



RISING
SCHOLARS
PROGRAM

KENT STATE
UNIVERSITY

STARK

10th Grade College Planning Checklist

- Do your absolute best in every class. Good grades will help you get into college and get scholarships to pay for it. Putting forth your best effort will also condition you for college academic rigor.
- Continue to identify your source(s) of personal, internal, and external motivation that pushes you to do your best, manage or overcome life's challenges/adversity.
- Make sure you take challenging courses covering all the graduation and college admission requirements, including English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language, Fine Arts, Phys. Ed./Health and Technology, as well as your Elective and Internship credits.
- Consider College Credit Plus (CCP) Program that allows you to earn college credit while in high school. Talk to a counselor to learn more about these options and opportunities at your school. For more info, visit <https://www.kent.edu/stark/college-credit-plus> or email us at ksustarkccp@kent.edu, and we will respond to your question promptly.
- Keep reading—not just books, but newspapers and magazines as well. Relate the reading to your life and learn more about subjects and people that interest you.
- Take advantage of all the information that is at your fingertips on the Internet.
- Get involved in activities that matter to you, both in and out of school.
- Explore and research the subjects and careers you're interested in. Set future goals and learn about the things you need to begin working on how to achieve them. Talk with your parents about the goals you have selected.
- Participate in summer academic enrichment programs. Be determined to improve your study habits.
- In preparation for the ACT next year, start looking into ACT prep classes in the fall and begin reserving ACT study books from the library. (You can take the ACT in your sophomore year as well.)



- Continue to use your student planner, so you don't miss important deadlines and separate class folders to keep your assignments (and life) organized.
- Meet with your school counselors often to discuss your college and career goals.
- Create a college binder. Keep all things that pertain to your college search journey.
- Keep a record of your high school internship requirements in your college binder.
- Visit colleges near your home or when you travel. Keep notes in your college binder on what you like or dislike about each college. **Visit colleges virtually nation-wide at YouVisit.com.**
- Start and keep saving for college. Get a summer job/odd jobs and put half of what you earn in your college fund. Save for items such as transportation (car), everyday living expenses, books, and fees. (Please note that your Rising Scholars Tuition-Free Scholarship covers tuition only.)
- Attend any College Fair to begin your college research.
- Attend the **Rising Scholars Summer Institute** the summer going into your Junior year of high school. Attend other college workshops (in person or virtually) with your family to learn more about getting ready for college and how to make the most of your high school years.

This document was created to provide a suggested checklist and action steps for sophomore participants to be on track to access your Tuition-Free Scholarship Opportunity at KSU Stark.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Sanders.

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