

# Step Up Sophomores

As you enter your second year of high school, make sure you stay on the right path and always give one hundred percent.

## 1. Determine your goals.

- Decide if your study skills from your freshman year will be adequate for your sophomore year or if changes need to be made.
- Continue to build on your resume that you created your freshman year. If you did not create a resume, do so now.

## 2. Get involved.

- Determine what you are interested in – not just at school.
- Participate in church ministry and community service activities.
- Colleges look at extra-curricular activities as well as grades and test scores.
- If you are not sure you want to participate in a sport or club, find an adult to ask what it is all about.

## 3. Meet with your high school counselor.

- Begin asking questions about careers, colleges, etc.
- Find out if additional resources and study aids are available.

## 4. Get serious.

- Do your best on the PLAN and the PSAT. You will take both this year.
- Begin exploring options for college and studying for the SAT.
- Keep up with assignments, pay attention to deadlines, and manage your time wisely.

## 5. Save for college and search for summer opportunities.

- It is never too early to start saving for college or looking for jobs that may interest you.
- Find volunteer positions that will help you learn of a field of interest.

### Become familiar with the following websites:

[www.gacollege411.org](http://www.gacollege411.org) (general college information)  
[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) (SAT practice and registration)  
[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) (registration for ACT)  
[www.ecampustours.com](http://www.ecampustours.com) (virtual college campus tours)  
[www.cappex.com](http://www.cappex.com) (general help with college questions)

\*\*Make sure if you create an account to keep the username and password somewhere you will remember it. You will use some of these accounts each year in high school.\*\*

Following are additional websites where you may find great sources for private scholarships and other types of financial aid.

[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

[www.fastweb.org](http://www.fastweb.org)

[www.scholarships101.com](http://www.scholarships101.com)

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

[www.college.scholarships.com](http://www.college.scholarships.com)

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

[www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

[www.coca-colascholars.org](http://www.coca-colascholars.org) (The Coca-Cola Foundation)

[www.horatioalger.com/scholarships](http://www.horatioalger.com/scholarships) (The Horatio Alger Association)