

Tips for the School Year

- Create a four-year high school plan. Think about what you'd like to accomplish academically and otherwise to prepare for college or a career.
- Learn about the different courses offered at your school, and which ones will be required for graduation and for colleges you are interested in. Ask your counselor to help you map out a plan to get on the right track.
- Start thinking about career paths that interest you. This will of course change over time, but you can start to get a feel for your likes and dislikes to figure out what you are interested in the most.

FALL SEMESTER



Get Informed

- Start talking to your counselor about how you can get the most out of your four years in high school.
- Learn about the extracurriculars at your school. Join clubs and sports teams that interest you, if they are taking place this school year.
- If you're interested in playing sports in college, research the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) eligibility requirements. The NCAA requires completion of certain core courses; you can find the specifics at ncaaclearinghouse.net.
- Look for summer opportunities in your community, such as internships, jobs, summer camps, and volunteer programs.



Stay Organized

- Stay on top of your school work and try not to fall behind in classes. Having a planner to keep tracks of all your assignments and their respective due dates can be helpful!
- Start saving money for college, it's never too early!



Take Action

- Take the PSAT™ 8/9 if offered by your school. This can give you a good idea of how to prepare for the SAT you may be taking in the 11th or 12th grade.

SPRING SEMESTER



Get Informed

- Explore summer academic enrichment opportunities. Many application deadlines are in March or earlier.
- Look for summer jobs or internships. Consider those that develop leadership skills or explore a career pathway that interests you.



Stay Organized

- Review your four-year academic plan to help guide your course choices during class registration. Be sure to sign up for challenging courses in math, science and English. Talk to your counselor about signing up for Advanced Placement (AP) or Honors courses if offered.
- Create an important document file with your report cards, honors and awards, community service activities, list of potential references, etc. These documents will be helpful when you need to apply for a job, for scholarships and eventually for college.



Take Action

- Create a summer reading list. Ask teachers, counselors or your local library for recommendations. Reading will help you improve comprehension skills as well as build your vocabulary.
- Apply for summer jobs or internships.

Where to go for Help

- Ask your counselor for information about college readiness programs such as GEAR UP, Upward Bound or Educational Talent Search to see which programs are available at your school.
- Go to Kahn Academy to get access to free testing and tutorials in reading and math at <https://www.khanacademy.org>.
- Go to the Mānoa Online Learning Academy website www.manoa.hawaii.edu/ola to see if you qualify for free online math tutoring.
- Begin to explore career options at Hawai'i Career Explorer website: https://uhcc.hawaii.edu/career_explorer.
- For more college and career preparation information and resources go to: www.CollegelsWithinReachHawaii.com.

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[CollegelsWithinReachHawaii.com](http://www.CollegelsWithinReachHawaii.com)

