

Sophomores

Planning for College and More!

Check off the items as you complete them

Fall

- Register and take the PSAT offered once a year in October to utilize the tools offered by the Collegeboard to practice for the SAT. Register in the guidance office in early October.
- Continue to explore careers and areas of interest. Use resources like the Hamburg Counseling Office Webpage, www.careercruising.com, www.educationplanner.org, and www.pacareerzone.org
- Work hard in your classes and study. Colleges will make their acceptance decisions primarily on academic standards. Your grades started counting in 9th grade!
- Get involved with Hamburg HS and in the community. Listen to morning announcements for opportunities with Non-Profit Organizations to complete 30-hour minimum of community service.
- *Consider all post-secondary plans and talk with your family about learning a trade or attending the BCTC. Even if you are college-bound, does not mean you can't do both while in high school*☺

Spring

- Consider a summer job or job shadow experience in your field of interest. Get a real-life experience and learn more about various workplace environments. If you know someone who works, you know a contact to shadow.
- Visit www.collegeboard.org (also known as www.sat.org) and use the BigFuture™ tool to complete the College Match Maker and identify schools that meet your criteria.
- Other great sites for narrowing down colleges include: www.petersons.com, www.unigo.com, nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator and <http://www.collegeresults.org/> Use these websites, but also if you have the opportunity to visit a campus this year, go for it!
- Have a general conversation with your family about *if college is right for you*. Never rule out Trade Programs, Apprenticeship Programs, Military, or Community College all as viable options with great earning potential.
- Student athletes- if you plan to continue your sport in college, follow NCAA guidelines. Only PS and honors core courses qualify.
- Discuss also how you will finance your education. College tuition increases each year with little to no change in scholarship or grant offering.

Notes: _____
