



# 12th GRADE BENCHMARKS

**GEAR UP recommends that all students meet these grade level specific benchmarks in order to graduate from high school ready for the postsecondary program or college of their choosing. Use this checklist to help you plan and keep track of your progress.**

- Attend GEAR UP 12th grade orientation.
- Participate in GEAR UP activities.
- Family attends GEAR UP 12th grade orientation and participates in quarterly family workshops.
- Perform at or above grade level in math (calculus or above is recommended), language arts, and science classes.
- Maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA.
- Enroll and pass foreign language class if you have not completed two credits.
- Stay alcohol-free, drug-free, crime-free, and tobacco-free.
- Update your High School and Beyond Plan and Portfolio.
- Participate in study skills and tutoring activities.
- Take the ACT<sup>®</sup> Test.
- Visit the postsecondary school(s) you want to attend.
- Apply to three or more postsecondary schools or programs.
- Know the Washington Minimum College Admission Standards and choose courses that will help you meet these requirements while also working toward high school graduation.
- Attend events to learn about going to college and financial aid.
- Register for [www.thewashboard.org](http://www.thewashboard.org), a free scholarship service. Apply for one or more scholarships.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Washington Application For State Financial Aid (WASFA).
- Complete 16 Summers curriculum.
- Research three or more careers. Do at least one job shadow.
- Attend one or more college recruiting events at your school.
- Pass Biology End of Course (EOC) Exit Exam.
- Pass Math (M1) and (M2) EOC Exam or Meet Standard on 11<sup>th</sup> Smarter Balanced-Math.
- Meet Standard on Smarter Balanced –ELA.
- Graduate.