



## “Going to College” Condensed Timeline

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade – All Year

- Take challenging but appropriate classes.
- Get involved in activities outside the classroom.
- Talk with all college reps who visit Westside.
- Start creating a network of adults whom you can consult for input and guidance about potential careers and possibly shadow at their places of employment.

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade – All Year

- Continue to take challenging but appropriate classes for you.
- Continue your involvement in activities outside the classroom.
- Talk with all college reps who visit Westside.
- Put forth your best effort on the Pre-ACT and PSAT 10 tests. It will give you some idea of how you will score on the ACT and SAT during 11<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Add to the network of adults you started last year. Do a “coffee interview” with at least one of them.
- Start creating a broad list of potential career areas – not specific jobs, but general areas of interest.
- Visit one or more college campuses – preferably when they’re in session.

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade – All Year

- Talk with all college reps who visit Westside.
- Do some formal or informal SAT or ACT test preparation.
- Add even more adults to your contact network, do another “coffee interviews” and a job shadow.
- Strive to become a leader in one or more of your extra curricular activities.
- Generate a list of colleges to research and possibly visit.
- Visit at least 2 or 3 colleges to help you identify the type of school you’d like to attend.

#### October

- Do your very best on the PSAT. It will give you some idea of how you will score on the SAT later in the year.
- Attend the NACCAP College Fair in September to connect with reps from 45-50 Christian colleges.

#### November

- Attend the National College Fair in October to connect with reps from a couple hundred secular colleges.



### February

- Thoughtfully complete the “Going to College” assignments and activities presented during Bible 11.

### April-June

- Take both an SAT or ACT unless you’ve already chosen to focus on just one of the tests.

## **12<sup>th</sup> Grade – All Year**

- Research potential scholarships and submit applications. Use fastweb.com, cappex.com, goodcall.com and oregonstudentaid.gov.
- Males must register with the Selective Service System at sss.gov when they turn 18 if they want to qualify for federal student aid/loan programs.

### September

- Submit Transcript Request forms to our Registrar for all colleges to which you’ll apply.
- Write one or more “college essays” to revise and use as needed. (English class)
- Determine who you’ll ask to submit college recommendations for you.

### October

- Submit applications to as many schools as you still have on your interest list. Online is the preferred method if it is available to you.
- Take another SAT or ACT if you want to improve your score.
- Create a FSA ID in preparation for submitting the FAFSA.
- Submit the FAFSA as soon as possible after it opens on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### November

- Get remaining applications completed and submitted.

### March-April

- Receive financial aid awards from colleges who have admitted you.
- Visit (or return visit) those colleges to which you’re admitted and most interested in attending.

### May 1<sup>st</sup>!

- Communicate your decision to attend by submitting the required paperwork and deposits.