



10th Grade College Prep Guide: What You Can Do NOW!

- ✓ **Sophomore year can be spent on research and getting ready.**
- ✓ Keep working on your grades and good study skills.
- ✓ Attend the **Albuquerque College Fair in October**. This is at the Albuquerque Convention Center or your high school's own college fair. See www.nacac.com/fairs.html or ask your counselor.
- ✓ Make a list of college majors that MIGHT interest you.
- ✓ Review your four-year course load with those majors in mind.
- ✓ By the summer, you should be able to narrow down the types of colleges that are appealing to you:
Urban (city) or Rural? Large or small?
- ✓ Continue your in-school and out-of-school activities.
- ✓ Ask your school counselor or advisor about college entrance exam dates, information, registration fees, and registration fee waivers.
- ✓ Register for the PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test) or ACT's PLAN exam for sophomores. As of 2007, all New Mexico sophomores are able to take the PSAT for free - ask your guidance counselor about it!
- ✓ Continue to develop positive relationships with teachers, coaches, clergy, and other adults who may later write your college recommendation letters.
- ✓ Talk with your counselor and parents about summer-school classes to improve your grades, fit in a needed course, or delve further into an interesting subject.

Summer:

- ✓ Look for **constructive** ways to spend your time this summer: a summer job, academic project, arts camp, or service project might be fun.
- ✓ **Read at least four books**. Practice writing, speaking, and listening skills.
- ✓ If you live close to a university this summer, consider dropping by and walking around.

- ✓ **Athletes:** Look into the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) requirements.