



K-12 COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE TOOLKIT JANUARY 2018

MICHIGAN
COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK



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for the financial support to produce this toolkit.

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K-12 COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE TOOLKIT

MICHIGAN'S COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE

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MICHIGAN'S COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE

College is Postsecondary Education

ABOUT MCAN

Michigan College Access Network was established in 2010 by a working group of key stakeholders who represented K-12, higher education, youth-serving nonprofits, philanthropy, government, and business. They recognized that in order for Michigan to build and sustain a vibrant economy and strong communities, state and community leaders would need to work together to ensure that every Michigan resident completes a college degree or valuable credential. They determined that a high school diploma is not adequate to compete in the 21st century economy. As a result, Michigan College Access Network was formed as the coordinating body for the state's college access movement.

MISSION AND VISION

The mission of Michigan College Access Network is to increase college readiness, participation, and completion in Michigan, particularly among low-income students, first generation college-going students, and students of color. To this end, the following statements reflect MCAN's vision and values:

COLLEGE IS POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

MCAN uses the term "college" to refer to the attainment of valuable postsecondary credentials beyond high school, including professional/technical certificates and academic degrees.

COLLEGE IS A NECESSITY

Postsecondary education is a prerequisite to success in a knowledge-based economy. Everyone must pursue and complete a postsecondary credential or degree beyond high school.

COLLEGE IS FOR EVERYONE

The postsecondary education attainment rates among low-income students and students of color are significantly lower than those of other students. MCAN is committed to closing these gaps.

COLLEGE IS A PUBLIC GOOD

Postsecondary educational opportunity and attainment are critical to a just and equitable society, strong economy, and healthy communities.

GOAL

The goal of Michigan College Access Network is to increase the percentage of Michigan residents with degrees or postsecondary certificates to 60 percent by the year 2025. In order to help Michigan to reach Goal 2025, MCAN employs a number of strategies including supporting the creation, expansion, and sustainability of high-quality, community-based college access strategic alliances. MCAN also advocates for policy reform that lowers the barriers to college for students, sponsors a number of statewide initiatives focused on increasing college access, delivers professional development to train college access professionals to be highly qualified and effective college advisers, and strengthens like-minded and mission-aligned statewide college access and success initiatives.

HOW TO USE THIS TOOLKIT

The following toolkit provides activities and resources for building a college-going culture in your school district from kindergarten through 12th grade. It is broken down by three sections: elementary, middle and high school so that educators and school counselors can easily scan for age-appropriate activities and resources. Some items are repeated if they are appropriate for all ages.

In an attempt to keep this toolkit manageable and digestible, in some instances, links to activities and resources are provided rather than recreating multi-page templates. In addition, some sources can quickly become outdated so it is our intention to help you find the resource directly.

CREATING A COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE^{1, 2}

A college-going culture exists when the following elements are present on all school campuses, in classrooms and school offices:

COLLEGE TALK

Clear communication about what it takes to get to college

CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

Explicit goals of preparing students for a full range of postsecondary options is clearly defined

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Students have access to information and resources related to college

CURRICULUM

School makes a commitment to provide the instruction necessary for every student to be prepared to meet grade level standards, every year in every classroom

FACULTY INVOLVEMENT

Faculty integrates college information into regular classroom activities

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Family members must have opportunities to gain knowledge about the college planning process

COLLEGE PARTNERSHIPS

College-related activities and academic enrichment programs raise awareness of and aspirations toward college

ARTICULATION

A seamless experience where a college message is communicated from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade

