

**University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Program  
College Planning Check-list**



**Tenth Grade**

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- Keep taking the most challenging courses offered at your high school.
  
- If you are having trouble with school work, ask for help! Ask your teacher, another student, and reach out to CSP (we can connect you with tutors in some cases).
  
- Keep getting to know your teachers. Which teachers do you connect best with this year?  
  
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- Stay involved with activities you care about (school, community, summer). Which ones do you care most about this year?  
  
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\_\_\_\_\_

  - *Don't overload yourself just to have a longer list. Stay involved in the ones you care most about, and excel. Colleges will want to hear about the ones that you care the most about.*

- Sign up for a free account on [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). Go to "My Organizer" and it will help you get started on your "to-do" list for tests and applications.
  - *Most tests charge a fee. If you cannot afford the fee, talk to your guidance counselor to obtain a fee waiver*
  - *When you get your test results, schedule a time to meet with Jacqueline Gaines if you need help making sense of the score. If you hope to do better next time, she can help you prioritize a test prep plan.*
  
- In April, talk to your school guidance counselor about registering for the SAT Subject Tests in June. These one-hour exams test you on academic subjects such as biology, chemistry, math, physics, and foreign language. Take SAT Subject Tests soon after you complete the course in that subject. (Select the "score choice" option. This way, you can take more Subject Test in eleventh and twelfth grades, and then send colleges only your best results.
  - *Many colleges very selective colleges require three SAT Subject Tests. Some colleges recommend or require Math Level 1 or Math Level 2. Not all SAT Subject Tests are given on*

every test date. Check the calendar carefully to determine when the Subject Tests you want are offered, and plan using “my Organizer” on [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

- Keep making notes about how your interests and passions might connect to careers and colleges:

<b>Your Interests</b>	<b>Career Fields Connected</b>	<b>Possible Colleges</b>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

- Start to look for information about colleges that fit with your interests. The CSP office has books, catalogs, and posters. Or use websites like Cappex.com or CollegeBoard.org. If you find colleges that appeal to you, write them here.

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_____	_____

- Keep reading as much as you can this year. Make a list of books you read this year and indicate your favorites, and why you liked them.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- Talk about your college search plans with your friends and classmates.
- Make a folder or large enveloped marked “Grade 10 Portfolio” and save your best work in it, so it won’t get lost. This should include class assignments, but don’t forget poems, art, awards, etc.
- Have questions? Reach out to CSP staff. The Manager of College Advising and Admissions, Jacqueline Gaines, is here to help! [Jgaines@uchicago.edu](mailto:Jgaines@uchicago.edu)