

- ... can help their children to earn higher grades in school
- ... have higher rates of homeownership, and voting and volunteerism rates
- ... participate more in the community as shown by higher report higher levels of happiness
- ... find interesting careers that maximize their earning potentials
- ... experience better health
- ... have lower unemployment rates

College graduates ...

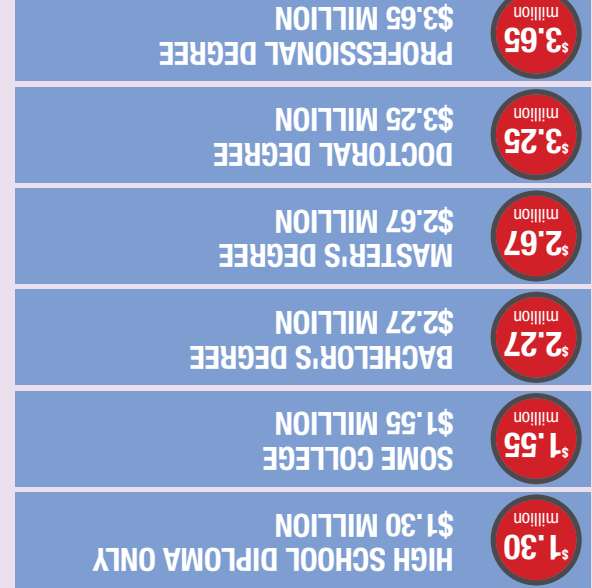
not-going-to-college/ (http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2014/02/11/the-rising-cost-of-going-to-college/)

Pew Research Center, February, 2014, "The Rising Cost of Not Going to College"

Education and The Workforce, Georgetown University. *off: Education, Occupations, Lifetime Earnings*. Center for

Carnavale, A.P., Rose, S.J. and Cheah, B. (2011) *The College Pay-off: Education, Occupations, Lifetime Earnings*. Center for

than high school graduates over their lifetime!



There are many reasons to choose college education as a goal. This chart shows the value of each diploma over a lifetime. These numbers may increase when the candidate is bilingual.

HAVE A GOAL



A COLLEGE ACCESS GUIDE FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS / 7. 6+ (4) 7#. # 40, 45 IN NEW YORK STATE

Many colleges offer virtual online tours so you can get a first impression of whether or not you would fit in that particular college environment. Students should visit a variety of different schools to get a sense of what feels right. Find colleges that have the best academic support resources for English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners (usually in a Learning Center or Writing Lab).

Colleges have different programs, facilities and resources, opportunities, faculty expertise, and financial support options for students. Colleges are evaluated for their graduation, retention, and career placement rates; rates of promotion (the time it takes to earn a degree) and admission to graduate school, and other important factors. Geographic location is an important factor in choosing a college. Are you prepared to live away from home or do you need the everyday support of your family? Can you be comfortable in your college's community? Are there people (students or faculty) who speak your home language or are from your culture? Is there diversity?

Does the college you are considering teach in a way that fits your learning style? Do you learn better in large lecture halls of 200 plus students or in small groups of less than 10 students? Do you learn better with writing assignments, online activities, presentations, or group projects? Colleges have different programs, facilities and resources, opportunities, faculty expertise, and financial support options for students. Colleges are evaluated for their graduation, retention, and career placement rates; rates of promotion (the time it takes to earn a degree) and admission to graduate school, and other important factors. Geographic location is an important factor in choosing a college. Are you prepared to live away from home or do you need the everyday support of your family? Can you be comfortable in your college's community? Are there people (students or faculty) who speak your home language or are from your culture? Is there diversity?

FINDING YOUR BEST FIT

After you've identified your interests and aptitude, you can figure out what college culture is your best fit.

What classes are your favorites? . . . and why?

What are your interests, abilities, aptitudes, likes, and dislikes?

Think about your studies in school and consider what you are most successful at and enjoy doing.

Choose a college that helps you prepare for the future you want. Remember that going to college has to be your decision and your choice. Don't let the influence of television and other media, classmates and friends, family, and teachers push you in another direction. No one else can make this decision for you. Ultimately, you need to be able to live with the choice you make.

PICKING THE RIGHT COLLEGE FOR YOU

PAYING FOR YOUR COLLEGE EDUCATION

The U.S. Department of Education awards about \$150 billion a year in grants, work-study funds, and low-interest loans to more than 15 million students.