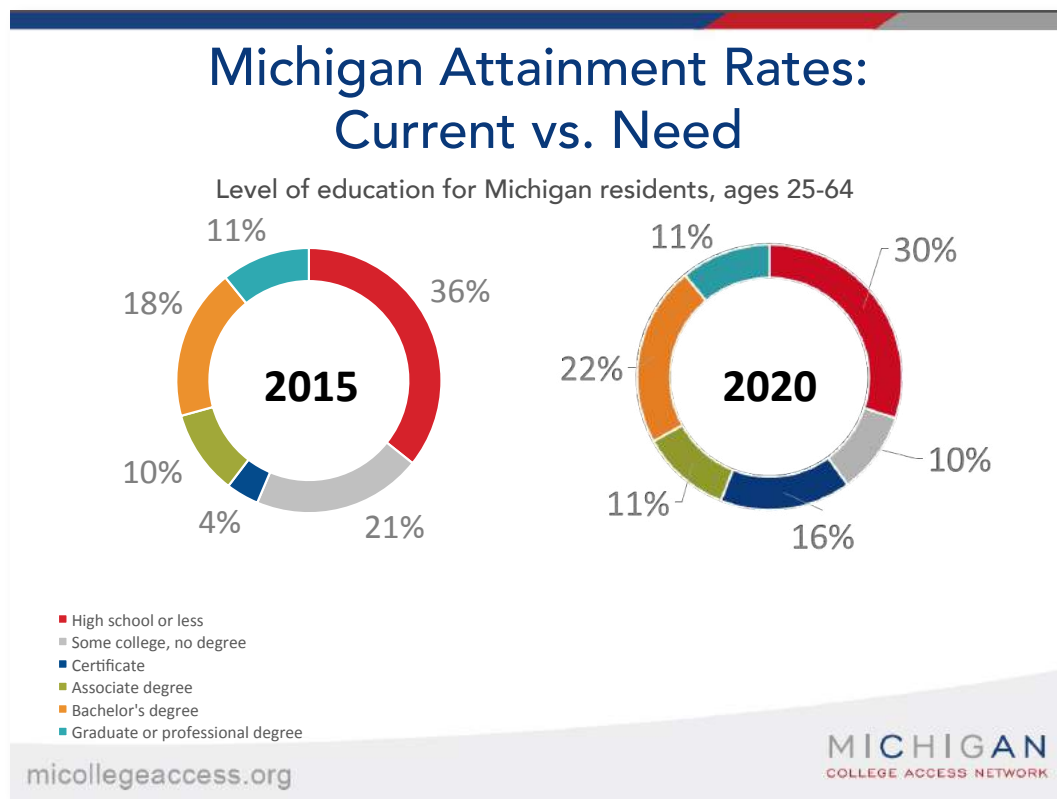
1 McClafferty, K.A., Nunez, A.M., and McDonough, P.M. (2002). *What is a college culture? Facilitating college preparation through organizational change*. Retrieved from https://www.researchgate.net/publication/228692168_What_is_a_college_culture_Facilitating_college_preparation_through_organizational_change

2 Los Angeles Unified School District (2015). *College Awareness Guides*. Retrieved from <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>

MICHIGAN'S COLLEGE LANDSCAPE

Most workforce development and education leaders consider the word “college” to include any type of postsecondary education or formal training beyond high school. The term can include education at traditional universities, technical school programs, community colleges, and many other options that lead to a certificate or degree. All are valid forms of postsecondary “college” education that will help propel Michigan’s workforce and economy in the decades to come.

MCAN’s big goal to reach 60 percent by the year 2015 is part of a larger national movement initiated by Lumina Foundation. Why? “Because our economy is rapidly evolving and increasingly, employers require workers with high-quality postsecondary credentials. According to Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, two-thirds of all jobs created in this decade will require some form of postsecondary education. By the year 2020, 70 percent of the jobs in Michigan will require formal postsecondary education. And yet, only 40 percent of Americans have achieved that level of education. Additionally, Americans with a high-school diploma or less accounted for four out of every five jobs lost in the recent recession.” (Lumina Foundation luminafoundation.org/goal2025)



TYPES OF COLLEGES

The state of Michigan is fortunate in that we have a diverse array of postsecondary education institutions. From certificate-granting programs and associate degrees at technical and community colleges, on up to doctoral programs at prestigious universities, Michigan is a great state in which to pursue higher education.

To better understand the types of colleges available, following is a list provided by the National College Access Network. The list offers descriptions typically used to distinguish types of colleges, though it's important to note that a college may fit into more than one category.

