

# RHS Underclassmen (9th-11th) College Planning

*Start getting ready for life after RHS! Check out these suggestions from your RHS counselors.*

## Building a Strong Transcript

- Map out your classes for each year of high school to make sure you take classes that will help you reach your college and career goals. You can use the RHS Course Guidebook in the [Documents](#) part of our website to familiarize yourself with graduation requirements and available classes.
- Keep your grades up! Colleges will care about your GPA. Visit college websites to help you set GPA goals and make sure that you are taking high school classes that are necessary for admission.
- Consider [AP Classes](#) at RHS. Here is some information on [earning college credit](#) and advanced placement for your AP scores.
- Check out your transcript. The only way to request a transcript is online through your Parchment account. You can create a Parchment account [here](#). Be sure to use your personal email rather than your school email address. You can request an “unofficial self-view” copy of your transcript. Looking forward, you will use your Parchment account to request transcripts for college or scholarship applications.
- If you are considering participating in college athletics, ensure you will be eligible with [NCAA](#) or [NAIA](#).

## Bolstering Your Future College Application

- Participate in school and community activities. Athletics, clubs, and school events will help you develop time management skills and enhance your interpersonal skills. Colleges consider these activities during their admissions process.
- Consider any volunteer, internship, or part-time job opportunities.
  - Join RHS's [SERVE](#) program
- Boosting your SAT score:
  - You may use your [Khan Academy](#) account to practice for the SAT. You will take the SAT in April of your junior year. Colleges will use your SAT score as part of their admissions process.
  - You may [register for additional SAT test dates](#) through your college board account if you would like to take the SAT more than once.
  - Instructions for linking your College Board and Khan Academy accounts can be found [here](#).

## Start Exploring Colleges

- Use the Xello app on your Chromebook to work on career and college exploration activities. All RHS students have an account that they can access from the “waffle” on their chromebooks.
- Use the College Board's [Big Future](#) website for additional career and college exploration.
- Check out any live or virtual [college fairs](#).
- Visit college websites to register for college visits and campus tours. Here are some [tips](#) to make the most of any campus visits.

## Preparing to Pay for College

- Research [how to pay for college](#). Information on Federal Student Aid can be found [here](#).
- Research scholarships online. Most scholarships will be for high school seniors, but it is never too early to begin your research. You can start here:
  - [Fastweb](#)
  - [Finaid](#)
  - [RHS Non-Local Scholarship Postings](#)
- There is one Four County Community Foundation Scholarship available to RHS juniors. Use this [link to apply for the Tabar Schultz Scholarship](#) The application is open December 1-March 1 of your junior year.