



ALABAMA CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY

Thrive in wisdom. Serve in spirit.

College Planning Timeline

It is never too early to begin thinking about college and your Freshman year is the perfect time! You are laying the foundation for your high school career. Check out this timeline to know what you could be doing, even now, to help yourself out later on in your college search.

9th Grade

- Meet your guidance counselor
- Pick the right mix of classes
- GPA clock starts running (can start in 8th grade with advanced classes)
- Get involved
- Explore your interests and possible careers
- Increase your vocabulary by reading
- Start a resume
- Keep a record of all awards, volunteer work and jobs

10th Grade

- Take the PSAT in the Fall (administered by the school)
- Keep a calendar of your assignments and learn how to organize
- Start seeking and taking leadership roles in clubs and activities
- Keep volunteering
- Identify colleges you are interested in
- Take the ASVAB for career exploration and aptitude
- Take an ACT or SAT prep course
- Take the ACT in the spring (especially if you are enrolled in Algebra II)
- Update resume

11th Grade

- Consider AP classes and Dual Enrollment
- Keep building up your GPA
- Take the PSAT in the fall (hopefully qualifying for National Merit Scholarship)
- Take the ACT/SAT - Take a prep course prior
- Explore scholarships
- Start visiting colleges
- Get your guidance counselor to review your resume and college admission essays

12th Grade

- Take the ACT/SAT at least one more time
- Apply to colleges-turn them in early!
- Take college tours and get to know the admission counselors
- Get teacher recommendations
- Complete a FAFSA application
- Go after scholarships!