

How to Prepare for Next Year

10th Grade

- Look for leadership opportunities
 - Join a club, sport or extracurricular activity
 - Commit to 1 or 2, don't spread yourself too thin
- Keep your grades up
 - Your grades matter more in 10th grade
- Challenge yourself
 - Take an AP or Honors class if you did well in 9th grade
 - Learn from what made you successful or unsuccessful 9th grade year
- Think about what you want to do in the future
 - 10th grade is a planning year- plan for what you want to study in college, do after high school, and set yourself up for success in the future

11th Grade

- Continue extracurricular activities
- Keep your grades up
 - 11th grade year is tough no matter what classes you're taking, make sure you're asking for help when needed to maintain good grades for your college application
 - Don't take on more than you can handle, find a balance between classes that will challenge you and others that will help your GPA
- Create a college list
 - Create a list of safety, target, and reach schools that you will apply to next year
 - Safety- colleges where your chances of admission is high
 - Target- competitive colleges where your chance of admission is fair
 - Reach- Highly competitive colleges where your chance of admission is small
 - Check to make sure you have the minimum requirements to apply to your list of colleges
 - UC- 3.0
 - Cal State- 2.0 at least but the majority look for 2.5 and higher
 - Private- depends on each specific school
 - Community College- no minimum GPA requirement, just need to graduate high school
- Visit colleges you want to apply to
 - If you're able to, visit colleges that you are interested in applying to
 - Make sure you can see yourself attending that college, physically being on campus is a lot different than looking at pictures online

12th Grade

- Stay Organized
 - You will have a lot to keep track of this year, make sure you have a planner, calendar, or something to keep track of due dates
- Check where you stand in terms of college applications
 - Are you on the A-G track?
 - Do you have the minimum GPA to apply for your list of schools?
- Extracurricular activities
 - Continue with your extra curricular activities
 - Get involved in something if you haven't done so yet
- Start drafting college entrance responses in the summer
 - Personal Insight Questions (if you're applying to UC's)
 - Possible personal statements (if you're applying to private schools)