FOUR YEAR

Colleges or universities that issue a Bachelor of Arts or Science Degree upon completion of all required coursework for a major, usually requiring a four-year timeframe. These colleges and universities offer a comprehensive education that will focus on a particular area as well as require general education courses to provide students with a well-rounded curriculum.

TWO YEAR

Colleges that issue an Associate of Arts or Science Degree upon completion of all required coursework for a major, and usually require a two-year timeframe. These colleges often contain the word “community” or “junior” in their name. Two-year colleges also may offer technical programs for which diplomas or certificates will be issued. Diploma and certificate programs usually require a shorter timeframe and often do not require much general education coursework.

PUBLIC

Colleges or universities that receive state-supported subsidies for residents of that state who enroll. Lower tuition costs are often associated with these colleges because the state support can allow the institutions to reduce the fees charged to students.

PRIVATE

Colleges that are self-supporting and receive no direct subsidy from state funding. These colleges often are labeled as “independent” colleges as well. Higher tuition costs are often associated with these colleges based on their self-supporting status.

PROPRIETARY

Colleges that are privately owned and poised to make a financial profit for owners or shareholders. Many of these colleges/schools will offer degrees/diplomas for technical career fields.

VERY SELECTIVE/HIGHLY COMPETITIVE

Colleges or universities that may receive as many as 10-15 applications for each admissions slot available. Applicants will have to demonstrate an extremely strong, rigorous academic record as well as a comprehensive profile of other strengths, achievements, involvements and honors in order to be admitted.

MORE SELECTIVE/COMPETITIVE

Colleges or universities that will receive more applications than they have slots available. Applicants usually will have some combination of high school grades, test scores, class rank, essays, recommendations, activities, honors and achievements reviewed and rated in order to be admitted. Some applicants usually will be denied admission.

LESS SELECTIVE

Colleges or universities that have minimum requirements for admission. All applicants that meet the requirements are usually admitted.

OPEN

Colleges or universities that may require only a high school diploma or GED for admission purposes. Many community colleges fall into this category and may not even require any diploma or GED if they have an alternative entry option. There usually are no minimum academic standards required.

LIBERAL ARTS

Colleges that usually offer a broad base of classes in humanities, social sciences and science. Many liberal arts colleges will be small, private and primarily focus on undergraduate education. Degree programs at liberal arts colleges may often be inter/cross disciplinary.

BIBLE COLLEGES

Colleges whose undergraduate program focuses on a significant amount of Bible study along with some general education coursework. Many of these colleges are preparing students to enter the ministry or other religious occupations.

SPECIAL INTERESTS

College or universities that have a dominant characteristic such as:

