



KEYS  
TO  
SUCCESS



## 9TH GRADE CHECKLISTS

### GRADE BY GRADE CHECKLISTS

Whether you're considering a 1-year certificate, a 2-year associate degree, a 4-year bachelor's degree, or a professional/graduate degree, these grade-by-grade checklists will help you prepare to be successful after high school!

9th Grade Checklist:

#### **Get involved in your school and community.**

Volunteer experience and after-school activities boost your resume and may help you qualify for scholarships.

- Volunteer in your community. Find volunteer opportunities with U Serve Utah ([userve.utah.gov](http://userve.utah.gov)) and United Way 2-1-1 ([uw.org/211/volunteer](http://uw.org/211/volunteer)).
- Sign up for at least one school club, sport, or after-school program. Talk to your school counselor or a teacher about what opportunities are available.

#### **Explore college options.**

- Use the College Guide to research colleges in Utah and discover which colleges may be right for you.
- Talk with your parents, friends, and community members about their college experience, and start thinking about what you want out of yours.

#### **Do high school right.**

- Meet with your school counselor and develop a four-year high school plan that will prepare you for college.

#### **Learn about the different ways to pay for college.**

- Read about the various ways to pay for college, including scholarships, grants, work-study, and student loans on [ktsutah.com/resources](http://ktsutah.com/resources).
- Make a plan with your parents to figure out how to pay for college.
- Start to build a scholarship and college admissions resume to track your achievements. Use the Scholarship Toolkit at [ktsutah.com/resources](http://ktsutah.com/resources) to get you started.
- With the help of an adult, open a college savings account through a bank, credit union, or my529. Learn more at [my529.org](http://my529.org). If you already have a savings account, contribute what you can.

