

# COLLEGE PLANNING CALENDAR

## FRESHMAN and SOPHOMORE YEARS

### Freshman Year

◆ Know graduation and college admission requirements and make sure you are enrolled in the appropriate courses. There are different requirements for each diploma type (standard, advanced, CCR, and honors).

#### **Graduation Requirements (STANDARD diploma):**

English: 4 credits

Math: 3 credits

Social Studies: 3 credits

Science: 2 credits

PE/ROTC: 2 credits

Health: .5 credit

Digital Thinking: .5 credit

Arts/Humanities/CTE: 1 credit

Electives: 6 credits

Flex courses: 1 credit

◆ Develop two lists for planning each year of high school- one for courses and the other for extracurricular activities. Get involved in activities outside the classroom!

◆ Set aside money for college regularly. Talk with your parents about planning for college expenses and begin researching financing options

◆ Familiarize yourself with the Galena College and Career Center and your counselor to start researching colleges and careers. Explore your interests and related careers!

◆ Get good grades! Ninth grade performance DOES count for college admissions, scholarship opportunities, your final GPA and class rank

◆ Investigate opportunities for volunteer work, community service, and summer enrichment programs

◆ If considering college athletics, start reviewing eligibility requirements online: [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). Check all requirements (approved coursework) to make sure you are on track! Division I and II requires 16 "core" courses. A list of accepted Galena High School classes is online on the above website.

◆ Review Millennium Scholarship requirements online at [www.nevadatreasurer.gov](http://www.nevadatreasurer.gov).

◆ Consider college campus visits this summer- check out the dorms, student center, library, resources, etc.

### Sophomore Year

◆ Review your progress on meeting graduation and college admission requirements. Study hard and keep your grades up!

◆ Continue to take challenging courses (Honors/AP)- colleges look for rigor- and get involved in extracurricular, volunteer and community service activities. Work toward leadership positions in activities you like best.

◆ Visit the College and Career Center to find information about colleges, careers, and scholarship planning. Review catalogs, computerized college-search programs, and college guides such as **Big Future** on <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>

◆ Start collecting college info and data such as possible majors, size, location, costs, etc. Use college websites to start exploring! Look for "Prospective Students" or "Future Students" on college websites as a starting point. Research admission requirements, application procedures, costs, majors, virtual tours, etc.

◆ If interested in a military academy (e.g. West Point or Annapolis), now is the time to start planning and getting information on the application process.

◆ Start collecting info about other educational/technical programs or the military if not planning to attend a college or university

◆ Keep putting money aside for college- continue talking with parents about financing post high school goals.

◆ Start your personal and academic resume for college applications and letters of recommendation (include GPA, volunteer work/community service, employment, leadership and all extracurricular activities and hobbies).

◆ Read, read, read and work on your writing skills! You will need strong reading and writing skills no matter what you do in your future.

◆ Take the PSAT (Practice SAT) and review your results in December or January with your counselor. Although the PSAT is "practice", take advantage of reviewing the test booklet and practice test beforehand!

◆ If a potential college requires Subject Tests, ask your counselor about taking them this year. It is a good idea to take Subject tests just after you finish your last course in that subject area (e.g. the sciences and history).

◆ Memorize your social security number- if you don't have one, get one. You'll need it to take admission tests and apply for college, financial aid, and jobs.

◆ Review NCAA eligibility requirements online at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). Check all requirements (including approved Galena High School coursework) to make sure you are on track!

◆ Considering including college campus visits during family trips over summer or breaks