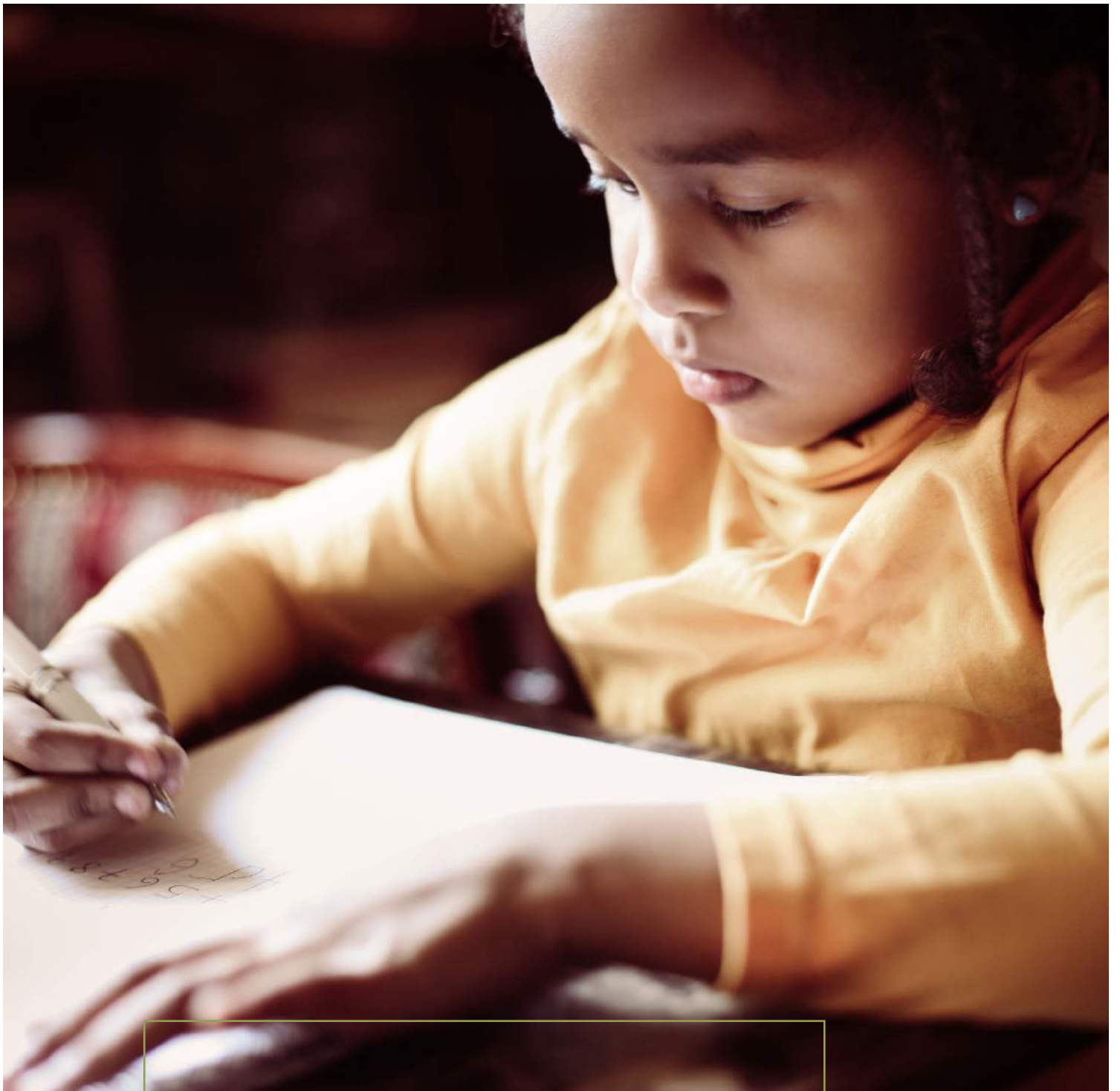
SINGLE-SEX Enrollment restricted to all female or all male students.

HISTORICALLY BLACK Institutions dedicated to serving African-American students. These colleges generally were created at a time when minority students were being denied access to most colleges/universities.

HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS Colleges/universities whose total undergraduate student enrollment consists of at least 25 percent students of Hispanic descent.

TRIBAL Colleges or universities whose enrollments primarily consist of students of Native American descent.

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS Colleges or universities identified with certain religious denominations such as Lutheran, Catholic, Methodist, etc.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

College is for Everyone

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

Following are a few examples of activities that can be used with elementary school age students. Activities have been categorized by college knowledge/aspirations, financial literacy, academic preparation, and career exploration. The activities range in scope. Some are simply ideas to inspire creativity in your building while others have a template to print or links to additional resources to help you execute that particular activity.

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE/ASPIRATIONS

ACTIVITY 1 / ASK ME ABOUT IT!

Provide posters for all teachers and staff to share where they went to college. Encourage faculty and staff to include a photograph of themselves wearing a cap and gown from their graduation ceremony. Display the posters and photos in classrooms and hallways. *Template is available on page 17.*

ACTIVITY 2 / READ ABOUT ROLE MODELS¹

Get and read books about role models the students can relate to; discuss the career paths of the role models and the educational steps it takes to reach those goals. Emphasize how often hard work and determination are the key factors in someone becoming successful, despite their outside circumstances. When possible, do not choose “larger than life” role models (movie stars or sports stars), but research stories of “regular people” that achieved a successful career despite having an under-privileged background. The goal is not to present “fairy tale” situations that seem unattainable or hard to relate to.

