



CELEBRATE IN NOVEMBER!

There are many ways your school can encourage students to consider the importance of education beyond high school and to excite them about the college planning process.

Incorporate College Application Activities Into The Classroom For Seniors:

English teachers may assign a college application essay as homework. Students can research the essay prompts on commonapp.org.

Civics or Social Studies teachers could lead a college match lesson where students research and identify schools that are a good fit for their academic records and goals.

Math teachers could present a lesson on calculating financial need and repayment options. A critical component of being informed consumers is having an understanding about the cost of college, the financial aid that is available, and the financial consequences of student loans. Investigating average salaries of graduates with their major is another important piece of the research.

Promote College In Your Community:

Marquee, Website, Social Media: Promote your school's participation in "I'm Going to College" month on your marquee, website, and through social media channels.

College T-Shirt/Sweatshirt Day: An easy and fun way to generate some excitement in your school is to host college t-shirt or sweatshirt days during the month. Get everyone involved - students, staff, and administrators!

Door Decorating Contest: Have staff and administrators participate in a door decorating contest focused on the college they graduated from or what college means to them. Students can then vote on which door wins!

College Trivia: Host a college trivia "Question of the Day" and award prizes!

Invite College "Role Models" Into The Classroom:

- Ask high school seniors to speak about the importance of taking challenging courses and planning for education beyond high school.
- Ask college students to share stories about their experiences preparing for and enrolling in college. Make sure to invite students representing diverse paths and college choices.
- Ask members of the local community to discuss how their college experience has shaped their career path and to talk about the qualities employers look for in prospective employees.

Encourage Parent/Guardian Involvement:

- Ask parents/guardians to attend college planning events at your school and to start a conversation with their students about planning and paying for college.
- Suggest that families visit college campuses for admissions tours, an athletic event, musical performances, or a community event.
- Share free resources and emphasize school-based support for first-generation college-bound students.

College Preparation For All Students:

- Encourage students to document their accomplishments, work, and volunteer history to help create a college résumé.
- Encourage students to create an email address appropriate for a college application.
- Encourage students to attend a local college fair.

Helpful Web Resources:

Career Information

bls.gov/oco - The Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook provides information such as outlooks, working conditions, and training and education needed for particular careers.

onetcenter.org - Resource Center created by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. The site is the nation's primary source of occupational information such as career exploration tools, job analysis questionnaires, employer guides, and technical reports.

Financial Aid Forms & Information

fafsa.gov (FAFSA) - File the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), which is required by all colleges and universities that offer federal financial aid.

collegeboard.org (CSS Profile) - File the CSS Profile financial aid form, which is required by certain private postsecondary schools and scholarship programs.

studentloans.gov - Information about the Federal Direct Loan programs available to both students and parents, and also where master promissory notes and entrance counseling for federal loans are completed.

SAT & ACT Help

collegeboard.org - Official website for information about the SAT[®], the PSAT/NMSQT[®], and the Advanced Placement Program[®].

act.org - Official website for students to prepare, register, and access scores for the ACT Test.

fairtest.org - Provides a searchable listing of test-optional schools.

Scholarships and Grants

nhcf.org - New Hampshire Charitable Foundation annually provides \$5 million in private scholarship funds to New Hampshire students.

federalstudentaid.ed.gov/scholarship - Access database of national scholarships.

fastweb.com - National scholarship database which contains information about 1.3 million scholarships worth over \$3 billion.



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