



11th Grade Student Checklist

Academics and Goal Setting

- Continue to build on successes at school**
Junior year is especially important because these are the most recent grades colleges will see when you apply as a senior. Keep challenging yourself and take advantage of Honors, AP, IB, and concurrent enrollment classes if available.

College and Career Prep

- Create a list of colleges that match your interests and goals* (Fall)**
Research your colleges and determine if they would be a good fit for SOCIALLY (what is the school culture like?), ACADEMICALLY (what is the class rigor and do they have your major/program?), and FINANCIALLY (what is the cost of attendance and how well do they meet financial need?). Use [MaiaLearning](#) to research colleges and save a list to your personal account.
- Visit with colleges via fairs, rep visits or fly-in programs (Fall & Spring)**
This is the ideal year to gather college information. If you attend college fairs now it will make your senior year that much easier. See <https://www.coloradocouncil.org/day-night-college-fairs> or <https://www.nacacfairs.org/> for more info. Many colleges will fly you their campus for free to visit! These visits typically take place during first semester of 12th grade, but you can research and apply during 11th grade. <https://blog.collegevine.com/college-fly-in-and-diversity-programs-a-complete-list/>
- Prepare for SAT or ACT* (Fall & Spring)**
Colleges and some scholarships will look at your SAT (or ACT) scores; so make sure you study during the year to prepare for the statewide SAT test in April. Take a practice test and get study help at collegeboard.org. Educating Children of Color also hosts FREE SAT Workshops each spring semester to prepare you for the April SAT.
- Meet with Peak Ed/Elevated's Director of College Counseling (Spring)**

Sitting down with your college advisor during junior year can help you find resources and information specific to you and your college process. Aim to do this during the spring semester. Whether you have a plan already or not, this meeting can make your next steps more clear. You can contact the Director of College Counseling at jasmine@peakedu.org.
- Attend the Rising Senior Summer Program (the summer before 12th grade year).**
Each summer the director of college counseling for Peak Ed and Elevated hosts a rising senior summer program that will help you prepare for 12th grade/the college process over the summer to make the most of senior year!



Getting Involved & Giving Back

Stay Involved in Extracurricular Activities

Stay involved in the activities you like, or join some this year. Colleges are interested in what you do outside the classroom, plus these activities can help prepare you for your future career. Take it to a next level and figure out ways to get a position of leadership. You don't always need a "position" of leadership to be a leader. Figure out other ways you can "lead" or make an impact in your activity.

Take advantage of summer programs to develop skills, gain college exposure, enhance your leadership skills and etc. This is good for your personal development and can look good on your resume! Past students have done the following: [Pikes Peak Leadership Leading Edge](#), [CSU's Black Issues Forum](#), [FTE](#), [Colorado College's College Prep Program](#), [Carelton College's Pre-College Program](#) and [UCCS Stem Academy](#).

NOTE: Some of these opportunities are free and some cost money. Please speak with the director of college counseling for Peak Ed and Elevated if you're interested in a program that has a cost. You can find other college summer program opportunities by searching "college summer programs for high school students" on the Internet!

Create/update personal resume

Update your personal resume so that it highlights your accomplishments and involvement, which should include school activities, work, and volunteering/community service activities. Peak Ed/Elevated students can use [MaiaLearning](#) to create a resume.

Financial Aid

Continue applying for scholarships and save scholarships to do as a 12th grader.

Since scholarship deadlines are usually at the same time each year, you can use your junior year to find and save scholarships for which you may be eligible as a 12th grade. You can apply to [Coolidge Scholars](#) as a 11th grader. It's typically due in February.

You can also use [MaiaLearning](#), <https://www.unigo.com/> or <https://www.goingmerry.com/>, and <https://www.raise.me/> to continue to research and apply for scholarships.

Some of the large scholarships available to 12th graders include [Daniels Fund](#), [Gates Scholarship](#), [Boettcher](#), [Coca Cola](#), [Greenhouse Scholars](#), [Cameron Impact Scholarship](#), [Jack Kent Cooke](#), and [Sachs Foundation](#).

Use net price calculators to calculate the affordability of a college

Many colleges have net price calculators that provide estimates of how much you might be able to expect from a college in terms of financial aid. Use [MyinTuition](#), [Net Price Calculator](#), and [FAFSA4Caster](#).

(Note: Don't let your findings keep you from applying to a college. Just make sure you have a variety of "affordable" colleges in addition to ones where you'll need to strive for more scholarships).