

Guidance Information for Grades 9 – 12

This information sheet contains some basic guidelines for each year of high school. In addition to this information, you can get extensive information from the following web sites:

www.collegeboard.com

<http://www.students.gov>

www.mhec.state.md.us

9th Grade

- Choose the type of diploma you plan to obtain (general, academic, academic with honors)
- Review course selection guide and take the courses necessary to meet the requirements of the diploma you have chosen (meet with the guidance counselor if you have questions)
- Do your best work each grading period by completing all home work, reading your text books, reviewing the notes you take in class, and preparing for tests and quizzes.
- Keep a log of your in and out of school activities (this will be used to prepare an activity sheet or resume)
- Talk to people in different careers and find out what they do in their job and what education is required to perform that job
- Spend a significant amount of time reading a variety of material. Your reading should include fiction, non-fiction, newspapers, magazines, etc.
- Get involved in some extra or co-curricular activities such as sports, music, drama, volunteer work, student government, etc.
- In the summer, participate in an academic enrichment program, mission trip, or volunteer program
- Start or continue your walk with God, have a time set aside for daily devotions and seek God's will for each day of your life

10th Grade

- Continue to do your best work academically
- Review course selection guide and continue to take courses which will fulfill the requirements necessary for your chosen diploma
- Take the PLAN test (all 10th grade students take the PLAN and discuss the results with the guidance counselor)
- Take the SAT prep class and the SAT if you have completed geometry (after January 2005 you will need to complete algebra II before taking the SAT)
- Continue involvement in extra and co-curricular activities and keep accurate records of your activities
- Continue reading a variety of material
- Talk to college representatives who come to GBCS, get college information on the Internet (www.petersons.com or www.collegeboard.com), attend local college fairs
- Seek summer employment opportunities or participate in a mission trip, volunteer program or academic enrichment program
- Start or continue your walk with God, have a time set aside for daily devotions and God's will for each day of your life.

11th

- Continue reading a variety of material and do your best academically
- Sign up for the GBCS SAT prep course and take the SAT or ACT (sign up on-line at www.collegeboard.com or www.act.org)
- Continue extra and co-curricular activities
- Prepare activity sheet or resume
- Prepare sports resume if you plan to play sports in college
- Take the PSAT (all 11th grade students take the PSAT), Juniors taking this test are considered for scholarships administered by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation
- Attend local college fairs
- Start to narrow your college choices, visit the colleges which still interest you
- Submit information to ROTC and U S Military web sites if you are considering applying for an ROTC scholarship or appointment to a U S Military Academy
- Begin requesting letters of recommendation to submit with college and scholarship applications
- Participate in a summer internship program or academic enrichment program, summer mission program, seek employment or volunteer work
- Start or continue your walk with God, have a time set aside for daily devotions and seek God's will for each day of your life

12th

- Meet with your counselor to discuss your college plans; pick up forms for requesting a transcript
- Re-take the SAT/ACT if necessary to raise your score
- Update your resume or activity sheet
- Sign up to take the SAT Subject Tests (SAT II) if your college requires it
- Make sure you have three letters of recommendation
- Complete applications for 4 year colleges (prior to December 1); request transcripts
- Complete applications for 2 year colleges in March; request transcripts
- Check with counselor for available scholarships and check the Internet for scholarships
- Complete FAFSA (financial aid form) between January 1 and March 1
- Check with your counselor after January 1 concerning Maryland State Scholarships
- Choose the college you will attend
- Start or continue your walk with God, have a time set aside for daily devotions and seek God's will for each day of your life