ACTIVITY 3 / FLAT STANLEY GOES TO COLLEGE²

A classroom helps Flat Stanley or Flat Stella prepare for college by decorating his/her hoodie and writing a short note. The note includes facts about the elementary school and questions they have about college. Flat Stanley/Stella will visit colleges and universities with a college friend. Pictures can be posted via Instagram, Facebook or other social media platform. The goal is to generate discussion about college. *Template is available on page 18.*

¹ Michigan Campus Compact's College Positive Volunteers Toolkit
<http://micampuscompact.org/what-we-do-2/college-positive-volunteers-cpv/cpv-resources-and-training/>

² Tri-Cities College Access Network and Muskegon Opportunity

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES³

1. **Alma Mater Pride:** Encourage faculty and staff to proudly display their alma mater flags and/or diplomas in classrooms and offices.
ALL GRADES
2. **Career Aspiration Signs:** Take photos of students in a cap and gown with signs of what they want to be when they grow up.
ELEMENTARY
3. **Career Pin Board:** Use magazines, newspapers, or websites to provide visuals and discussion starts for the different types of careers. Reinforce the student's interests by showing pictures or details about the field of interest. Have students create a poster or online pin board about a career of interest.
ALL GRADES
4. **Career Posters:** Research with students what it will take to become successful in a particular field; the goal is to help students become aware of various types of careers and fields and help them to see these are attainable. Each student creates a poster about that particular field or career.
ALL GRADES
5. **College Bookmarks:** Create college bookmarks decorating them with college mascots, logos and facts.
ELEMENTARY
6. **College Chants:** Teach students college chants and perform them together at an assembly.
ALL GRADES
7. **College Day:** Designate a college day during homecoming spirit weeks.
ALL GRADES
8. **College Map:** Design a bulletin board with school staff photographs and a map of where they attended college.
ALL GRADES
9. **College Planning Timeline:** Create a poster demonstrating the expected touch points the school/district will communicate important college planning resources through a student's academic career.
Muskegon Promise example on page 19.
ALL GRADES
10. **Color the College:** Create coloring pages using college logos and share with all elementary school teachers at the beginning of the academic year. Decorate the classroom or hallways with the finished colored pages.
Template available on page 20.
ELEMENTARY
11. **Commitment to My Future:** Design a pledge for students to include actions that will keep them on the path to college.
ALL GRADES
12. **Door-Decorating Contest:** Host a door-decorating contest for classrooms; assign college themes to each door.
ALL GRADES
13. **Family College Night:** Host an informational night for students and families about early ways to prepare for college.
ALL GRADES
14. **Listen and Share:** Actively listen to students and ask questions about their futures; share your process of thinking about a future occupation and picking a college.
ALL GRADES
15. **Mascot Match:** Teachers or mentees read through each school mascot in the state and have the student match an image of the mascot to the college name.
Template available on pages 21 and 22.
ELEMENTARY
16. **Reading Corner:** Read college- and career-related books to students such as "Mahalia Mouse Goes to College" by John Lithgow, "What Do People Do All Day" by Richard Scarry, "Unstoppable Me! 10 Ways to Soar Through Life" by Dr. Wayne Dyer, and "Giant Steps to Change the World" by Spike Lee.
ELEMENTARY
17. **Resume Building:** Create a resume with chores a student does at home and the things the student is good at in and out of school.
My First Resume template on page 23.
ELEMENTARY
18. **Senior Walk:** Host a senior walk/parade where the graduating seniors walk through the elementary school(s) wearing their caps and gowns for the elementary-aged students.
ELEMENTARY
19. **Show Your Pride:** Wear college gear during designated college application days, weeks or months to encourage younger grades to celebrate seniors applying to college.
ALL GRADES
20. **Wall of Fame:** Provide a Wall of Fame with pictures of the previous years graduated seniors. Include facts about which college they are attending, their major(s), and the activities they are involved with.
ALL GRADES

