

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

The **CSU System** Universities are:

- Central** Connecticut State University, **New Britain**
- Eastern** Connecticut State University, **Willimantic**
- Southern** Connecticut State University, **New Haven**
- Western** Connecticut State University, **Danbury**



A four-year college degree is becoming more and more important in today's complex world. Functioning in our information-rich society requires the ability to:

- ★ communicate effectively
- ★ think critically
- ★ use technology resources efficiently and appropriately
- ★ solve complex problems
- ★ make informed decisions
- ★ work independently and collaboratively
- ★ maintain high standards of citizenship and respect for others

A college education can prepare you for these challenges. But achieving a college education requires an investment of time and effort. If you are willing to make this investment, the rewards can be great and include:

- ★ expanded job opportunities
- ★ higher earnings
- ★ more job security
- ★ lower unemployment
- ★ greater personal satisfaction

A degree from a Connecticut state university is within your reach, if you work hard and plan ahead.

College Admissions

When admissions officers at CSU universities review your transcripts, they look at:

- ★ courses taken
- ★ grades
- ★ class rank
- ★ extracurricular activities
- ★ SAT and AP scores

CSU universities want students who have challenged themselves by taking classes beyond the requirements (for example, an extra year of math).

Also if you take rigorous courses, including your senior year, you will demonstrate that you are taking your studies seriously and are willing to work hard.

Finally, most people believe that college is much more expensive than it is. The CSU universities are affordable and financial aid is available.

For more information, visit the CSU System website at:

www.ctstateu.edu

9th grade

Strive for top grades and take:

- ★ English
- ★ Algebra I
- ★ History or Geography
- ★ Science
- ★ Foreign Language

Participate in academic enrichment programs and workshops.

Check out **CTMentor** at www.ctmentor.org for information on planning for college admissions and financial aid.

10th grade

Maintain good grades and take:

- ★ English
- ★ Geometry
- ★ Foreign Language
- ★ Science

In October, ask your high school counselor about registering for the **PSAT**.

Visit a CSU university campus and take a tour.

Check out the **CSU** website at www.ctstateu.edu.

11th grade

Good grades are especially important as a junior. Take:

- ★ English
- ★ Algebra II
- ★ U.S. History
- ★ Foreign Language

Check with your high school counselor to make sure you are on track for admission to a **CSU university**. Begin researching **financial aid** programs.

Take the **PSAT** if you didn't in 10th grade. Think about when and how often to take the **SAT**. Sign up for AP exams, if you are taking **AP** courses.

Do a **self-assessment**. Ask yourself, "What do I really want to do with my life? What do I like?"

Visit a CSU campus and attend an Open House.

12th grade

Courses should include:

- ★ English
- ★ Advanced Math

Register to take the **SAT**

In October, begin the **application process** for the CSU universities.

Check with your school counselor about **scholarships**. Use the Internet to search for additional scholarships.

In January, parents should complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid**.

You can find FAFSA information at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

About CSU

CSU is the largest public university system in Connecticut. The four CSU universities have more than 35,000 students and 150,000 alumni. Located in Danbury, New Britain, New Haven and Willimantic, the CSU universities are outstanding teaching universities where students get to know their professors. Together, the universities offer more than 150 graduate and undergraduate academic programs. You can live on campus or commute. Classes are available day and evenings, with some classes available over the Internet through OnlineCSU at www.onlinecsu.ctstateu.edu.

