

Freshman Checklist

Make sure that you understand graduation and diploma requirements.

- Visit your guidance counselor to learn about your credits and progress. Know your diploma type and graduation requirements- <https://www.doe.in.gov/ccr/indianas-diploma-requirements>.
- What is your goal after completing high school? Do you want to attend college? Are you interested in the military? Have you considered a technical school for job-specific training? If you are unsure of what to do after high school, take a career-interest inventory to learn how your skills and interests correspond to various careers. Make the most of your Preparing for College and Careers course.

Pass your graduation exams!

Beginning in 2016-17 (class of 2019), the ISTEP+ Grade 10 assessment in English/Language Arts and Mathematics will become the new graduation exam.

Get involved in extra-curricular activities.

- Colleges will ask what, if any, activities you have been involved in during your high school career. If you aren't active in any extra-curricular activity, now is the time to start! Ask your guidance counselor about different clubs and organizations that you can become involved in at school. Start looking for summer jobs, internships, volunteer opportunities, etc. Involvement in extra-curricular activities not only engages you with your community, but shows time-management skills, self-discipline skills, citizenship skills, etc. These are all characteristics that colleges will look for in potential students.

Enroll in challenging courses for your 10th grade year.

- Even though college is a few years away for you, now is the time to start preparing for it! If you are planning to attend college, know that college admission counselors expect a strong academic transcript from applicants. Core 40 requirements must be met in order to even apply to a 4-year college in Indiana. Of course, it is strongly recommended that you pursue a Core 40 with Academic Honors diploma or a Core 40 with Technical Honors diploma and do well in your classes to create an impressive transcript.
- Be sure to continuously update your 4-year course plan as your abilities and interests may change. Be sure that you are challenging yourself academically and taking electives that will help you succeed.