**Freshman Year Information Guide**

**Fall (September-November)**

* Focus on getting off to a good start academically
* Seek out available resources that can help you maintain your progress throughout your high school career
* Develop effective study skills and utilize test-taking tips
* Become involved in extracurricular activities, such as clubs and sports, and/or volunteer activities in the community
* Prepare to accept constructive feedback from your teachers and use this criticism to improve and fine-tune your skills
* Read often and expand your vocabulary
* Improve your writing skills as they will be a factor in all of your classes and the college application process
* Learn about the [college admissions process and terms](http://www.campusexplorer.com/college-advice-tips/99638890/College-Prep-Glossary-From-Admissions-to-Work-Study/)

**Winter (December-February)**

* Review your Honors and Advanced Placement options; plan for courses that challenge you and match your interests
* Include your family in your educational experience
* Meet with your school counselor to discuss next year’s class schedule and post-secondary goals
* Become familiar with [college entrance requirements](http://www.actstudent.org/college/require.html) as you develop a high school plan
  + \*At least two years of a language are recommended (Wilson HS does not have a world language graduation requirement)

**Spring (March-June)**

* Plan for ways to get and stay involved during the summer months - don’t get complacent!
* Research summer enrichment programs/opportunities on the Counseling Office website and other resources
* Research [college costs](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/college-costs) and start saving!

**Summer (June-August)**

* Engage in [summer](http://professionals.collegeboard.com/guidance/prepare/summer) extracurricular activities and [volunteer](http://www.wilsonsd.org/Page/10726) opportunities
* Complete summer reading and AP summer work