

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Timeline

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- ❖ As soon as you can, meet with your counselor to begin talking about colleges and careers
- ❖ Make sure you are enrolled in the appropriate PS (post secondary) or SB (standards based) courses. Research the BCTC (Berks Career and Technology Center – [www.berkscareer.com](http://www.berkscareer.com)) to see if one of their programs fits into your career goals.
- ❖ Get off to a good start with your grades. The grades you earn in ninth grade will be included in your final high school GPA and class rank. Ask for help when you need it.
- ❖ College might seem a long way off now, but grades really do count toward college admission and scholarships.
- ❖ Visit [www.todaymilitary.com](http://www.todaymilitary.com) to explore the different branches of the military.
- ❖ Explore your interests and possible careers.
  - Use Career Cruising ([www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com))
- ❖ Get involved in extracurricular activities (both school and non-school)
- ❖ Talk to your parents about planning for college expenses. Continue or begin a savings plan for college.
- ❖ Look at the college information available in your counselor's office and libraries (public and school). Use the internet to check out college web sites (ex. Career Cruising or [www.educationplanner.com](http://www.educationplanner.com)).
- ❖ Tour a nearby college or technical school. Visit relatives or friends who live on or near a college campus. Check out the dorms, go to the library or student center, and get a feel for college life.
- ❖ Investigate summer enrichment programs.
- ❖ Visit the Counselor page on our school's website for important information.
  - [www.hasdhawks.org](http://www.hasdhawks.org)

## The More You Learn, The More You Earn.

Studies show that more education leads to bigger paychecks. So, the more you learn the more you earn. Here are the **average salaries** for American workers based on the amount of education they have attained:

<u>Education Level</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>
Less than high school diploma	\$ 9.47	\$18,000
High school diploma	\$12.50	\$24,000
Some college, no degree	\$14.61	\$28,000
Associate degree	\$15.24	\$30,000
Bachelors degree	\$19.28	\$38,000
Masters degree	\$24.04	\$48,000
Doctoral degree	\$30.00	\$60,000
Professional degree	\$34.98	\$70,000

If you work for forty years, these additional earnings really add up. Just by staying in school and graduating, workers earn an average of \$6,000 more per year, or \$240,000 more in their lifetimes. **That's a quarter-million dollars just for finishing high school.**

Add a two-year Associate Degree and the lifetime earnings jump to \$480,000 more than the high school dropout will earn. Think about it - that's a cool half-million dollars for finishing high school and going to college for just two years.

**PLAY IT SMART.** Do what you need to do to finish high school – dropping out is **NOT** an option. Then think about going to college. **Remember, the more you learn the more you earn.**

## Top 40 Fastest-Growing Careers (www.careerinfonet.org)

#	Occupation	Employment		Percent Change *	Earnings	Training Needed
		2008	2018			
1	<a href="#">Biomedical engineers</a>	16,100	27,600	72%		Bachelor's degree
2	<a href="#">Home health aides</a>	921,700	1,382,600	50%		Short-term on-the-job training
3	<a href="#">Personal and home care aides</a>	817,200	1,193,000	46%		Short-term on-the-job training
4	<a href="#">Financial examiners</a>	27,000	38,100	41%		Bachelor's degree
5	<a href="#">Medical scientists, except epidemiologists</a>	109,400	153,600	40%		Doctoral degree
6	<a href="#">Physician assistants</a>	74,800	103,900	39%		Master's degree
7	<a href="#">Skin care specialists</a>	38,800	53,500	38%		Postsecondary vocational award
8	<a href="#">Biochemists and biophysicists</a>	23,200	31,900	37%		Doctoral degree
9	<a href="#">Athletic trainers</a>	16,400	22,400	37%		Bachelor's degree
10	<a href="#">Physical therapist aides</a>	46,100	62,800	36%		Short-term on-the-job training
11	<a href="#">Dental hygienists</a>	174,100	237,000	36%		Associate degree

