

CHECKLIST FOR FRESHMEN:

- Develop and maintain good study habits. This will be vital throughout high school and college
- Keep in mind that your grades from freshman year forward affect your overall high school GPA and determine athletic eligibility (NCAA) in college.
- Plan challenging high school courses; remember your GPA is weighted.
- Think about several career possibilities and learn how much education is required for each job.
- Get to know your teachers, establish a rapport; letters of recommendation will be important.
- Meet your guidance counselor to discuss your career and college goals and to design a four-year high school plan to reach your goals.
- Familiarize yourself with the high school curriculum by reading the DCHS course catalogue before registering for sophomore year courses, and keep up with your four-year plan.
- Become familiar with college admissions requirements (high school courses, SAT / ACT / Subject Tests).
- Join/continue extracurricular activities.
- Find out about the summer activities, jobs or volunteer opportunities that will expand your experience and skills.
- Take advantage of every opportunity to participate in a summer camp at a college to experience a college-like atmosphere.
- Explore colleges/careers on the internet by visiting websites, many of which are found in the Guidance section of Delone Catholic's website.

CHECKLIST FOR SOPHOMORES:

- Continue to develop and maintain good study habits
- Continue to take and plan challenging courses.
- Continue to meet with your guidance counselor to discuss career and college goals.
- You will be taking the PLAN and PSAT tests. These are shorter versions of the ACT and SAT tests that can give you an early projection of how you might score on these tests. They are also great practice.
- Establish strong time management skills. You will get busier as you progress through high school.
- Continue to improve your reading and writing skills.
- Keep a folder or electronic portfolio of your accomplishments, awards, extracurricular/volunteer activities and leadership positions. This will be helpful in filling out job, college and scholarship applications later.
- Talk with college students or recent college graduates whom you know and ask about their college experiences.
- Visit college websites, attend local college fairs, collect college literature and talk with college representatives.
- Develop a list of college characteristics (i.e. major, curriculum offerings, size, location, rural/urban/suburban, tuition, housing, extra-curricular activities, clubs, organizations, etc.) that are important to help you decide which college/university may be the best fit for you.
- Begin locating sources of financial aid, particularly scholarships.
- Participate in summer activities and volunteer opportunities and look for jobs that will expand your experience and skills. Delone Catholic also tries to help students find Externship Opportunities. See your guidance counselor for more information.
- Participate in a summer camp at a college to experience a college-like atmosphere.
- If you have Algebra II/Trig consider taking ACT/SAT tests in the spring.
- Continue to explore colleges / careers on the internet by visiting websites. For example, "mymajors.com" attempts to match your aptitudes and interests with the majors that are offered by the colleges and provides examples and descriptions of the careers that are related to that major.