## Sophomore Year

- Stay focused on school work and getting good grades. This year's grades are important to college admissions officers.
- Participate in extracurricular activities. Deepen your involvement or step out of your comfort zone and try something new.
- Create/Update an <u>activity log</u> or resume to keep track of your activities, academic achievements, awards, etc.
- Register for challenging courses in which you can work hard and be successful.
  - Consider registering for classes in your junior year that could earn college credit like PSEO courses, AP classes, STEP career classes, and/or concurrent enrollment courses.
- Take interest and skills assessments to help you explore career options.
  - <u>Career Exploration</u>
  - Research <u>Careers</u> and <u>Colleges</u>
  - Talk with friends, teachers, counselors, and your parents about post-secondary options.
  - Attend a college/career fair.
  - Visit a college or two locally or while you're on vacation.
  - If you want to play Division I or Division II athletics, register with the NCAA clearinghouse and/or the NAIA Eligibility Center
  - If you are enrolled in an AP course, consider taking that AP test in May.
  - Create/update your <u>Raise.Me account</u> with your grades, activities, etc. to earn micro scholarships.
  - Explore <u>internships and apprenticeships.</u>
  - Enroll in a <u>summer enrichment program.</u>
  - Consider a job to help save for college.

## Other helpful planning guides

- The College Board College planning: 9th and 10th graders
- Peterson's College planning timelines
- StudentAid.gov College preparation checklist