Federal and State sources money is available to eligible students through the federal government. Students/families must complete the FAFSA to show financial need.

Institutional (College) each college has their own scholarship application for money that is awarded through the school. Money may be awarded based on academic achievement, talent (athletics, music, etc.), unique student characteristics, etc.

Private Scholarships there are thousands of private scholarships nationwide. Scholarships are awarded for a variety of characteristics in addition to need or academic merit. Look for scholarships for international students or students who speak other languages.

The cost of going to college will affect the colleges to which you will apply. Be sure to ask the right questions:

- What will I pay? What is my net price?
- How will I pay? Will my degree provide enough income and career opportunities to pay back my debt?
- Am I eligible to receive scholarships or grants?
- Am I eligible for federal student aid?
- What is the graduation or completion rate for the institution?
- Will I be able to repay my loans?



Developed by The Bronx Institute at Lehman College of The City University of New York on behalf of The New York State Education Department Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages

To be prepared for college-level work... take challenging coursework in elementary, middle, and high school in English, mathematics, science, social studies, languages, and the arts... find out the subjects you are good at and the subjects for which you might need assistance... learn how to study, take tests, and complete projects effectively... decide what careers interest you and discover what you will need to enter your chosen career

Make a Plan

Learn from your high school guidance counselor how to answer these questions and do research using these free sites: collegecost.ed.gov/scorecard nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator costoflearning.com Collegeboard.com Fastweb.com Scholarships.com usnews.com/rankings

So there is definitely a right college for you out there.

In addition, there are 439 more colleges and universities in the Northeast region—Connecticut (46), Maine (30), Massachusetts (113), New Hampshire (20), New Jersey (44), Pennsylvania (130), Rhode Island (13), and Vermont (23). The U.S. Department of Education counts 4,626 colleges and universities in the United States.

The Council for Independent Colleges and Universities lists 108 private colleges and universities in New York State.

The State University of New York (SUNY) has 64 institutions across New York State, including 10 university centers and institutions granting Doctoral Degrees; 13 university colleges; 8 technology colleges; and 30 community colleges.

The City University of New York (CUNY) has 24 campuses in New York City with 11 senior colleges (4 year), 7 community colleges, the Graduate Center, Graduate School of Journalism, School of Public Health, Law School, and School of Professional Studies.

THE COLLEGES IN NEW YORK STATE AND BEYOND

HOW TO APPLY TO COLLEGE STEP BY STEP

- 1 Meet with [QWT high school guidance counselor as early as 9th grade to discuss college preparedness and then continue to meet with him or her regularly.
- 2 Take the SAT or ACT and do your best.
- 3 Find the colleges/universities that match your goals.
- 4 Get 2-3 recommendation letters from teachers and school counselors.
- 5 Have official copies of your grades and test scores ready to be sent. (If your school's records are not in English, get certified translations of your diploma and transcript.)
- 6 Make sure you know what each college requires to apply and what the deadlines are.
- 7 On your application, fill out the required information: name, address, email, citizenship/visa status, family information, optional section asking for ethnic identity, marital status and other personal information that can help you if you are an international student and/or ethnic minority, educational data, high school, counselor's name and contact information, previous schools attended and college courses you may have taken, SAT and/or ACT test scores (and make sure the colleges/universities receive your official test scores from the testing agencies)
- 8 Provide information on your high school achievements: academic honors, extracurricular activities, volunteer activities, and unique accomplishments. Write about extra programs or classes you have taken as well as jobs you've had to show your dependability and willingness to work hard.
- 9 Often colleges will require two essays or "personal statements"—a short one and a longer one. The Common Application requires an essay of 150 words or less on one of your extracurricular or work activities, and one of 250-500 words. The longer essay may ask that you write about a person who has had a significant influence on you; an important personal, local, national or global event; or what personal qualities you have that add to the college's diversity. Practice writing these essays with writing instructors to present yourself in the best light.
- 10 A student admissions interview may be required.
- 11 Most of all, make sure you stress your bilingualism and the experiences you've had that make you stand out.