³ Better Make Room College Signing Day Toolkit, Los Angeles Unified School District, Michigan Campus Compact College Positive Volunteers Toolkit, Michigan State University college adviser, Muskegon Opportunity, and VISA's Practical Money Skills

FINANCIAL LITERACY

ACTIVITY 1 / WHAT COSTS MONEY?⁴

This activity can be done as a group, in pairs or individually. In advance, the teacher prepares images of items that cost money (toy truck, attending a college football game, books, etc.) and items that do not cost money (snow, a visit to a college library, leaves, playing at a park, etc.). As a group or in pairs, have the students sort the images into two groups based on which costs money or not. Have a discussion about other items in their lives that costs money.

ACTIVITY 2 / HOW TO EARN MONEY⁴

This activity can be done as a group, in pairs or individually. In advance, the teacher prepares images of chores a student can do to earn money (sweeping, putting dishes away, cleaning bedroom, etc.) and activities a student does for fun (play with dolls, sledding, riding bike, etc.). As a group or in pairs, have the students sort the images into two groups based on which activities can be completed to earn money. Have a discussion about other ways they earn money for completing chores.

⁴ Practical Money Skills
https://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/teach/lesson_plans/pre_k_grade_2

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

ACTIVITY 1 / READ TO SUCCEED⁵

Remind students that fundamental to success in college and life is learning to read with excellent comprehension and learning to read for a variety of purposes. Non-fiction comprises most of the reading for secondary and college classes. Challenge students to select and read a non-fiction book and complete a reading log to document their participation.

Title of Book: _____ Author: _____

Date	Minutes Read	Pages Read	Something I learned	A question I still have

ACTIVITY 2 / PEER DISCUSSION⁶

Gather a small group or class for discussion on how to foster good study habits at home. Students can discuss obstacles that prevent them from studying or completing assignments and assist each other in brainstorming solutions. To ensure a safe environment for struggling students, you might gather typical obstacles that students are facing from private discussions. You can then be the one to introduce these anonymously into the discussion. For example, you might mention that you know sometimes it can be hard to concentrate on your homework when you have younger siblings that “bug” you and ask the group if they have any solutions to this problem. That way, the student(s) with the sibling problem do not have to be singled out or have the courage to speak up, but can still hear possible solutions.

⁵ Los Angeles Unified School District (2015). *College Awareness Guides*. Retrieved from <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>

⁶ Michigan Campus Compact's *College Positive Volunteers Toolkit*
<http://micampuscompact.org/what-we-do-2/college-positive-volunteers-cpv/cpv-resources-and-training/>

CAREER EXPLORATION

ACTIVITY 1 / CAREER BINGO

A fun way to look at different careers with a traditional favorite, BINGO! This lesson plan includes 30 bingo cards, 24 community helper description cards, and bingo markers.

Available at <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Career-Bingo-Career-Game-for-Elementary-Career-Education-Career-Exploration-2176825> for \$4.00.

ACTIVITY 2 / CAREER HEROES - CAREER AWARENESS WORKBOOK⁷

This career awareness workbook was produced by the State of Montana and Montana Department of Labor and Industry. The workbook presents career “heroes” categorized by six different types: Doers, Thinkers, Creators, Helpers, Persuaders, and Organizers. The careers are explained in terms of job feats performed, tools of mastery, and training/education required.

ACTIVITY 3 / CAREERS ARE EVERYWHERE ACTIVITY BOOKLET⁸

This career-related elementary activities workbook introduces children to the world of work and career options through activities like coloring, word search and mazes. Developed by the Labor Market and Career Information department of the Texas Workforce Commission, the workbook objectives include the concept of self-knowledge, development of a basic understanding of interests, likes and dislikes, and how to interact with others. Activities also raise awareness about the relationship between work and learning.

