

SOUTH DAKOTA

STATEWIDE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CENTER



11TH GRADE STUDENT CHECKLIST

Summer

- Find internship opportunities.** If financially possible, this can positively impact college applications or future employment applications.
- Seek out volunteer opportunities.** Volunteer work can help learn new skills, gain experience, make new contacts, and show potential employers that you are a caring individual who also has drive and ambition.
- Visit with students who are home from college.** This will give you great insight into what college life is like.
- Create an activities resume.** An activities resume will help with career exploration and improve opportunities for college acceptance, scholarships, and job applications.
- Create a budget.** This can include learning how to manage your expenses and how to save, especially if you have a part-time job. Ask your family for help.

Fall

- Meet with the school counselor.** This is an important transition time for your future in preparing for college, career, apprenticeships, or armed services.
- Discuss your future with your family.** To help you stay focused and motivated, set goals for the year.
- Take the PSAT in October.** This is a preliminary test that helps students practice for the SAT and assess their academic skills. Juniors who do well on the test are eligible for scholarship opportunities.
- Consider taking the Armed Services Vocational Assessment Battery (ASVAB).** This is a very beneficial FREE assessment for ALL students. The ASVAB assists with career exploration, is required for joining the military, and predicts how college-bound students will score on the ACT.
- Visit colleges and attend college fairs.**

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Winter

- Review results of PSAT and/or ASVAB.** Discuss career and academic strengths as well as areas for growth and improvement with your family, your school counselor, and other trusted adults at school or in your community.
- Be informed about upcoming ACT and SAT registration deadlines and testing dates.**
- Participate in extracurricular activities.** Employers and colleges are looking for well-rounded individuals.

Spring

- Take the ACT or SAT test.** Even if you are unsure about your future plans, this may help you make a better decision about your future. Talk to your counselor about fee waivers to see if you qualify.
- Talk to your counselor about your senior schedule.** Consider enrolling in fall dual enrollment or AP classes to earn college credit, to explore careers, and to find out what campus classes are like.
- Meet with a Career Launch Career Advisor.** If you are still unsure about your future, the Career Launch program can provide additional career exploration, help you determine a pathway that fits your interests and skills, and other employment opportunities and resources to support your future.

Sources: Collegeboard.org; Careerlaunchsd.com; MyFuture.com; Educationquest.org

