

navigate

A Road Map for
New Hampshire Students



Campus Compact
for New Hampshire



New Hampshire College
& University Council



Congratulations – You’re on PACE to GEAR UP for a Postsecondary Pathway!

For months you’ve contemplated what you would do after you graduate from high school, and in the next few months, you will take many **critical** steps to make that dream a reality.

crit-i-cal /'kridək(ə)l/

adjective

having a decisive or crucial importance in the success, failure, or existence of something.

“submitting a college application before the deadline is a critical factor in getting accepted to college”

*Synonyms: crucial, **vital**, essential, important, paramount, key, pivotal.*

“the completion of the FAFSA is critical for obtaining financial aid.”

Antonyms: unimportant

In this mini-booklet, you’ll find planning tools for your next step. For the full Navigate Guide, please reach out to your PACE, GEAR UP, or New Hampshire Scholars Coordinator.

- Attend a four-year college or **university** to earn a **bachelor’s degree**
- Enroll in a **community college** first, then **transfer** to a university after 2 or 3 years to earn a **bachelor’s degree**
- Obtain an **associate’s** degree or **certificate** at a **community college**
- Obtain a **certificate** or license in a skilled trade at a **technical institute**
- Enlist in the **military**, or
- Immediately enter the **workforce**

The checklist for each plan provides timelines for completing each action, but you’ll need to pay attention to specific deadlines and due dates since they vary.

We know you’re excited to graduate, BUT it’s important that you stay focused on your classwork and deadlines outlined in this guide.

Don’t forget about your school counselor - they are there for YOU!

It’s a good idea to keep this booklet with you so you have easy access to all this stuff anytime you need it!



Staying on Track

Wherever you plan to go after high school graduation – whether you’re headed to college, the workforce or the military – the checklists in this booklet will help you stay organized and on track to reach your goal. Each checklist outlines specific action steps that act as a guide to your **postsecondary** plan. Simply find the checklist that applies to you and begin mapping your journey!

Review the entire checklist for your **postsecondary** plan before you begin, because it is helpful to see the complete picture of everything that needs to happen before you begin to tackle each step. If you’re unsure about anything on your checklist, make an appointment with your school counselor to talk about it further.



Four-Year University

My top three schools of choice:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

List the **majors** you are considering here:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

	Action Steps	Recommended Time-line	My Date	Notes
Do these for every school where you will apply	Obtain college application fee waiver (s)	Aug - Sept		
	Complete college app(s), including fee or using fee waiver	Aug - Sept		
	Request/mail transcripts (& CLEP test scores if applicable)	Within 1 week of completing college app		
	Register to take or re-take ACT/SAT	Prep- July - Oct Retake- Nov - Dec		
	Ensure ACT/SAT scores are reported to schools	Aug - Dec		
	Explore ROTC or officer programs	Aug - Dec		
	Obtain FSA ID (student & parent)	Dec - Jan		
	Complete FAFSA	Dec - Jan		
	Review SAR	Dec - Jan		
	Complete scholarship apps (personal essay)	Aug - May		
	Review admission letters and financial awards	Oct - Apr		
Do these for the college where you will go	Accept admission at school of choice	As early as you know. By May		
	Pay or defer enrollment deposit to selected school	After accepting admission . Spring		
	Register for orientation	After accepting admission . Spring		
	Apply for housing	After accepting admission . Spring		
	Learn about TRIO /bridge programs & apply	After accepting admission . Spring		
	Inform Counselor of Decisions & Awards	Spring		
	Other:			



You will need an SAT or ACT score to be considered for merit **scholarships** - higher scores can earn you larger **scholarship** awards!



If you are a **GEAR UP** student, make sure to mark that on your common app for **FREE** application waivers!

Community College (transfer, associate's, or certificate)

My top three schools of choice:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

The degree I'm pursuing (check one):

- Transfer
- Associate's** degree (2 years)
- Certificate**

if you are a GEAR UP student, please check out the call out on page 3 for exciting info!

	Action Steps	Recommended Timeline	My Date	Notes
Do these for every school where you will apply	Complete college app(s)	Aug - Sept		
	Request/mail transcripts (& CLEP test scores)	Within 1 week of completing college app		
	Obtain FSA ID (student & parent)	Dec - Jan		
	Complete FAFSA	Dec - Jan		
	Review SAR	Dec - Jan		
	Complete scholarship apps (personal essay)	Aug - May		
	Review admission letters and financial awards	Oct - Apr		
Do these for the college where you will go	Accept admission at school of choice	As early as you know. By May		
	Talk with a community college academic advisor	Mar - May		
	If attending NHTI, apply for housing	After accepting admission . Spring		
	Explore program of study (including transfer programs)	Spring		
	Learn about TRIO /bridge programs & apply	After accepting admission . Spring		
	Inform Counselor of Decisions & Awards	Spring		
	Other:			

Transcript:

An official academic record from a specific school. It lists when you attended, the courses you have completed, grades, and sometimes test scores. Universities, colleges, and technical schools usually require high school **transcripts** be submitted as part of the **application** process.



Technical Institute/School

My top schools of choice are:

I'm interested in pursuing a career in:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Action Steps	Recommended Timeline	My Date	Notes
Check to see if community college has program of study needed; compare cost	Aug - Dec		
Obtain app fee waiver (s)	Aug - Dec		
Complete tech school application (s)	Feb		
Send add'l requirements (transcript , test scores, portfolio, etc)	Aug - Dec		
Obtain FSA ID (student & parent)	Jul - Sept		
Complete FAFSA	Oct - Dec		
Review SAR	Oct - Dec		
Complete scholarship apps (personal essay)	Aug - May		
Review admission letters and financial awards	Oct - Apr		
Accept admission at school of choice	As early as you know. By May		
Explore career outlook	Mar - May		
Apply for housing	After accepting admission . Spring		
Inform Counselor of Decisions & Awards	After accepting admission . Spring		
Other:			



Two out of every three college students receive some type of financial assistance.

Military Enlistment

I plan to join the:

- Army
 Navy
 Air Force
 Marines
 Coast Guard

Action Steps	Recommended Timeline	My Date	Notes
Schedule appointment with Military Recruiter	Fall		
Take or re-take ASVAB	Fall		
Discuss Delayed Entry Program with recruiter	Fall		
Complete Physical Examination with Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS)	As directed by recruiter (Fall/Winter)		
Review ASVAB scores with School Counselor	Spring		
Research potential careers for service	Spring		
Meet with Enlistment Counselor to determine career prospects	As directed by recruiter		
Take the Oath of Enlistment	As directed by recruiter		
Prepare for Boot Camp	Spring		
Other:			

If you are interested in enlisting in the military, visit [usa.gov/join-military](https://www.usa.gov/join-military) for more information about the process and the various service branches you may be interested in.



Workforce

My career interest areas or job prospects include

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Action Steps	Recommended Timeline	My Date	Notes
Research training required for field of interest	Fall / Winter		
Research community college options/programs	Fall / Winter		
Ask people to serve as references	Spring		
Create / update resume (See Section 1)	Winter/Spring		
Research job openings	Spring		
Prepare for job applications by completing form in Section 5	Winter/Spring		
Apply for jobs	Spring		
Request letters of recommendation	as required for application		
Inform Counselor of job placement	As soon as you're hired; May at latest		
Other:			
Other:			

If you're not sure what type of job to pursue, here are some websites that might help:

- **Naviance**: Use your school account to explore the built in career assessment tools
- **Career Coach**: Each **Community College** in NH has Career Coach to assess what job you would like and provides information on salary of jobs in the area



