

PREPARING FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING HIGH SCHOOL CHECKLIST



Enroll in Recommended Courses

- Mathematics: Algebra I and II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Trigonometry, Calculus, if offered.
- Science: Physics, Chemistry
- Engineering & Technology: Introduction/Principles of Engineering, Computer-Aided Design (CAD), Technology and Engineering Education, if offered
- Additional STEM Courses: Environmental Science, Statistics
- Other Relevant Courses: Communication, Writing
- Consider taking Advanced Placement (AP) or Dual Credit versions of these courses, if offered.

- Focus on excelling in math and science courses to build strong foundational skills.
- Maintain a high GPA (aim for 3.0 or higher, depending on your college of choice).
- Prepare for and take the SAT or ACT exams, including SAT Subject Tests in math and science if your college(s) of choice recommends or requires them.

Participate in Extracurricular Activities

- Consider STEM-related clubs, such as a math club, science club, or robotics team.
- Engage in community service or volunteer work, particularly projects related to engineering or environmental conservation.
- Take on leadership roles in clubs/ teams to demonstrate your ability to lead projects and work as a team.

Research Colleges and Degree Programs

- Research Indiana engineering colleges to understand their engineering programs, admissions requirements, and application deadlines.
- Visit campuses if possible, or attend virtual tours and information sessions.

Gain Engineering Experience and Skills

- Attend engineering camps or summer programs offered by colleges or engineering organizations.
- Seek internships or job shadowing opportunities with civil engineering firms or professionals.
- Learn AutoCAD or other design software, or participate in design workshops.

Prepare Applications & Letters of Recommendation

- Start drafting and refining your college application essays, focusing on your passion for civil engineering and your career aspirations.
- Build strong relationships with teachers and mentors who can write compelling letters of recommendation.
- Gather letters of recommendation the same summer you intern, so you have them ready.
- Submit applications by early deadlines for priority consideration.

☐ Financial Planning

- Prepare to submit the <u>FAFSA</u> (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), as it ensures federal and state financial aid consideration and is an Indiana high school graduation requirement.
- Research scholarships, grants, and financial aid options, including merit scholarships, offered by each university, applying by the deadline(s) to ensure consideration.

