

Grade Specific Information for Sophomores

- This is the first year most colleges will use your grades to help determine college acceptance—make it count!
- Continue to meet with your counselor throughout the school year.
- Continue with or get involved with on-campus clubs (ASB, athletics, Drumline, etc.) or begin a new on-campus club. Volunteer in your community and participate in internships of various career interests.
- SAT/ACT
 - Take as many free practice SAT and/or ACT's as possible; register at the following:
 - <http://www.kaptest.com/>
 - <http://sat.collegeboard.org/practice/sat-practice-test>
 - <http://www.actstudent.org/testprep/>
 - These websites are also an excellent tool for college and career planning.
 - SAT subject tests are no longer required by UC and Cal State schools, but may still be required by private schools. Check college websites for specific information. If you are academically strong in specific subject areas, you should take these tests to show your proficiency.
- College/Career preparation tips from ACT, College Board, and Princeton Review
 - Simply meeting graduation requirements may not be enough to prepare you for the rigors of college. Going beyond the minimum will increase your chances of performing successfully at the college level without taking remedial courses.
 - Find out what kind of education/training is needed for different careers.
 - Start collecting college information. Get on college mailing lists and visit college campuses.
 - Admission officers consider these factors in roughly the following order:
 - Strength/Rigor of curriculum
 - GPA
 - SAT/ACT scores
 - Application essay
 - Extracurricular activities
 - Recommendation letters
 - Vocabulary is key to taking the SAT and ACT
 - The Princeton Review Vocab Minute: a collection of 60 second songs each designed to teach you four to six new words. Download to your computer or phone at www.princetonreview.com/vocab-minute.aspx

- 4-year college eligibility
 - To be eligible, passing all A-G approved courses with grades of C- or better is required
 - Class retakes to meet 4-year college eligibility must be completed the year prior to graduation.
 - Note: meeting 4-year college eligibility requirements does not guarantee college acceptance. See college websites for GPA and SAT/ACT acceptance averages.

- Class selection for next year
 - Review the *A-G Course List* and *ACA Graduation Requirements* located under *Resource Documents* on ParentsWeb. This list is updated yearly to reflect current class offerings.
 - To qualify for honors/AP courses, both semester grades will be used for priority placement. The grade pre-requisite for honor/AP courses is a B in your current non-honors class or a B- in your current honors class.

- Summer school- see your counselor for authorized courses offered at any of the following:
 - Online Institutions
 - AAA Academy
 - Options 4 Youth
 - Community Colleges

- If you are planning on playing a sport in college, register with NCAA and/or NAIA if you did not register last year.