

Post-High School Planning Timeline

When To Begin	What To Do	How To Do It
<p>9th Grade</p>	<p>Become familiar with post-high school entrance requirements and continue career exploration activities. Which courses in your high school curriculum satisfy college* requirements (and for athletes: NCAA eligibility requirements)? Do you have a plan for extracurricular involvements? Find volunteer opportunities and become involved. Colleges will want to know “What is your passion?” and “How do you spend your time?”</p>	<p>Work with parents, teachers, and counselors to create a four-year high school program and a 5-Year Plan to satisfy your goals.</p> <p>Talk with your parents, counselors, teachers, and friends. Investigate possible career options and degree level required.</p> <p>Sign up for BHS Listserv and read the BHS Newsletter each month. Listen to Announcements. Read the Daily Bulletin.</p> <p>Try job shadowing. Get involved at school and in your community. Explore college web sites.</p>
<p>10th Grade</p>	<p>Think about your goals for post-high school training. What learning opportunities are most important? Do your college plans include career plans? Have you considered the West Sound Technical Skills Center? This is the time to think about vocational as well as academic goals. Make sure your course selections match your academic and/or career goals.</p> <p>Become familiar with the options in Naviance; complete the “Do What You Are” Personality Type Assessment.</p>	<p>Focus on your goals and career interest. Consult college guidebooks. Explore college web sites.</p> <p>Visit the Career Center in the BHS Library to investigate career options.</p> <p>Check out West Sound Tech and Tech Prep options.</p> <p>Continue community and school involvement.</p> <p>Visit colleges nearby (tours and information sessions).</p> <p>Review high school plan and performance to date.</p>
<p>11th Grade</p>	<p>Identify important factors in choosing a college. Two-year or four-year? Location? Cost? Kind of atmosphere? Variety of study programs available? Playing for a sports team? Entrance Test requirement?</p> <p>College searches are available on Naviance or at: www.actstudent.org/college and www.collegeboard.com</p> <p>List colleges you are considering and collect information. Have you included all possible choices? What information do you need? How can you get it? Begin to investigate financial aid (check out www.fastweb.com and www.fafsa.ed.gov).</p> <p>Counselors update the Junior/Senior <i>Planning Guide</i> (available on the BHS Counseling website) each spring..</p>	<p>Take the PSAT (the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test for juniors) and/or ASVAB in October.</p> <p>Attend National College Fair and college rep visits at BHS and Seattle area. Sign in; meet the reps.</p> <p>Prepare for and visit colleges. Organize information into detailed, useful comparisons. The Counseling Office has some charts that may be helpful.</p> <p>Register online & prepare for appropriate college admissions test in May and /or June (SAT or ACT) (<i>not</i> at BHS).</p> <p>Athletes should register online with NCAA Clearinghouse after junior year www.eligibilitycenter.org</p>
<p>12th Grade</p>	<p>Compare the colleges on your list. Have you weighed pros and cons carefully? Which colleges will meet your needs?</p> <p>Apply to your “choice” colleges. Do you have all the necessary forms? Are you sure of the application deadlines?</p> <p>Apply for financial aid. Have you investigated all possible sources of aid? When should you apply?</p> <p>Make some final decisions. What additional preparation might be helpful? Do you feel comfortable with your final choice?</p>	<p>Obtain application forms (either online, Common Application or paper application). Observe deadlines.</p> <p>Submit Student Data Sheet and Parent Brag Sheet and College Tracking Form <i>four</i> school weeks before recommendation deadline (if needed).</p> <p>Submit Transcript Request(s) to www.Parchment.com <i>two</i> school weeks before deadline .</p> <p>Have SAT or ACT test scores sent by testing company.</p> <p>Consult college financial aid office. Secure forms and note deadlines. Complete the FAFSA after January 1.</p> <p>Check the Career Center for scholarship opportunities.</p> <p>Maintain a full academic schedule all year.</p> <p>Confer with parents and counselors. Confirm your decision by May 1, and decline other admissions offers. Show initiative. Write thank you notes!</p>

