA. Don't wait until the last minute to complete assignments or to study for exams. Simple step: get assignments turned in on time.

Learn More About Yourself

Ask your Career Counselor about the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery). The most widely used multiple aptitude battery of tests; it assesses academic ability and predicts success in a variety of military and civilian occupations. It is free and will be offered at our school (around January). Contact your Career Counselor to sign up.

Think About What You Want To Study

After knowing your strengths & interests (see 9th grade checklist), start thinking about possible programs of study you'd like to pursue. Research what programs (degrees or certificates) are offered at colleges as well as vocational programs and other training options. Start making a list of schools/programs that interest you and those that you want to examine more carefully.

Take the PSAT Exam

Try to set aside some extra time to study and hone your test-taking skills. Familiarity with the PSAT/SAT's structure and content will make you a better test-taker. Find tips and practices tests at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org>.

Learn How To Communicate With Adults

Eye contact and a warm greeting can go a long way! Put the phone (or any electronics) away and practice talking to adults face to face. Greet others with a handshake and ask clear questions. Create a personal email that's professional and can be given to teachers or employers or colleges. Get into the habit of checking your email because this is how adults in schools and businesses communicate.

Represent Yourself Well (Social Media)

Many employers and colleges and those granting scholarships now look at social media to find out more about the applicant's character and values. Social media is an easy portfolio for anyone to view and learn a lot about you. How are you representing yourself?

Stay Involved in Extracurricular Activities

Join a club, play a sport, volunteer at church or in the community, find ways to contribute and develop leadership skills - these all count when applying to schools or seeking employment. These help build a well-rounded resume. Consider a part time job or volunteer experience in your field of interest.