

10



# 10th Grade Checklist

**NEXT  
STEPS**  
IDAHO

**Time to zero in.** This is the year to check in with your counselor and make sure you're on the right track. Keep focusing on that GPA and make sure you take the Preliminary SAT, which goes a long way towards prepping you for the SAT next year. Junior year is just around the corner.



## FALL

### Check in with your counselor. Talk with your friends.

Ask about advanced placement opportunities and dual credit courses. And keep talking with your friends and family about your plans. You may have some new interests or ideas about life after graduation this year. Ask for input and advice.

### Target a GPA for this year.

The grades you're earning right now will impact your options for college and scholarships. To give you the best chance at being accepted into an Idaho institution, you'll need at least a 2.25 GPA.

### Take the PSAT exam.

Try to set aside some extra time to study and hone your test-taking skills. Familiarity with the PSAT/SAT's structure and content will make you a better test-taker. Ask your counselor where to access practice tests and tools.

### Join an extracurricular activity.

In addition to activities offered at your school, consider volunteering with a nonprofit organization in your community. Pursuing activities outside of the classroom will help with college applications and may even help you win scholarship money.

### Take classes that will help you get into and pay for college.

Students attending public schools across Idaho have access to funding that helps cover the costs of taking college-level courses or professional-technical certification exams while still in high school.



## WINTER

### Think about what you want for your future.

Part of deciding how much education or training you need after high school is thinking about the type of life you want. No matter what your goals are, you can start to figure out how much money you need to earn to support yourself and your desired lifestyle.

### Think about what you want to study.

Figure out which next steps are right for you. Start thinking about possible programs of study: a group of courses that leads to a diploma, certificate, or college degree.



## SPRING

### Get ready for junior year.

Do a little planning and extra studying now so you can hit the ground running. Once you receive your PSAT scores, set a goal for what you'd like to achieve on the SAT or ACT next year, and start studying and taking practice tests.



## SUMMER

### Get a head start on next year's reading.

There's no better time than summer break to dig into some awesome new books. Challenge yourself with different genres and authors.

This checklist is sponsored by the College Access Challenge Grant Program, PR/Award Number P378A080033, as administered by the Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education. The contents do not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the Office of Postsecondary Education or the U.S. Department of Education, nor are they necessarily endorsed by the Federal Government.