

## What are South students doing this summer??

With only a few short weeks until summer, many SEHS students are in the middle of making summer plans. The College/Career Center would like to offer some tips to parents and students about the importance of summer. Yes, it is a time to “recharge” and “relax”, but summer experiences can also help students to learn more about themselves, refine an interest, or explore new activities.

Consider the following:

### Freshmen:

Work – jobs can be hard to find, but your neighbors might need their dog watched or want help with yard work.

Volunteer – many, many non-profits need help in the summer, see the Career Center for ideas or go online to [www.unitedwaylane.org](http://www.unitedwaylane.org) . There are opportunities for all interests.

Read, read, read – studies prove that good readers score better on college entrance tests.

Summer School – need to catch up on credits? See your counselor right away.

### Sophomores:

Extra-curricular activities – continue favorite activities: sports, music and hobbies.

Work – some sophomores find paid work. Check the listings outside room 302 at South Eugene. There might be something for you.

Volunteer - see listings in the Career Center or go to [www.unitedwaylane.org](http://www.unitedwaylane.org).

Consider taking a summer course - 4J has summer school for credit recovery and the Career Center has brochures from many colleges with summer courses.

Read, read, read – those that read usually score better on the PSAT (taken in Oct).

Going on a family vacation? Stop and visit some college campuses.

### Juniors

Work – more juniors work than sophomores, see postings outside Room 302, talk to family friends and fellow students for ideas; refine your resume.

Volunteer – this is a time to volunteer where you are passionate. IHS students need to earn 100 hours between end of junior year and May of senior year.

Volunteer hours are needed for honors diploma candidates and always looks well on a job resume or scholarship application.

Classic South students should complete their 25 internship hours for their Senior Project.

Be sure to complete your log and take pictures, collect articles or other evidence of your experience. (Note: if you haven't arranged a mentor or picked up your log sheets see the Career Center, Ellen Brunson-Newton, or Jocelyn LaMar right away.)

IHS Juniors should work on their Senior Paper. Complete your research and start your draft.

Visit college campuses - start narrowing your choices and find “good fits”.

Refine the list of colleges or programs you are considering.

Look at college applications - practice essays, refine your resume, develop a timeline for applying to colleges, it comes faster than you think.

If retaking SAT or taking SAT Subject exams in the fall, practice vocabulary, read, and

review math problems.

If you need credits this is the time to catch up. See your counselor for options.

Register for the NCAA Clearinghouse if applicable.

Begin looking for scholarships.

Read books, magazines, and periodicals & newspapers – it doesn't hurt to keep a dictionary by your elbow to look up unfamiliar words.

Interested in learning something new or improving your skills? Many colleges offer summer courses designed for high school students. See the Career Center.

### Seniors

Respond promptly to all requests from colleges. Most 4-year and community colleges have summer opportunities for you to register for fall classes. Placement tests might be needed. (Note: LCC tests can be taken at South. Sign up in the Career Center.)

Be sure all deposits are paid and forms filled out for post-high school opportunities.

Spend time on your new school's website to learn all the services available. Most schools and programs have academic support centers. Find out about study skill courses and tutoring options before you need them.

Send final grades and proof of graduation to colleges.

If you have taken College Now courses, AP or IB exams be sure your transcripts or scores have been sent to colleges.

Still considering a college or other post-high school opportunity? It isn't too late. See the Career Center in room 7 for options. Many programs have rolling admission.

Send thank-you notes to teachers that gave you recommendations.

Earn some money! This is the time to work and begin to save.

Do you have a bank account? Take the summer to learn how to manage your dollars and avoid late charges or overdraft charges. Begin to establish a credit history.

Read books, magazines, and periodicals & newspapers.

If you turn 18 remember to register to vote.