

Roadmap to College



AUBURN
UNIVERSITY

Getting ready for college requires dedication and careful planning by parents, students, and school counselors. This "Roadmap to College" has been designed to provide a useful, step-by-step process to assist students and parents in preparing for a four-year college or university. Start early, check off items as you complete them in each grade, and regularly review those steps that you must always do in each grade. This poster can be downloaded or ordered (subject to availability) at no charge from www.auburn.edu/diversity/poster.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN THROUGH COLLEGE

Always:

- Do your best in class, study hard, complete all assignments, and earn good grades (A's and B's).
- Develop and practice good attendance habits.
- Develop good study habits and organizational skills.
- Be involved in extracurricular activities, volunteer projects, and sports that you enjoy.
- Learn a foreign language.
- Read books on a summer reading list recommended by teachers. Review Mathematics and Science as well.
- Participate in summer enrichment programs.
- Think about career and occupational opportunities for your future.
- Keep a file of important documents and notes (copies of report cards, lists of awards and honors, lists of volunteer activities, paid work, etc.).
- Save money for your college education.
- Check into financial aid programs and scholarships and explore external scholarship opportunities, such as Army ROTC.
 - www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - www.ed.gov/finaid
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.goarmy.com/rotc/scholarships.jsp

☒ Check off items as you complete them.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN – 5th GRADE

- ☐ Parents should apply for a social security number for the child if he/she doesn't have one already.
 - www.ssa.gov/ssnumber
- ☐ Start saving money for your child's college education.
- ☐ Encourage your child to take a foreign language, if available.

SELECTING THE RIGHT COLLEGE

- Talk with college students, family members, and friends about colleges (starting in middle school).
- Visit colleges and learn about their admission requirements and deadlines (starting in middle school).
- Create and continue to update a college information folder (starting in middle school).
- Attend college fairs (starting in the freshman year of high school).

MIDDLE SCHOOL 6th – 8th Grade

- ☐ Parents and students should talk to the school counselor and teachers about courses that will prepare the student for college, such as Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, and a foreign language.
- ☐ Create a list of colleges you would like to attend.