



Summer Quarterly Update

For 2016-2017 Freshmen

Making School Count

- **Get ready for finals.** Finals week can be an especially stressful time, so use these [study tips](#) to help you conquer your finals.
- **Stay on track this summer.** It's important to take a break, relax, and have some fun over the summer. But summer is also a great time to do something that will interest and challenge you. Here are some suggestions for [ways to make your summer worthwhile](#), along with an additional comment on the importance of [maintaining balance and fun](#).
- **Find your passion.** Remember that college admissions officers are looking for students who are not only academically ready, but who have developed a passion outside the classroom and who can bring that enthusiasm with them to their college community. Don't yet know what floats your boat? Here's a [list of 50 summer activities](#) that might stimulate your thinking.
- **Good reads for students and parents.** We all know that reading is a great way to keep our brains engaged over the summer, but finding the right book can be a challenge. Take a look at this great list of [classics](#). Scan the titles of books for parents and students from [college admissions officers and counselors](#). Or, go for the [most exciting reads of 2017](#) for young adults.
- **WSU Tri-Cities Science Camps.** WSU is once again offering summer science, technology, engineering and mathematics camps. Camps for high school students will be held July 24-27 (Nursing and Biomedical Sciences) and July 31-August 1 (Robotics). [Registration](#) is now open.
- **Try a Tri-Tech Skills Center summer class.** Tri-Tech Skills Center offers an extraordinary opportunity to explore a wide array of technical skills, including a diverse program of summer classes. [Registration for summer classes](#) opened on May 16 and some classes are already filled.
- **Explore summer school options.** The Richland School District also offers [online and in-class summer school](#) options.

Looking Ahead to College

- **Start planning your future by first knowing yourself.** The college experience is first and foremost an investment in your individual development. The more you understand yourself, the better you will be able to make the most of your high school experience and find the right path after high school, including selecting a college that works for you. [Answer these 10 questions about yourself](#) as you consider how to make the most of the next years.
- **Get advice from college students.** The college experience is as diverse as the students who go. [Listen to college student videos](#) to learn what college is like, what students wish they knew before applying to college, and how students overcame obstacles to succeed in and after college.

Careers & Majors

- **Explore your interests and find possible careers.** This easy-to-navigate website offers several ways to explore possible careers, beginning with a look at [what interests you now](#).

Finding Colleges for You

- **Begin exploring colleges.** [Virtual college tours](#) offer a fun and informative option for exploring colleges from home. Make a goal to learn about 5 colleges in Washington State or another location that might interest you!
- **Pacific Northwest College Tour.** Explore a five-day [Pacific Northwest College Tour](#) that takes you to four cities and 5-7 colleges. Or, tailor your own tour to include a family vacation or a must-go location. If you are traveling out of state, check out these US News and World Report [best college road trips](#) to see what campuses you might incorporate into your trip.

Paying for College

- **Start the conversation early!** Financial advisor [Suze Orman](#) and [USA today](#) offer advice on how to have an early and productive conversation about college costs with your middle school or freshman student.



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