11th Grade

Planning for College & Technical School

Things to Remember During Your Junior Year
★ Consider taking classes at YVTech or YVCC
★ Challenge yourself by IB, AP or Running Start classes
★ Join clubs and sports
★ Join community activities and volunteer in the community
★ Stay on-track with graduation requirements or make-up missing classes (plan on taking summer school if it’s offered!)
★ In order to meet 4-year college entrance requirements, you must be in year 1 or higher of a foreign language this year!

Do you meet the extra requirements for entrance into a 4 year college?
- 3 years of math (through Algebra 2) must be completed
  * Algebra 2, Chemistry, Physics or math-based CTE course must be taken during your Senior Year
- At least two years of biology, chemistry, physics or applied physics must be completed
  * Western Washington University and University of Washington require one year of algebra-based chemistry or physics.
- 2 years of the same foreign language must be taken
- SAT or ACT test must be taken Junior or Senior Year (or both years)

YVTech
- Business and industry training classes offered off-campus at YVTech Skills Center
  Culinary Arts
  Fashion Marketing
  Computer Technology
  Nursing
  Automotive Technology
  Law Enforcement/CSI
  Digital Media
  Automotive Technology
  Office Skills
  Auto Body Repair
  Legal/Medical Office Procedures
  Office Skills
  Dental Assisting
  Applied Math
- Morning classes: 8:10-10am; Afternoon classes: 12:30-2:30pm; Evening classes: 3-6pm
  (3 classes are also taken at the high school)
- Classes count for occupational credit and can count for other requirements (see your counselor);
  some programs offer certification so you can go directly into a job
- Sign up with your counselor

First Semester
★ Take the PSAT in October
★ Look at college brochures, websites, & go to college visits at your school
★ Apply for scholarships
★ Check with counselor if you are on-track for graduation

Running Start
Students take classes (part-time or full-time) for both high school and college credit at YVCC
The Process:
- Attend an informational night at your high school (February or March)
- Fill out an application from the website (www.yvcc.edu) or your counselor.
- Take the Compass test @ YVCC (schedule an appt. @ 574-4738; $15.75 test fee)
- After you meet Compass test score requirements, meet with your school counselor
- Questions? Contact Skye Field @ sfield@yvcc.edu or 574-4971

COMPASS Test
(for 2 Year Schools only)
- Evaluates reading, math & writing skills for placement in college classes
- Untimed test (about 3 hours long)
- Available @ YVCC ($15.75)
- Practice tests available @ www.act.org/compass

Second Semester
★ Take the Compass test (for Running Start)
★ Apply for Scholarships
★ Visit Colleges
★ Sign-up for SAT, SAT Subject Tests and/or ACT
★ Check with counselor if you are on-track for graduation

Timeline

ACT
(Given @ West Valley High School) (for 4 year schools only)
★ Subjects Tested: English, Math, Reading, Science (+ optional Writing)
★ Accepted nationally
★ Curriculum-based: tests knowledge you’ve acquired through subjects taught in high school. It measures your readiness for college
★ No penalty for incorrect answers
★ All multiple-choice
★ Basic Fee: $34.00
★ Writing Essay: Optional (add $15.50)
★ Total Test Time: 2 hours 55 minutes (+ the optional writing test)
★ Perfect score: 36
★ Register online @ www.actstudent.org

SAT
(Given @ Ike) (for 4 year schools only)
★ Subjects Tested: Critical Reading, Math, Writing
★ Accepted nationally
★ Reasoning based: measures critical thinking skills students need for academic success in college; allows students to demonstrate their analytical & problem-solving abilities regardless of formal instruction
★ Penalty for incorrect answers
★ Math grid-ins (student writes in answer)
★ Basic Fee: $49.00
★ Writing Essay: Mandatory
★ Total Test Time: 3 hours 45 minutes
★ Perfect score: 2400
★ Register Online @ www.collegeboard.com

Tips for Parents:
- Ask your child about his/her dreams, goals, fears, etc
- Tell your child about your expectations (regarding grades, school involvement, college, etc)
- Check your child’s grades often using Skyward Family Access
- Keep in contact with your child’s teachers and counselor
- Plan on your child attending summer school if they have failed required classes
- Make sure your child signs up for the PSAT test in the fall & the SAT and/or ACT tests in the spring
- Take your child on college visits beginning in the winter, spring or summer

Scholarships & Financial Aid
- Start saving your money (from a job, allowance, gifts, etc)
- Talk honestly as a family about how you will pay for college
- Start applying for scholarships

Tips about Scholarships
- Sign up for scholarship search engines like thewashboard.org and fastweb.com
- Go to the Counseling Center often for updates (bulletin boards, paper bulletins, school website)
- Get involved in school clubs and sports
- Get involved in the community (activities and volunteering)

TAKING THE PSAT
(practice test for the SAT)
- Only this test can qualify you for the National Merit Scholarship Program
- Measures critical reading, math problem-solving and writing skills
- Helps you understand your strength and weaknesses in the measured areas and your performance compared to others who will also be applying for college
- Given at your high school in September for a fee

ACCOUNTABILITY
- Questions? Contact Skye Field @ sfield@yvcc.edu or 574-4971

* Get involved in school clubs and sports
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