

Build Your Transcript

While it's always important to do well in school, your grades in high school are especially crucial. When you apply to college, your high school will send a copy of your transcript to all the colleges where you apply. Your transcript includes a list of all the courses that you have taken and the grades you earned.

You should consider challenging yourself academically and enrolling in honors courses. Remember, slightly lower grades in more challenging courses may carry more weight in your GPA than higher grades in an easier curriculum. Even if your grades in one or two courses slip for a semester, it will not necessarily keep you from getting into college. Colleges look to see if you have made improvements in your grades and like to see that you have worked hard to make necessary improvements.

Keeping your grades up in high school is also important so that you will be prepared for college. The skills that you are learning now will help you succeed later. The more adept you become at keeping assignments in order, doing well on all classroom activities, and developing better study skills, the better you will do in college. Additionally, you may also want to choose courses that develop skills and personal interests such as keyboarding, business, music, art, or physical education as long as these courses do not replace the other college preparatory subjects that you need today!

This article is provided by the College Foundation of North Carolina, helping you plan, apply and pay for college. Visit our website at CFNC.org or call toll-free 1-866-866-CFNC.

###

© 2008 Pathways, College Foundation, Inc., and State Education Assistance Authority (CFNC)

You are hereby granted a nonexclusive, revocable license to use and reproduce this publication for noncommercial purposes. Wherever the text from this publication is used or reproduced, the following copyright statement must appear: "© 2008 Pathways, College Foundation, Inc., and State Education Assistance Authority (CFNC)."