

November is a busy month for students. The school year is well underway. Now is a great time to check on your student's progress, look for areas of improvement or support that are needed, and gauge their interest in out-of-school activities and endeavors.

ALL GRADES

- There may be some winter camps available at local libraries, museums, or sports centers. Take a look at these sites in November to sign up for December camps and events during winter breaks.
- If your student has gotten lower grades or there are issues at school, use information and strategies from your parent/teacher conference during these last two months of the semester to help your student get back on the academic and extracurricular track.

SOPHOMORE

- Follow up with your student and ask them about their PSAT score. Ask them to share their score with their College Now Advisor. If you don't have a College Now Advisor, talk with a school counselor about the score and/or reach out to College Now for additional support or to find a free test prep location.
- The PSAT can be an indicator of how well your student will do on the SAT and ACT. If your student did not score well, reach out to College Now to sign up for an ACT or SAT boot camp to help your student increase their score in the next year.
- Take a look at College Credit Plus or similar programs that may support your student in getting college credit while they're in high school. Students and parents will need to turn in an "intent to participate" form by March 31 in order to participate the next fall. Most districts host workshops in late fall, January, or February that explains the process.
- Explore Career Technical Education (CTE) options for your school. Many CTE programs have open house opportunities in the late fall for sophomores interested in pursuing a specific career path.

NOVEMBER

JUNIOR AND SENIOR

- Begin to support your student with their resume if they don't have one already. If your student has a resume, make sure to update it with any new summer experiences, awards, or volunteer activities.
 - For free resume-writing tips, check out a local library branch, the Tri-C Career Center, or ohiomeansjobs.ohio.gov.

JUNIOR

- Now is a great time to begin making lists of colleges, career technical schools, and/or military options with your student. Begin by talking about what they like to do, their interests, and career goals. Use a tool like Big Future (bigfuture.collegeboard.org/) to start narrowing down locations and what's important for your student.
- During class registration, help your student schedule appropriate, rigorous courses with the school counselor, including Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and College Credit Plus courses. Graduating with higher level courses is important for highly selective schools and the military.

Some retail businesses begin hiring in November for Thanksgiving and winter break holiday hours. Support your student in searching for a part-time job if it will fit into their schedule



SENIOR

- Begin scholarship research with your student. For more information and support, you can reach out to your student's College Now Advisor or visit www.collegenowgc.org.
- Some colleges and universities may require you to fill out the CSS Profile. Sign in at cssprofile.collegeboard.org/ and fill out before financial deadlines in November and December for early decision and early action.

Many colleges and universities use demonstrated interest in admission decisions. Demonstrated interest can include:

- Opening and reading emails (some do check email open rates).
- Responding to invitations for special visit days or programs.
- Attending a visit (either in person or online).
- Meeting with an admission representative when they come to your high school.
- Asking questions via email or phone.

As both a junior and senior, you can use these opportunities to explore and show interest in schools you think would fit your needs.