

Getting to College A High School Timeline

9th Grade

- Get off to a good start. All of your 9th grade class grades and credits will be on your transcript. These grades will be used in calculating your total GPA.
- Develop a 4-year high school plan. This plan should include the courses you plan to take each year, especially the UC/CSU “a-g” requirements.

10th Grade

- Make informal visits to colleges to get a feel for what different college campuses are like.
- Start thinking about what you are looking for in a college (size, location, cost, etc.)

11th Grade

- Begin to seriously research and consider your college options by doing the following:
 - Continue to visit colleges so that by the fall of your senior year, you know where to apply.
 - Visit college websites
 - Search online for colleges that meet your need
 - Begin looking for scholarships
 - Take the ACT and/or the SAT in the spring
 - If you’re thinking about playing a sport in college, register with NCAA
- Take the PSAT in October
- Think about your interests and abilities in terms of possible college majors.
- Take the ACT and/or SAT in the spring.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss your senior schedule. Make sure that your senior courses meet your high school’s graduation requirements and that you’re taking the courses you need for college.

12th Grade

Fall

- Revisit the colleges you’re seriously considering.
- Retake the ACT and/or SAT if necessary.
- Fill out college applications. Be aware of deadlines.

Winter

- Encourage your parents to get their tax information ready so you can submit your FAFSA as soon *after* January 1 as possible.

Spring

- Consider your college options and compare financial aid packages.
- Decide where you want to go to college.
- Return award letters and notify other colleges of your decision.
- If you plan to live on campus, send in your housing deposit.
- Let the OHS counseling office know where to send your final transcript.