



Every Year Reminders

To Do:

- Work with one of your parents to estimate your financial aid using resources like [this comprehensive website](#), and continue to save for college.
- Take challenging classes in core academic subjects. Most colleges require four years of English, at least three years of social studies, four years of mathematics, and three years of science, and may require two years of a foreign language. Round out your course 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—it's quality (not quantity) that counts.
- Talk to your school counselor, college & career coordinator, and other mentors about education after high school. These counselors 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 [GoToCollege](#) which suggests some actions you can take as you start thinking about education beyond high school.
- Get answers to common questions about college funding by watching videos on the "Prepare for College" playlist at www.YouTube.com/FederalStudentAid.
- Learn about managing your money from "[Start Smart: Money Management for Young People](#)".
- Explore the Return On Investment (ROI) by comparing anticipated debt with anticipated salary using this [student loan vs. salary calculator](#).

Adapted from studentaid.gov