

The Best Homeschool Guidance Counselor

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The HomeScholar

www.HomeHighSchoolHelp.com

"Helping parents homeschool high school"

Guidance Counselor Reality: parents are the best high school guidance counselor!

- The ratio of high school students to guidance counselors is 478 to 1
- Parents are love-givers, not just care-givers, and much more than a teacher or counselor

Guidance Counselor Tasks

- Plan for flexibility with college prep classes:
 - Teenagers will change their minds
- Arrange for tests:
 - Locate test resources
 - PSAT and SAT: CollegeBoard.org
 - PLAN and ACT: www.ACT.org
 - Subject tests: CollegeBoard.org for SAT Subject Test, CLEP, and AP
- Arrange college search:
 - Locate college fairs: National (www.nacacnet.org), Christian (www.naccap.org)
 - Evaluate college statistics. Identify public and private, reach, fit, and safety schools.
 - Arrange college visits, ask about homeschool requirements
- Prepare records: transcript, course descriptions, reading list, activity list
- Guide the college admission process and provide school records

Planning Guide	
Rigorous Curriculum for College Preparation	
English	4 years
Math	4 years
Social Studies	3-4 years
Science	3 years, one with lab
Foreign language	2-3 years of a single language
PE	2 years
Fine arts	1 year or more
Electives	As needed
Total credits: 20-24 or more	

The major themes and tasks for each year of high school

- Middle School – Grade 6-8th - think about high school
 - Practice keeping high school records
 - Provide time for remedial or advanced academics
- Freshman - 9th grade begins at age 14-15 - think about college
 - Plan college prep classes at the child's ability level. Cover the core and more.
 - Put everything on the high school transcript
- Sophomore - 10th grade begins at age 15-16 – prepare for college
 - Cover more than core classes. Be sure you have started foreign language
 - Take the October PSAT for fun - test prep if possible
- Junior - 11th grade begins at age 16-17 - find a college
 - Fall: take the October PSAT. Attend a college fair.
 - Winter: test preparation - register for SAT or ACT in Spring
 - Spring: SAT or ACT test, subject tests if necessary - arrange college visits
 - Summer: decide on colleges to apply to, locate admission deadlines, put on calendar
 - Tip: write college application essays and scholarship essays for English class
- Senior - 12th grade begins at age 17-18 - apply to College or Career
 - Fall: begin college application first day of senior year
 - Winter: complete the FAFSA for financial aid at FAFSA.ed.gov
 - Spring: choose a college to attend
 - Summer: complete the transcript, award a diploma, and celebrate graduation
 - Tip: write college application essays and scholarship essays for English class

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Resources

Career planning

[What Color is Your Parachute? for Teens](#) - by Carol Christen

[Your Career in Changing Times](#) - by Larry Burkett

Carol Topp's microbusinessforteens.com

[Teaching Occupational Education in 5 Easy Steps](#)

College Fairs

National College Fair (www.nacacnet.org)

Christian College Fair (www.naccap.org)

College Reference Books

[Fiske Guide to Colleges 2019](#)

[The Complete Book of Colleges 2019 Edition](#) by Princeton Review

[Profiles of American Colleges 2019](#) by Barron

Arrange Tests

PSAT and SAT: CollegeBoard.org

PLAN and ACT: www.ACT.org

Subject tests: CollegeBoard.org for SAT Subject Test, CLEP, and AP

Year-by-Year Guides

[Homeschooling Middle School with Powerful Purpose: How to Successfully Navigate 6th- 8th Grade](#)

[How to Homeschool 9th and 10th Grades: Simple Steps for Starting Strong](#)

[Junior Year is the Key to Homeschool Success: How to Unlock the Gate to Graduation and Beyond](#)

[Senior Year Step-by-Step: Simple Instructions for Busy Homeschool Parents](#)

Homeschool Guidance Resources

[The HomeScholar Guide to College Admission and Scholarships](#)

[Setting the Records Straight: How to Craft Homeschool Transcripts and Course Descriptions](#)