

## Grade 11: Develop

Continue to learn more about your strengths and skills.

Explore and research academic and career options that interest you.

- Edit and update your Education Career Action Plan (ECAP), include courses that will prepare you for graduation and your post-secondary plan.
- Explore possible majors/programs of study for after high school.
- Review a major map and think about which dual enrollment or AP courses might benefit you while in high school.
- Take a college entrance exam. All juniors get one FREE ACT in the spring of junior year. Consider taking the ACT in the fall on your own as practice.
- Advanced students should take the PSAT in October, this is the Pre-SAT and is the first step to earning National Merit recognition. Then take the SAT in the spring.
- Continue to narrow down the career or career field that is most interesting to you. Do some research, is it a high demand field? What is the job outlook? What is the salary range? What are the education requirements?
- Consider taking the ASVAB if you are interested in military enlistment or as a career interest inventory if you are still uncertain.
- Continue to explore colleges and training opportunities for the career you are interested in. Develop your college interest list.
- Continue to search for scholarships and financial aid opportunities.
- Attend a College Fair
- Schedule a campus tour and refine your college list. Be sure it reflects a balance of admission probabilities (likely, target/possible, and reach schools).
- Create or update your resume. Keep record of awards, activities, community service, and employment. Try a leadership role.
- Write a rough draft of the essay and/or a personal statement you might need for your college applications and scholarships. Use Common Application questions.
- Decide if you are going to apply under a particular college's early decision or early action program. This requires you to submit your applications early, typically between October and December of your senior year. You will usually receive the college's decision about your early admission before January 1. If you choose to apply early, you should do so for your first-choice college or university. Many early decision programs are legally binding – if they accept you, then you are required to attend that college.
- Continue to update resume and track all awards, activities, and work experiences.
- Job shadow or participate in an internship. Check into summer experiences (college summer programs, research, reading).
- Fine Arts and Performing Arts Students: Develop your portfolio and audition videos. Research the college you are interested in and the audition and portfolio process that might be required during the admission process.
- Athletes: If you haven't already registered, register with NCAA and/or NAIA and make sure your high school courses meet the requirements. Complete online athletic recruitment forms for each college you are considering.



## SchoolLinks

Utilize your SchoolLinks account to learn more about careers and educational/training requirements.

Research and colleges, creating a personal list. Complete the following items:

- Complete the “Campus Lifestyle” assessment.
- Edit and update your course plan and personalized plan (ECAP).
- Update profile and resume.
- Record and update activities.
- Favorite at least 3-6 colleges.
- Create a balanced final college list, with at least 1-2 Likely, Target, and Reach schools.
- Favorite at least two majors or programs in the school search experience or from college profiles.
- Update your college major or job-specific training program goal.
- Visit the Learning Hub (in Activities) and complete the “Financial Aid” and “Jobs and Internships” learning units.
- Set up your Scholarship match profile, in the Finances section.