ROADMAP

TO COLLEGE

A COLLEGE ACCESS GUIDE FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS/ MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS IN NEW YORK STATE

GRADE LEVEL

ACADEMIC

EXTRACURRICULAR AND WORK

COLLEGE READINESS

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 6**
- Do your best in class, study hard, complete all assignments, and earn good grades (A's and B's).
 - Develop and practice good attendance habits.
 - Develop good study habits and improve your reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills every day in English and in your home language.
 - Take challenging and interesting classes to prepare for high school.
 - Work hard to do well in school and on standardized tests. If you need help, go to a teacher, tutor, or mentor and put in the extra time you need. Join a study group to become a better student.
 - Find ways to use your home or primary language to make connections to new information or vocabulary in English.
 - Reach out to and work with your classroom, bilingual, and ESOL teacher to continue to improve your English and home language.

- Participate in extracurricular activities, volunteer projects, and sports that you enjoy.
- Read books in English and/or in your home language from a summer reading list recommended by teachers.
- Participate in summer programs.
- In addition to hanging out with friends, watching TV, or playing video games, join a club, sports team, performing arts program, or community service group and keep a record of all of your activities. Besides building your own skills, having fun, and helping other people, your efforts to develop personal strengths, leadership skills, and interests will be seen positively by colleges and future employers.
- Clean up your social media image. Remove any embarrassing or frivolous pictures, videos, or comments that might get you disqualified from college acceptance or potential scholarships.

- Think about career opportunities for your future.
- Keep a file of important documents and notes (copies of report cards, lists of awards and honors, lists of volunteer activities, paid work, etc.).
- Speak with your family and with people at school to help them understand your goals and aspirations.
- Get help from your parent, guardian, or school counselor to research high schools or special programs that focus on your areas of interest or school preferences.
- Learn with your parent/guardian about the cost of college and how to finance your education.
- Join school or community-based activities to expand your interests and connect with new people.
- Research, with your parents, scholarships and different financial assistance available.

FRESHMAN/ SOPHOMORE YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL

- 9**
- Work with your school counselor and teachers to review your academic progress and get the extra help you need (identify a tutor, seek homework help, or find an afterschool program to provide academic support).
 - Go over your four-year course plan and choose the classes you need to take next year. Find out about Advanced Placement (AP) classes and make plans for summer activities. Take AP courses in your home language if available.
 - Prepare for the PSAT exam.

- Participate in school or community-based activities to explore your career interests.
- Start your high school resume that lists your awards, honors, paid and volunteer work, and extracurricular activities.
- Make sure you have a productive summer: Work, volunteer, or take a summer course (away or at a local college).
- Establish an "all business" email account to demonstrate your seriousness as a college applicant.

- Ask your school counselor or teachers what career search activities are available at the school. Ask them how you can turn a lifelong interest into a pathway through high school, college, and to a career.
- Let people know that you are interested in working, volunteering, and joining academic afterschool programs, summer workshops, and arts, science, or programming camps.
- Attend college readiness courses and workshops.

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- Meet with your school counselor to review your credit accumulation, grades, and Regents scores to make sure that you are meeting requirements for on-time high school graduation and acceptance into college.
- Prepare for the SAT by taking the PSAT.
- Take opportunities to build on your home language to work towards attaining the Seal of Biliteracy.
- Discuss different graduation pathways with your counselor.

- Start looking for opportunities to take college courses in high school (in addition to AP courses) to reduce the cost of college.
- Don't forget to use your home language as a vehicle to work, volunteer, or get an internship (paid or unpaid) that relates to your college interests.

- Conduct research at the library and online on colleges and careers that are interesting to you.
- Go to fairs and open houses at colleges with your parents. Find college programs such as clubs for high school students.
- Talk to current college students, faculty, and college advisors to learn about college life.

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- Register for and take the PSAT/MMSQT. Meet with your school counselor to discuss your PSAT/MMSQT scores.
- Find out if the PLAN and ACT are offered at your school.
- Prepare for January Regents exams.
- Find and register for an SAT prep course being held in January or February. Plan to take the SAT in May or June.
- If you are enrolled in AP courses continue to prepare for exams to be held in May.
- If you plan to take the May SAT meet with your school counselor with questions about registration.
- Take college entrance exams such as the SAT, SAT subject area tests, and/or the ACT.

- Continue to seek free and low-cost college courses in high school to reduce the cost of college.
- Continue to work, volunteer, or intern in areas that relate to your college interests.
- Familiarize yourself with activities at local community colleges in preparation for college.

