

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Timeline

### Planning Timeline

**Now that you're in 9th grade, it's time to get serious about your post-secondary plans.**

By starting early, you'll be better prepared.

**Don't neglect your study habits!**

Keep up the good work, and continue to improve your study skills.

**If you don't have one, sign up for a college savings account.**

If you have an existing account, be sure to add to your savings regularly.

**Talk to your School Counselor, teachers, family members or trusted adults about your plans for college.**

If you're not sure if college is the best option for you, talk to your counselor.

**Use Your Plan of Study to keep track of your courses and grades.**

Invite your counselor to view Your Plan of Study.

**Find out about college entrance requirements for the schools you're interested in.**

**Create a file of the following documents and notes:**

Report Cards, Lists of Awards and Honors, School and Community Activities, and Volunteer Work.

**Start thinking about the colleges you want to attend.**

**Find out about AP and other honors-level courses.**

**Continue to get involved in campus and community activities.**

**If you didn't take it last year, take the ACT EXPLORE test to evaluate your skills in English, math, reading and science reasoning.**

It's good practice and your scores won't count towards your college application.

**How are you spending your summer?**

Volunteering and educational programs can help give you a better idea about what kind of training or career would be right for you.

**College life can be a big change — you're on your own!**

Try taking some small steps towards independence this year, perhaps with more responsibility around your house.