



High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

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MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Staying On-Track

High school is fast approaching. Some things to consider as a teenager, you tend to live in the moment. Often cause and effect is a hard concept for you to grasp when it relates to high school graduation and college admissions requirements that are still years away. It is important to understand that even in middle school, attendance, challenges, failures, grades, and overall credit accumulation in high school will affect their future.

Did you know that there are ways to tell if you are “**on-track**” or “**off-track**” for high school graduation?

Research has shown that there some ways to predict when a student is struggling or off-track.

For example:

- **Attendance:** Missing 20 days or being absent 10 percent of school days.
- **Behavior:** Two or more mild or more serious behavior infractions.
- **Course performance in high school:**
 - A GPA of less than 2.0.
 - Two or more failures in ninth grade courses.
 - Failure to earn on-time promotion to the tenth grade or accumulate five or more freshmen credits.

Even if there are valid excuses for any of these symptoms, they have a negative effect on school performance and engagement and increase the chances that a student will dropout.

If you are showing one or more of these signs, it is important to figure out the cause of the problem. For example, you can make an appointment with your school counselor to develop a plan. Talk to your parents or a trusted adult to ask for help.

Sources: [Career Guidance WA](#) and [OSPI GATE](#)



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Did You Know?

Over the next 10 years, there will be **1.4 million** new jobs available in computer science, but only about **400,000 college grads** qualified for those jobs.

Source: [Code.org](#)