



Sunnyslope High School

A proud member of the Glendale Union High School District

Suggested Timelines

When preparing to enter universities, community colleges, technical or trade schools, having a well-organized schedule of how you will spend your time will make all the difference. You're never too young to start; you will find something valuable here if you are a senior applying to colleges and for financial aid, or a freshman in high school just starting to develop your own interests.

These yearly timelines are to assist you in being successful in your Post-Secondary planning.

FRESHMAN YEAR

- *Begin applying for [scholarships](#) to finance your Post-Secondary Education/Training.
- *Meet with your counselor to discuss your four year plan and graduation requirements.
- *Ask your counselor about the **ACE +** program, where you can begin earning college credits in high school for free.
- *Research [West-MEC](#) Career Driven Education programs where you can begin earning career certification in your junior and senior years. Talk to your counselor about these opportunities.
- *Utilize the **Learning Center** time and see your teacher before and after school if you need it.
- *Use the **Tutor Center (SOAR)** Room 806 M-F 7:00-7:55 and T-Th 2:35-4:00 PM. Late buses are available.
- *Explore interests and possible careers through assessments (Career Cluster Inventory, Cost of Living Reality Check etc.) and utilize the [SHS Student Career Center](#).
- *Complete [ECAP Grade 9 Guideways \(AZCIS\)](#).

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- *Begin/Continue applying for [scholarships](#) to finance your Post-Secondary Education/Training.
- *Sign-up for [West-MEC](#) Career Driven Education programs where you can begin earning career certification in your junior and senior years. Talk to your counselor about these opportunities.
- *Utilize the **Learning Center** time and see your teacher before and after school if you need it.
- *Use the **Tutor Center (SOAR)** Room 806 M-F 7:00-7:55 and T-Th 2:35-4:00 PM; Late buses are available.
- *Continue exploring interests and possible careers through assessments (Career Cluster Inventory, Cost of Living Reality Check etc.) and utilize the [SHS Student Career Center](#).
- *Set your expectations high; select challenging classes for next year.
- *Get involved on campus, join or continue extra-curricular activities.
- *Participate in volunteer work. It is rewarding and it will help with job, scholarship and college applications.
- *Work on improving your **GPA** (grade point average) this is important for college admissions and [scholarships](#).
- *Complete [ECAP Grade 10 Guideways \(AZCIS\)](#).

March/April

- *Check out summer programs on the **SHS Student Career Center** website (some have college credits at colleges and Universities).

October

- *Register to take your [PSAT](#) test for your Junior year.

November

- *Apply for the **ACE +** program, where you can begin earning college credits in high school.

End of Sophomore Year/Summer

- *Continue researching careers and post-secondary schools.
- *Continue participating in volunteer work. It is great career exploration, rewarding, and will help with job, scholarship and college applications.

JUNIOR YEAR

- ***Juniors need to spending 3 to 4 hours a week** applying for [scholarships](#) to finance their Post-Secondary Education/Training.
- *Check with your Counselor to discuss college and career plans.
- *Make sure you are enrolled in the necessary college preparatory or tech-prep classes.
- *Check your **AIMS Test** results.
- *Keep your **grades, GPA** and **class rank** up; this is important for college admissions and scholarships.
- *Do lots of reading, especially serious books that will expand your outlook and vocabulary.
- *Visit and utilize the **Career Center** to research processes [for college registration](#), applying for [scholarships](#).
- *Complete [ECAP Grade 11 Guideways \(AZCIS\)](#).

September

- *Register to take **PSAT** in October.

October

- *Take the **PSAT**.

January

- *Begin planning for FAFSA application by attending the Post-Secondary Planning Wednesday FAFSA workshops.

Spring

- *Sign up to take the [SAT](#) and [ACT](#) tests.
- *Start thinking about what university, community college, technical or trade school you want to attend.
- *Collect information from the schools you are interested in by visiting websites.
- *Speak to college representatives as they visit our campus.
- *Visit post-secondary campuses you are interested in whenever possible.
- *Talk to people you know who have attended colleges you are interested in.
- *Attend college and career fairs throughout the year.
- *If you are interested in military academies, start the application process now.
- *Start compiling a "personal portfolio" with a resume and special accomplishments.
- *Practice answering essay questions for college and scholarship applications.

End of Junior Year/Summer

- *Check to see if you have met all graduation requirements.
- *Register for [NCAA Clearinghouse](#) if you plan to participate in Division I or Division II athletics ([SAT](#) and [ACT](#) must be taken prior to [NCCA](#) certification).

SENIOR YEAR

- ***Seniors need to spending 5 to 6 hours a week** applying for [scholarships](#) to finance your Post-Secondary Education/Training
- *Sign up to take the [SAT](#) and [ACT](#) tests.
- *Attend Scholarship and Financial Aid nights with your parents.
- *Attend follow up Scholarship/Financial Aid night and workshops.
- *Attend University and Community College exploration Field Trips.
- *Register for universities, and community colleges before priority deadline dates for scholarship eligibility.
- *Visit and utilize the **Career Center** for assistance with [college registration](#), [FASFA](#) and [scholarships](#) applications.
- *Complete [ECAP Grade 12 Guideways \(AZCIS\)](#).

August/September Senior Year

- *Visit College Campuses.
- *Apply to [Universities](#).
- * Continue/Start [Scholarship Searches](#).
- *Attend the National College Fair at the Phoenix Civic Center.

January Senior Year

- *Attend **FAFSA** nights.
- *Obtain **FAFSA** Student and Parent [PIN IDs](#).
- *Start gathering needed information and documents to complete [FAFSA](#).
- *Take [Maricopa Community College](#) entrance exam(s).

March Senior Year

- ***March 1st FAFSA** priority deadline.
- *Sign up for [Community College](#) classes.

April Senior Year

- *Sign up for [University College](#) classes.

May Senior Year

- *Graduation & Celebrations!!



**REMEMBER IF YOU DON'T DESIGN YOUR FUTURE
SOMEONE ELSE WILL DESIGN IT FOR YOU!**