



## 9th 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 9th grade orientation.
- Family attends GEAR UP 9th grade orientation and participates in quarterly family workshops.
- Perform at or above grade level in math (algebra or above is recommended), language arts, and science classes.
- Earn a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA by the end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Stay alcohol-free, drug-free, crime-free, and tobacco-free.
- Update your High School and Beyond Plan.
- Create a Student Portfolio to use during high school years.
- Enroll and pass foreign language class.
- Promote to tenth grade and be on track to graduate on time.
- Participate in GEAR UP activities.
- Visit a postsecondary school campus.
- 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.
- Research five to ten postsecondary schools or programs.
- Research three or more careers.
- Participate in study skills and tutoring activities.
- Complete Career Guidance WA curriculum.