

# **Liberty Lightning Sophomore**



## **Guide to Success for High School Sophomores**

### **Liberty High School Counseling Office**

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**TIMELINE**

## **August**

- Look through the Registration process with care. Reference your 4 year plan worksheet while making course decisions for next school year.
- Understand the requirements of an Honors Diploma from Liberty High School.
- Prepare for life after high school with the ICAN Tip of the Week: sign up at [ICANSucceed.org/signup](http://ICANSucceed.org/signup)

## **September**

- Consider attending the Golden Circle & College Fair. With Iowa employers, colleges/universities from across the country and attend breakout sessions. For more details: [ICANSucceed.org/goldencircle](http://ICANSucceed.org/goldencircle) (sophomores can attend, mostly geared for juniors and seniors)
- Talk with your school counselor about taking the Pre-ACT or PSAT as practice for the actual college entrance exams.
- Get back into the habit of checking your school email reading the monthly Counseling Smore. This Smore will have the upcoming events and opportunities to be aware of.

## **October**

- Compare several careers. You will want to consider the required education or training that each career needs, and what tasks you will perform in this career. Does this career still interest you? A helpful research tool is [ICANSucceed.org/collegefairs](http://ICANSucceed.org/collegefairs) and the [Career Exploration](#) tab on the Liberty Counseling Website
- If you haven't already, get involved with an activity at your school or community.
- Take the optional PSAT (a prep test if planning to take the SAT or prepping for the highly selective National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test taken during junior year)

## **November**

- Complete a Job Shadow experience, you can learn about these opportunities by contacting Liberty's career coordinator (located in counseling office) or the [Workplace Learning Connection](#) website
- Talk to family members, friends, teachers, counselors, and coaches about how they picked their career and their experiences.

## **December**

- Education after high school doesn't have to include a four year degree. Explore other opportunities like: apprenticeships, certificate programs, two-year degrees, and other programs at [ICANSucceed.org/careertraining](https://www.icansucceed.org/careertraining) or [Career Exploration tab](#) on the Liberty Counseling Website
- Is there a college you've always dreamed of attending? Research colleges online and create a list of what you like most and least about each school. Visit [ICANSucceed.org/colleges](https://www.icansucceed.org/colleges).
- Consider volunteering in your community. It can be a rewarding experience, and it could help you earn a scholarship. Many scholarships are awarded based on community service.
- Take the Pre-ACT

## **January/February**

- Keep a record of your activities and accomplishments in an activities resume.
- Start thinking about your potential career and if your junior course request matches your path. This should also be the time to reflect if your potential career is in line with your interests. For example, wanting to go into the medical field but not enjoying science classes is a red flag that this career may not be the best fit.
- During Liberty registration, learn about the Kirkwood Academy opportunities. Take college courses, earn college credit, at no cost to you.

## **March**

- Attend the ICR Future Career and College Fair, the last Sunday in March. Find your career pathway, talk with employers, and representatives from colleges/universities. Event details can be found at [ICANSucceed.org/icrfuture](https://www.icansucceed.org/icrfuture)
- Contact people who work in a job related to your career interest. Talk to them about their education/training and their day-to-day work responsibilities. Don't know anyone? Check with your teachers, counselors, or career coordinator.

## **April**

- Starting thinking about summer opportunities to job shadow, intern, work, or volunteer in a position that is similar to your career path.

## **May**

- Finish the last trimester of your 10th grade year strong. You did it!