- Learn about financial aid and attend a financial aid workshop with your parents.
- Speak with your school counselor about scholarships.
- Attend fall college fairs and continue to research college and career options. Research New York State colleges offering tuition reduction for NYS residents.
- Visit some of the colleges that interest you and try to identify whether you would thrive in a smaller or larger college.
- Remember to relax so you can perform at your peak. Develop a plan and pace yourself in order to be most effective and to reduce stress.

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- Meet regularly with your school counselor to make sure you have the necessary classes for graduation.
- Take the SAT or ACT a second time.
- Increase your vocabulary by using your home language to study root words (especially in Romance languages).
- Work with your ESOL teachers to refine your college essay. In your essay, highlight your strengths, including biliteracy or multiliteracy, persistence and determination, the ability to overcome challenges, and leadership skills.

- Apply to colleges.
- By the end of fall:**
 - Finalize your college list.
 - Send your official test scores to colleges.
 - Finalize and submit all your applications.
- In winter:**
 - Apply for scholarships.
 - Work with your counselor and parents to fill out and submit your FAFSA Jan. 1 - March 2 (the sooner the better).
 - Send thank you notes to everyone who helped you (and stay in touch with them). Work with your teachers to write or review notes.
- By spring:**
 - Get notified by colleges. Send in your deposit by May 1.
 - Finish all your tests.
 - Celebrate.

- Create a calendar to keep track of important dates and deadlines for college applications, financial aid, and scholarships.
- Keep college information together in a file folder.
- Register for your SAT, SAT subject test, ACT exams.
- Review your college application list and begin filling out applications.
- Ask your school counselor about early decision/early action.
- Get two or three letters of recommendation.
- Write first drafts of your essays for college and scholarship applications.
- Find out from your school counselor if you qualify for EOP/HOP support.

HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION AT A GLANCE
These are the minimum courses you must currently take in high school to graduate in New York State:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 credits of English 4 credits of Social Studies 2 in Global History 1 in US History .5 in Government .5 in Economics 3 credits of Math 1 credit of Language Other Than English (LOTE) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 credits of Science 1 in Life Science 1 in Physical Science 1 in Life or Physical Science 1 credit of Visual Arts, Music, Dance, and/or Theater 2 credits of Physical Education .5 credit of Health 3.5 credits in Elective Courses |
|---|---|

VOCABULARY

Extracurricular: Educational activities outside your regular classes.

Advanced Placement (AP): A program that gives you college credit while in high school.

PSAT: Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test prepares you for the SAT.

Internship: A program that provides experience for beginners in a job or career.

Credit Accumulation: The progress you are making toward the number of credits you need to graduate high school.

College Fair: An activity where different colleges send representatives to give information about their schools.

NMSQT: National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test determines how well you qualify for college scholarships.

SAT: Scholastic Assessment Test measures literacy, writing, and problem solving skills to determine how well you will do in college. Colleges use the SAT to judge whether or not to accept you into their school.

ACT: American College Testing exam measures your ability to do well in college in English, mathematics, reading, and science. Colleges use the ACT to judge whether or not to accept you into their school.

PLAN: Preliminary ACT prepares you for the ACT.

EOP/HOP: Education Opportunity Program/Higher Education Opportunity Program provides supportive services and financial aid to New York State residents attending independent colleges and universities in New York State.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): The FAFSA is a form used to apply for student financial aid from the federal and state government, as well as most colleges and universities. The government uses the information from your FAFSA to determine your expected family contribution (EFC). You can file the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Common Application: The Common Application is a college admission application to any of 517 member colleges.

Net Price: The net price or out-of-pocket cost is the bottom line cost of college. It is the difference between the cost of attendance and grants. It is the amount of money you must pay from savings, income, and loans to cover college costs.

FIELDS THAT NEED BILINGUAL WORKERS

Health care
Physician, Specialist, Registered nurse, Paramedic, physician's assistant, home health aide

Hospitality
Concierge, resort manager, hotel manager, desk clerk

Education
Teacher, Bilingual Teacher, ENL Instructor, guidance counselor

Finance
Teller, financial adviser, investment banker, accountant

Transportation
Airline personnel, public relations specialist, media relations officer

Law enforcement
Police officer, investigator, security guard, probation officer, corrections officer

Social services
Family social worker, substance abuse social worker, social work administration

Customer service
Sales clerk, demonstrator, retail store supervisor, computer support specialist, customer service representative

Communication
Translator, public relations specialist, journalist, media relations officer