



South Putnam High School
Home of the Eagles

Freshman Year Checklist

- 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.
- Think about several career possibilities and learn how much education is required for each job.
- Get to know your teachers.
- Meet with 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 and keep up with your four-year plan.
- Read, read, read!
- Think about what extracurricular activities you're genuinely interested in and to which you are willing to commit the time.
- 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 enrichment activities.

Any questions? Ask Mr. Gardner or Ms. Hendrich.

Helpful Websites and Information

College Visits

- Make appointment 2 weeks prior with admissions counselor, financial aid/scholarship office, and for a tour.
- Prearrange absence through Dean's office with parent phone call.
- Take copy of transcript that shows senior classes.
- Dress neatly.
- A follow-up "Thank you" note is appropriate.

Letters of Recommendation

A good recommendation looks at the student as a person and the person as a student. Most seniors applying to college are good students who take challenging courses...so what makes you *special*? Is it community service, outside school activities and honors, jobs or skills? If you need a recommendation, it is good to get one from people who see you in different capacities: employer, coach, teacher, youth group leader, etc. At least one or two letters should be from an ACADEMIC teacher during the junior or senior year.

Internet Sites to Research Colleges

1. BigFuture by the College Board: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org> - Search out colleges based on factors like college type, location, campus setting, cost, majors, and learning environment. It also offers tools to help match students' interests to college majors and potential careers. There is also information about college costs and financial aid.
2. Peterson's: <http://www.petersons.com> - Students can match themselves to colleges based on college type, planned major, location, and other factors. Also offers tips on how to choose which schools might be right for you.
3. College Results Online: <http://www.collegesresults.org/default.aspx> - Look up colleges' graduation rates, admissions and student statistics, and costs. Compare colleges in which you might be interested. Search for colleges based on factors like location, college characteristics, admissions, and cost.
4. The Princeton Review: <http://www.princetonreview.com> - Offers to connect students to colleges based on student interests. With a free account students can access in-depth information about colleges listed in the Princeton Review's annual "Best Colleges" rankings.
5. College Navigator: <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/> - Search for colleges using a wide variety of criteria and make side-by-side comparisons of colleges in which you are interested. Find admissions information, tuition and fees, net price, graduation rates, programs, majors, and more. The site also provides net price estimates by family income levels.

Internet Sites to Estimate College Costs

1. Indiana College Costs Estimator: <http://www.indianacollegecosts.org/calculate-your-college-costs> - Use your family's financial information to estimate how much you will be expected to contribute to your college education. Learn more about financial aid and see cost and admission information for colleges in Indiana.
2. Net Price Calculator Center: <http://collegecost.ed.gov/netpricecenter.aspx> - Links students to individual colleges' net price calculators. These calculators allow students to find out what students in their financial situation will likely expect to pay to attend that college.

Internet Sites to Find Financial Aid Information

1. FAFSA Information: <https://fafsa.ed.gov> - Visit this site to learn about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and to complete and submit your FAFSA electronically.

2. Grant and Scholarship Information: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/types/grants-scholarships> - Visit this site to learn more about state and federal grants.
3. MeritAid: <http://www.meritaid.com/> - Search for merit scholarships offered by colleges across the country. Search by college name or create an account and be matched with potential scholarships.
4. Putnam County Community Foundation: http://www.pcfoundation.org/scholar_listings_home.html - Check this site for scholarships available to Putnam County students. Also check out their scholarship tips webpage.
5. FastWeb: <http://www.fastweb.com/college-scholarships> - This site offers to match students to outside scholarships based on strengths, interests, and skills.
6. Federal Work-Study: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/types/work-study> - This page gives information about the federal work-study program, which allows students to work during college to help pay their tuition.
7. Federal Student Loans: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans> - This page gives information about federal student loans, which are loans that are borrowed from the federal government in order to finance your education and must be repaid after you leave school.

College Admissions Contacts

Ball State	Kylie Wright kmwright4@bsu.edu	(765) 285-8295 Toll Free: 800-482-4278
Indiana University	Kelly Waggoner kelwaggo@indiana.edu Kelley School of Business IU Honors Program	(812) 855-0661 (812) 855-4474 (812) 855-3555
I.U.P.U.I.	Alice Matouk acheung@iupui.edu	(317) 278-9234
Indiana State	Brooke Huser brooke.huser@indstate.edu	(812) 237-8844
Purdue University	admissions@purdue.edu	(765) 494-1776
Univ. of Southern IN	John Campbell jcampbel@usi.edu	(812) 465-1219
Vincennes	Janeen Grooms vuadmit@vinu.edu	(812) 888-4313
Ivy Tech Terre Haute	Nina Storey nstorey@ivytech.edu	(812) 298-2280
Ivy Tech Greencastle	Annette Hoopingarner ahoopin@ivytech.edu	(800) 750-3007 ext. 5000
Ivy Tech Bloomington	BL-AdmissionInquiry@lists.ivytech.edu	(812) 330-6013
University of Indianapolis	Kari Martin http://www.uindy.edu/meet-your-counselor/contact/kari-martin	(800) 232-8634