#	Occupation	Employment		Percent Change *	Earnings	Training Needed
		2008	2018			
12	<a href="#">Veterinary technologists and technicians</a>	79,600	108,100	36%	\$ \$	Associate degree
13	<a href="#">Dental assistants</a>	295,300	400,900	36%	\$ \$	Moderate-term on-the-job training
14	<a href="#">Computer software engineers, applications</a>	514,800	689,900	34%	\$ \$ \$ \$	Bachelor's degree
15	<a href="#">Medical assistants</a>	483,600	647,500	34%	\$ \$	Moderate-term on-the-job training
16	<a href="#">Physical therapist assistants</a>	63,800	85,100	33%	\$ \$ \$	Associate degree
17	<a href="#">Veterinarians</a>	59,700	79,400	33%	\$ \$ \$ \$	First professional degree
18	<a href="#">Self-enrichment education teachers</a>	253,700	334,900	32%	\$ \$ \$	Work experience in a related occupation
19	<a href="#">Compliance officers, except agriculture, construction, health and safety, and transportation</a>	260,200	341,000	31%	\$ \$ \$	Long-term on-the-job training
20	<a href="#">Occupational therapist aides</a>	7,800	10,200	31%	\$ \$	Short-term on-the-job training
21	<a href="#">Environmental engineers</a>	54,300	70,900	31%	\$ \$ \$ \$	Bachelor's degree
22	<a href="#">Pharmacy technicians</a>	326,300	426,000	31%	\$ \$	Moderate-term on-the-job training
23	<a href="#">Computer software engineers, systems software</a>	394,800	515,000	30%	\$ \$ \$ \$	Bachelor's degree
24	<a href="#">Survey researchers</a>	23,400	30,500	30%	\$ \$ \$	Bachelor's degree
25	<a href="#">Physical therapists</a>	185,500	241,700	30%	\$ \$ \$ \$	Master's degree
26	<a href="#">Personal financial advisors</a>	208,400	271,200	30%	\$ \$ \$ \$	Bachelor's degree
27	<a href="#">Environmental engineering technicians</a>	21,200	27,500	30%	\$ \$ \$	Associate degree
28	<a href="#">Occupational therapist assistants</a>	26,600	34,600	30%	\$ \$ \$	Associate degree
29	<a href="#">Fitness trainers and aerobics instructors</a>	261,200	338,000	29%	\$ \$	Postsecondary vocational award
30	<a href="#">Environmental science and protection technicians, including health</a>	35,100	45,200	29%	\$ \$ \$	Associate degree
31	<a href="#">Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers</a>	308,200	394,800	28%	\$ \$ \$	Postsecondary vocational award
32	<a href="#">Anthropologists and archeologists</a>	5,800	7,400	28%	\$ \$ \$ \$	Master's degree
33	<a href="#">Paralegals and legal assistants</a>	263,800	337,900	28%	\$ \$ \$	Associate degree
34	<a href="#">Market research analysts</a>	249,800	319,900	28%	\$ \$ \$ \$	Bachelor's degree
35	<a href="#">Employment, recruitment, and placement specialists</a>	207,900	265,900	28%	\$ \$ \$	Bachelor's degree
36	<a href="#">Environmental scientists and specialists, including health</a>	85,900	109,800	28%	\$ \$ \$ \$	Master's degree
37	<a href="#">Prosthodontists</a>	500	700	28%	\$ \$ \$ \$	First professional degree
38	<a href="#">Medical equipment repairers</a>	41,400	52,600	27%	\$ \$ \$	Associate degree
39	<a href="#">Radiation therapists</a>	15,200	19,400	27%	\$ \$ \$ \$	Associate degree
40	<a href="#">Cartographers and photogrammetrists</a>	12,300	15,600	27%	\$ \$ \$	Bachelor's degree

## STUDY SKILLS TIPS

1. Find your own quiet place where you can concentrate on your homework.
2. Sit in a comfortable chair (not **too** comfortable, though or you could end up asleep).
3. Avoid distractions like the TV and try to ignore the telephone. Your friends can leave a message!
4. Play quiet background music. It might help you stay focused.
5. Study with a friend or a group of friends. Compare notes and ask each other questions.
6. Know your learning style ([www.educationplanner.com](http://www.educationplanner.com)) and study in a way that best matches it.
7. Take short but frequent breaks.
8. Relate what you're studying to things you already know. This helps you remember information more easily.
9. Start with the most difficult tasks or assignments to focus maximum brainpower on the toughies. Then move on to the easier tasks.
10. Plan to spend **more** time (not less) on the subjects that are harder for you.
11. Focus on the quality of your study time. It's much more important than the quantity.
12. Get into the habit of studying every day.
13. Determine your best study time and plan to study at that time every day.
14. Think of homework as practice, not work. It takes practice to get better at sports or music or cheerleading. School is the same.
15. Ask questions if you're not sure about something. Asking questions is one of the most effective ways we learn!
16. After each study session, try to recall the main points and as many details as possible.
17. Reward yourself when you're done. Plan a fun activity or just relax.

## ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS

1. Use outlines, charts, or flashcards to help you organize and learn new material. You'll be reviewing the material as you make these tools. And, you'll have them to use later when it's time to study for tests.
2. Create a planner to keep track of homework assignments, tests, and projects. Write in your planner every day so it becomes a habit!
3. Organize your notes and homework assignments by subject in separate notebooks and folders.
4. Keep a "To Do" list. Write down things you need to do. Then decide what you need to get done right away and what can wait until later.

## TIME MANAGEMENT SKILLS

1. Plan ahead and stick to a schedule.
2. Decide what you want to accomplish and how long you will spend on each subject or assignment.
3. Break your workload down into manageable chunks.
4. Don't procrastinate (that's a big word that means putting things off).
5. Be aware of things that distract you or waste your time, and keep them to a minimum.

## TEST TAKING SKILLS

1. Ask what type of test you'll be taking (essay, multiple choice, true/ false, matching, etc.). It's likely that test questions will be similar to homework you have done.
2. Don't cram. It's OK to spend extra time studying but don't try to learn **everything** in one night.
3. Get plenty of rest the night before test day.
4. **Don't panic.** If a question is too hard, skip it and come back to it later.

## NOTE TAKING SKILLS

1. Focus on the main ideas. Don't try to write down everything the teacher says.
2. Use your own words.
3. Keep your notes organized. They will be as important as the textbook.
4. Review your notes every day. This will make things easier to remember when it's time to study for the test.

## STRESS MANAGEMENT SKILLS

1. Don't sweat the small stuff. Prioritize your activities and focus on the most important ones.
2. Exercise. It takes your mind off things that are bothering you.
3. Take care of yourself. Eat right and get enough sleep.
4. Avoid drugs and alcohol. They do not reduce stress—they hide it.