

Summer still may seem far away, but many organizations, museums, and programs start their summer enrollment in March. Now is a great time for you to talk to your student about what they may want to do this summer. There may be a summer camp, program, or class that supports their interests. If your student has spring break in March, it is a great time to visit a college campus nearby or during your spring break travels. Visiting a college or university during spring break is a great way for the whole family to have discussions about colleges and careers.



Conversation Topics

What are you looking forward to doing in the summer?

How can we use springtime to plan for summer activities, jobs, and some fun?

ALL GRADES

- If your student has gotten lower grades or there are issues at school, use information and strategies from your parent/teacher conference these last two months of the semester to help your student get back on the academic and extracurricular track.
- Begin to look at various websites for summer camp and learning activities. The Great Lakes Science Center, Cleveland Metroparks, and Cleveland Museum of Art all have summer programs with registration open in March.

FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE

- Your student may be able to start choosing courses and electives for the next year, so make sure that your student's course load and performance are on track for their potential interests. For example, if they want to be a doctor, discuss what science and math courses they'll be taking.
- Look at the Y.O.U. website (www.youthopportunities.org/syep) to sign up for summer jobs.

JUNIOR

- Discuss your student's college and career interests and, if your student has spring break in March, it might be a great time to schedule college visits or take time over the break to do virtual tours of campuses or attend online events.
- Look at the Y.O.U. website (www.youthopportunities.org/syep) to sign up for summer jobs.
- Explore summer enrichment programs on college campuses. Many applications are due in late February/early March. This is a wonderful way to explore a career field and determine what type of campus is a good fit for your student.

SENIOR

- Most colleges will have notified students of acceptances and provided financial aid letters in March. A few highly selective colleges (such as Ivy League schools including Harvard, Yale, Stanford, etc.) wait until April 1. Support your student with collecting all the information necessary to help make their final decisions about college, career, and/or military programs.
- Start comparing Financial Aid Award letters and determine options to bridge the gap between the cost of attendance and your student's financial aid package.
- Still not sure what school is your senior's best fit? Investigate if the schools your student is considering have any admitted student visit days and sign up to participate.



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