

Roadmap

College and Career Counseling | 9th Grade

Off you go on your high school adventure! There are important steps you can take as a 9th-grader to make the most of your time in high school while also building up the skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to be competitive in college admissions.



What to do throughout All Four Years

Keep your grades up and aim at your personal best.

Being off to a great start with your grades and achieving your personal best is indicative of many important skills such as time management, ability to focus, discipline, responsibility, and consistency. It is the best predictor for college grades and college readiness.

Connect with your counselor.

Your counselor can help you get the most out of high school while also preparing to be competitive for college later on. So, meet with your counselor to discuss your academic plans, extracurricular interests, college and career goals, and any needs you may have. You may also reach out if you need emotional support or if you are just having a bad day. We are here to support you!

Build your resume on Cialfo.

It is important that you create your resume as a freshman and update it at least once a year to keep a record of your academic accomplishments, extracurricular activities, work history, and awards/honors. Be sure to note your responsibilities, especially any leadership roles you served.

Explore academically and personally.

Consider taking classes that pique your interest, take calculated risks, and challenge yourself. Try out various sports, clubs, and extracurricular activities to discover where your passions may lie.

Establish contact with college athletic programs.

If you are interested in playing sports in college, make sure to establish contact with coaches and athletic programs from the get-go.

Tour college campuses.

If you can, take advantage of your vacation or travel plans by visiting colleges in the area. Visiting college campuses is the best way to determine if the school is the right fit for you. Even if you have no interest in attending a particular college, if you have the opportunity, visit it anyway as this will help you learn more about what you want and don't want in a school and community on campus.

Get involved.

Participate in extracurricular activities. The best part of high school is the memories you make with the various groups you interact with throughout your four years. Academics are very important, but it is not everything. Universities typically look for a well-rounded student in their comprehensive selection process, one that will contribute to the culture and community on campus.

Explore summer opportunities.

Continue your academic, career, and personal growth by engaging in meaningful activities. Consider looking for a summer program, classes, sports camps, and volunteering opportunities. Use this time to further explore your interests and start building your college resume for admission.

Attend on-campus visits with college representatives.

Take advantage of college visits at La Salle and learn about what that campus has to offer its students. Gain insight into each college's admission process while exploring if the school could be a potential match for you.

What to do throughout

9th Grade

Create a four-year roadmap.

Think about what you plan to accomplish in the next four years. Meet with your counselor to discuss the course offerings and rigor of courses offered at La Salle. Map out your coursework and use it as a guide, making adjustments as needed, for the next four years.

Get familiar with the PreACT.

All freshmen students will take the PreACT in the fall on campus. The PreACT is the precursor to the official ACT exam and scores on the PreACT are predictive of how you will score on the ACT. After taking the PreACT, use your score report to address areas of weakness that need more practice.

Start thinking about your plans outside of school.

This may include finding an internship, part-time job, or volunteer opportunity. Identify your likes and dislikes to help you focus on your interests beyond the classroom.

Attend the La Salle College Forum.

Join us with your parents to hear multiple information sessions on college planning.

Save for college.

It's not too late to start saving money for college. Every bit helps! Get to know the financial aid and scholarship opportunities available to you early on so that you may plan accordingly.

