

Summer Activities for High School Students

(in no particular order)

Volunteer

Summer is a great time to volunteer in your community. Remember, it's not about gaining volunteer hours, as much as learning more about yourself and the world around you. Visit iusd.libguides.com/communityservice for opportunities.

Take a College Course

Local community college offer summer classes in which high school students can enroll. Again, it's not about getting ahead or enhancing your transcript, but rather enriching your education in areas of study that aren't offered at Uni. Students interested in taking college courses must first speak to their Counselor.

Summer Enrichment Programs

Enrichment programs offer opportunities to gain college credit, experience college life, travel, meet like-minded peers, learn from experts, develop projects, and much more. Focuses could include courses, travel, conferences, or hands-on experience. Be aware, these programs are often very expensive. Visit iusd.libguides.com/summer for a list of programs.

Take an ROP Course

ROP classes allow students to explore specific career paths while gaining course credits. Some courses offer internships or certificates of completion. Visit Mrs. Cookston in the College and Career Center for more information.

Get a Job

Work experience is a great way for you to gain professional skills and earn money. Many students choose to work in the retail or food industries. Summer camps are a good seasonal opportunity. Internships are also an option; however, getting an internship before college is very difficult due to labor laws. Visit iusd.libguides.com/jobs for more information.

Things to Consider:

1. **Begin applying in April.** Many college students get out of school before we do and will get a head start.
2. Don't spend all your time looking online. Rather **go to places nearby and ask about available opportunities.**
3. **Use your network!** Where are your friends working? Your parents? Your parents' friends?

Study for the SAT/ACT

Summer is a great time to study for the SAT or ACT. Note: Prep classes are not always necessary, often overpriced, and shouldn't consume your time. You're better off spending more time developing your passions than studying for exams.

Travel

Summer travel can be an exciting way to expand your awareness of other peoples and cultures. It's also a great chance to develop language skills. In today's global economy, travel experience is becoming increasingly valuable.

Visit Colleges

Walking around campus, sitting in on a class, eating in the cafeteria, sleeping in the dorms, and talking with current students is the best way to determine if a college is a good fit for you or not. Too many students and families don't understand how different colleges can be from one another, and the only way to find out is to go!

Read

The last thing many students want to do in the summer is read. But reading keeps the brain active and enhances writing skills. Writing has been named as the most important skill that employees lack today.

Learn a New Skill

Learning a new skill is always a good choice. Take a community ed course offered by the city or private lessons. Even on the Internet, especially YouTube, you can learn everything from computer programming to unicycling.

Questions? Contact Emily Pennington, (949) 936-7532, emilypennington@iusd.org.