

SEPTEMBER

School is underway! Please make sure that your student finds the College Now Advisor in their school. You can find your Advisor on our website at www.collegenowgc.org.

If your school does not have a College Now Advisor, you can still meet with an Advisor in our Resource Center for free by calling 216.241.5587 or by texting the word TASSEL to 216.290.0311.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Check in with your student to see how they are doing, as middle school may include more homework, different types of classes, and new friend groups.

ALL HIGH SCHOOL GRADES

- Continue to discuss your student's interests and encourage them to sign up for sports, clubs, and other extracurricular activities.
- Attend all workshops on college and career opportunities offered at your student's school.
- Attend college fairs and any exposure opportunities that may be offered.
- Help your student create a professional email address they can use throughout high school. This email should be used on applications for both colleges and jobs. Remind your student to get in the habit of checking email regularly.

It's never too early to have conversations with your student about their interests and future. At the beginning of the year, take some time to review your student's hobbies and ask them about careers they're interested in for the future. Some prompts for conversation include:

What are some of your interests and hobbies that you may want to explore more during middle school or high school?

What's important to you in a friend? Why?

When you imagine your future, what does it look like to you?

These conversations can help both you and your student understand where they are now and where they'd like to go. Asking each year can also help you see how your student's thinking is evolving.

JUNIOR

- Support your student in taking the ACT or SAT by helping them plan a testing date that works with their schedule. Make sure to reach out to your student's College Now Advisor or contact College Now at 216.241.5587 to enroll in test preparation sessions if your student needs them, or get support for fee waivers if eligible.
- Confirm your student has set up a College Board account at www.collegeboard.org/. Once they have an account, you should be notified of important testing information as well as other webinars about college admissions.

Please remember that if students want to be considered for the National Merit Scholarship, they MUST take the PSAT in the fall of their junior year.

NOTES

SENIOR

- Ensure that your student works with their College Now Advisor or school counselor to gather letters of recommendation from key school staff that know your student well.
- Help your student apply for college, trade schools, and/or military schools. Review the Common Application for colleges and work with your student to make a calendar of application deadlines.
- Think about what you can afford to pay for college or trade school. A Net Price Calculator can help you understand the costs of college. Visit collegecost.ed.gov/net-price or go to each institution's website for their calculators.
- It's never too early to think about scholarships. There may be scholarships for your student based on your student's academic and extracurricular history. Check out the following sites to explore different options:
 - www.collegenowgc.org/find-scholarships/
 - www.scholarships.com/
 - www.scholarshipowl.com/
 - www.niche.com/
 - www.unigo.com/
 - www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx

