

Baylor University

Pre-High School Senior Checklist

Ninth Grade

Fall/Spring

- _____ Build strong academic skills by taking challenging courses.
- _____ Research colleges and universities you're interested in and see what their admissions requirements are.
- _____ Study hard and get excellent grades to build a great transcript. Many schools' merit scholarships are based on your grades and/or class rank. Visit baylor.edu/estimator to check out Baylor's Scholarship and Cost Estimator.
- _____ Get involved in activities outside of the classroom. There are more than 290 student organizations at Baylor! Learn more at baylor.edu/studentactivities.
- _____ Look for volunteer opportunities.
- _____ Start building your resume. Keep up with your awards, acknowledgments and volunteer hours! This will make life easier when you start filling out scholarship and college applications.
- _____ Vocalize your goal. Tell your friends and family that you want to go to college. You will need help and emotional support throughout the entire process of preparing for college.
- _____ Start saving for college! If your family hasn't already begun planning for your future, begin saving money for school. It's never too late!

Summer

- _____ Visit college campuses. Use summer vacations as an opportunity to visit colleges along your trip route or near your vacation destination. Visit baylor.edu/visit to schedule a tour of Baylor!

Tenth Grade

Fall

- _____ Continue to take challenging courses.
- _____ Sign up to take the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) exam in October. Taking the PSAT will prepare you for the SAT and allow you to be considered for national scholarships based on your scores!
- _____ Continue learning about colleges and universities you're interested in.
- _____ Continue your involvement in extracurricular activities and keep volunteering.
- _____ Update your resume with new activities.

Spring

- _____ Think about taking International Baccalaureate (IB) or Advanced Placement (AP) classes during your junior and senior year. This will help you prepare for college and can allow you to earn college credit while in high school. To see what IB and AP classes Baylor accepts, check out baylor.edu/admissions/testinfo.

Summer

- _____ Visit college campuses. Use summer vacations as an opportunity to visit colleges along your trip route or near your vacation destination. Visit baylor.edu/visit to schedule a tour of Baylor!
- _____ Interested in Baylor? Then, join the mailing list. This is the best way to stay connected with the admissions process as you approach your junior year. Sign up at baylor.edu/admissions/inquire.
- _____ Take advantage of your summer! Look for summer activities such as jobs, internships or volunteer opportunities that relate to a career you're interested in.

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Eleventh Grade

Fall

- _____ Stay focused and continue to do well in your courses!
- _____ Stay active at school and in your community!
- _____ Sign up to take the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) exam in October. Taking the PSAT will prepare you for the SAT and allow you to be considered for national scholarships based on your scores!
- _____ Start seriously considering your opportunities after high school. Make a list of what you are looking for in a college or university: area of the country, large or small, urban or rural, public or private, etc.
- _____ Begin your college search through university websites. A great place to start is baylor.edu/admissions!
- _____ Attend college programs or fairs sponsored by your high school or school district. Be sure to ask lots of questions and pick up more info about schools you're interested in. Check out baylor.edu/admissions/fairs to see if Baylor will be at a college fair near you!

Winter

- _____ Sign up to take the SAT and/or ACT. Remember to register at least one month prior to the test date. Baylor's ACT code is 4062. The SAT code is 6032. Create a study plan and stick with it.

Spring

- _____ Take the SAT and/or ACT and allow yourself time to test and retest if necessary.
- _____ Attend a National College Fair in your area. For details, visit nacacnet.org.

Spring Continued

- _____ Make the most of your Spring Break by visiting a college campus or two!
- _____ Start learning how to apply for college scholarships. Visit studentaid.ed.gov for great resources to help you pay for college!
- _____ Register to take AP or IB tests that you prepared for during the school year.
- _____ Update your resume.
- _____ If you want to play college sports, talk to your coach and ask for help in meeting college coaches. Register for initial-eligibility with the NCAA at eligibilitycenter.org. Also, check out baylorbears.com!
- _____ Think about taking IB, AP or dual credit courses during senior year. This will not only help you prepare for college, but you can also earn college credit while in high school!

Summer

- _____ Visit colleges! Visit baylor.edu/visit to schedule a Baylor tour. During a campus tour, you can attend a class, meet with professors and schedule a meeting with your admissions counselor.
- _____ Begin to narrow down your choices. Become familiar with majors, student life and other factors important to you in making your college choice.
- _____ Research scholarships and apply as appropriate. Take time each night to seek out different opportunities. Find out what scholarships Baylor offers at baylor.edu/admissions/finaid.
- _____ Take advantage of your summer! Summer is a great opportunity to volunteer, travel or work to become a more competitive college applicant.