

Checklist for High School

10th grade

- **Work hard to get the best grades possible**
- **Further develop your interests, talents, and skills**
- **Plan to take the PSAT in October**
- **Consider dual-credit courses or the HEALS program**

Think about getting a one year college certificate or two year college degree under your belt in high school. Ask guidance about these options.

- **Start or continue keeping track of all your activities, honors, awards and accomplishments**
- Tip: During your freshmen year, start an “Activities Record” notebook. Include all school and community activities, honors, awards, unique educational experiences, leadership positions, employment, and volunteer work. Update this information at least once a year. This information will be very helpful later, when you are required to list activities and honors on college and scholarship applications.
- **Continue volunteering and keeping track of your hours for scholarships; most colleges ask for volunteer hours. Stop by guidance to turn in your hours or if you have questions.**
- **The Smyth Promise Scholarship:** All graduating Smyth County Public School students are eligible for the scholarship recipient’s first year. To continue funding for the student’s second year, recipients must have a 2.0 GPA.
- The Scholarship will cover five of six consecutive semesters after high school graduation. Students may begin as early as the Summer or Fall semester immediately following their graduation.
- Recipients may enroll in degree or workforce programs.
- Recipients are required to complete 10 hours of community service per semester at approved agencies (approved agencies will be listed, soon).
- The SMYTH PROMISE Scholarship will be available to any high school graduate of any Smyth County public, private, or home school. Students must have been a resident of Smyth County for the last two years.
- The required steps to complete before being considered for this grant are:
 - Apply to VHCC or WCC and complete all requirements of that application.
 - Complete the Federal Student Aid Form (FAFSA).
 - Complete VHCC or WCC’s Scholarship Application (this scholarship will apply to the PROMISE Scholarship and to all other scholarships).
- Register for Classes
- **Look up high school course requirements, GPA, and standardized test scores for the colleges that you are interested in attending**
- **If you plan on playing a sport in college make sure you check the requirements for NCAA Division 1 and Division 2 schools or the requirements for NAIA colleges.**