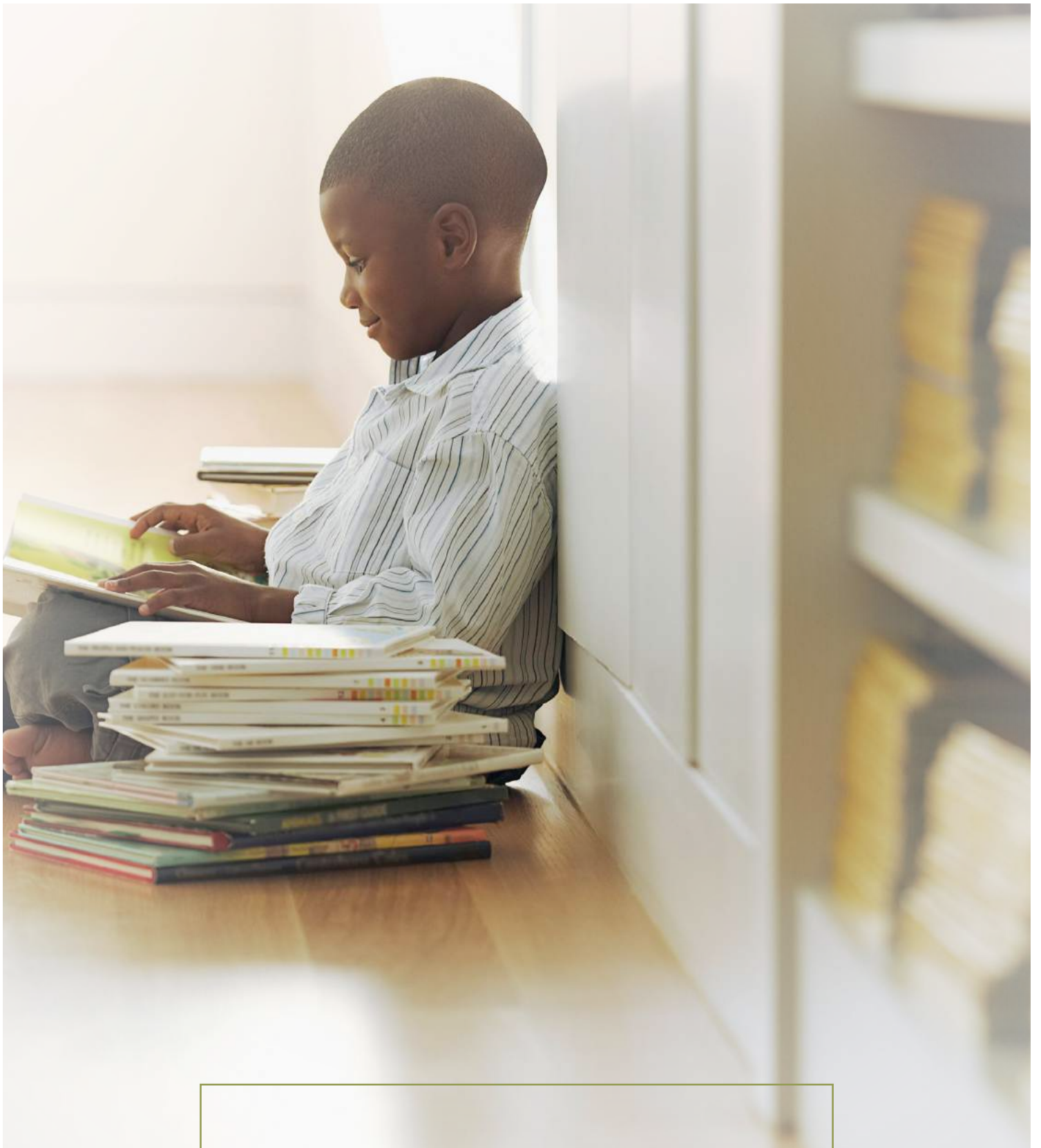
FIND MORE

Career Development and Exploration Resources for K-8
[missouricareereducation.org/doc/sos2012winter/career-k8-resources.pdf](https://www.doeleta.gov/performance/results/AnnualReports/2011_economic_reports/mt_labor_careerguide.pdf)

Missouri Center for Career Education
[missouricareereducation.org/home.php](http://www.lmci.state.tx.us/shared/PDFs/CareerActivitiesBook.pdf)

⁷ Montana Career Resource Network
https://www.doeleta.gov/performance/results/AnnualReports/2011_economic_reports/mt_labor_careerguide.pdf

⁸ Texas Workforce Commission, Labor Market and Career Information Department
<http://www.lmci.state.tx.us/shared/PDFs/CareerActivitiesBook.pdf>



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ACTIVITY TEMPLATES

MICHIGAN

College Month

Hi! I'm

(TEACHER/STAFF MEMBER'S NAME)

I graduated from...

(COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY)

Ask me about it!!

FLAT STANLEY AND FLAT STELLA

ACTIVITY

Each participating classroom/grade will have a Flat Stanley or Flat Stella who is heading off to college. Each participating classroom/grade will help Flat Stanley or Flat Stella prepare for college by decorating his/her hoodie and writing a short note to go along with Flat Stanley or Flat Stella. The note should include facts about their elementary school, what they are learning, and any questions they have about college. (This will serve as a guide for the host college student when he/she posts updates.) Be sure to name your Flat Stanley or Stella with a specific name so you know which is yours.

Flat Stanley will visit colleges and universities with a college friend. Pictures will be posted with an update on Instagram, Facebook or other social media platform for elementary students to learn more about Flat Stanley.

PURPOSE

Students will generate discussion about what they know or do not know about the college Flat Stanley or Flat Stella is going to visit. Students will then learn more about a specific college when Flat Stanley or Flat Stella post pictures and/or updates.

MATERIALS PROVIDED

- Flat Stanley or Flat Stella
- Notecard to write on to your College Friend
- Pre-paid envelop to send Flat Stanley or Flat Stella in

LENGTH OF TIME

This is a 1-month activity. Your Flat Stanley or Stella will visit one college but classrooms will also be able to follow all the Flat Stanleys across the country visiting colleges. (Teachers may determine a larger amount of time.)

CCSS

- L4.1.a-g
- L4.2.a-d
- L4.3.a-c
- W4.4
- SL4.1.b-c



DREAM BIG CAMPAIGN

MUSKEGON AREA
PROMISE
www.muskegonareapromise.org



Brochure



Postcard



Magnet



Sticker



Ruler



Sticker

Fall

12th Grade

11th Grade

10th Grade

9th Grade

8th Grade

7th Grade

6th Grade

5th Grade

4th Grade

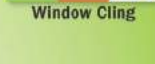
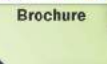
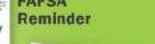
3rd Grade

2nd Grade

1st Grade

Kindergarten

Preschool



Brochure



Pocket Card

Spring



Poster in every classroom



Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/muskegonpromise



Indoor Sign for every school



Real Estate Yard Sign



Outdoor Sign for every school



COLOR THE COLLEGE

Read through each college and their school colors with your mentee and have them color in each of Michigan's 13 public universities.

Central Michigan University

Maroon and Gold

CMU

Eastern Michigan University

Green and White

EMU

Ferris State University

Red and Gold

FSU

Grand Valley State University

Blue, Black and White

GVSU

Lake Superior State University

Blue and Gold

LSSU

Michigan State University

Green and White

MSU

Michigan Technological University

Silver, Gold and Black

MTU

Northern Michigan University

Green and Gold

NMU

Oakland University

Black and Gold

OU

Saginaw Valley State University

Red and Blue

SVSU

University of Michigan

Maize and Blue

UOEM

Wayne State University

Green and Gold

WSU

Western Michigan University

Brown and Gold

WMU



COLLEGE MASCOT MATCH UP

Read through each school and mascot with your mentee and have them draw a line to match Michigan's 13 public universities with their mascots! See the example for number 13!

1. Central Michigan University Chippewas



2. Eastern Michigan University Eagles



3. Ferris State University Bulldogs



4. Grand Valley State University Lakers



5. Michigan State University Spartans



6. Michigan Technological University Huskies



7. Northern Michigan University Wildcats



8. Oakland University Golden Grizzlies



9. University of Michigan Wolverines



10. Saginaw Valley State University Cardinals



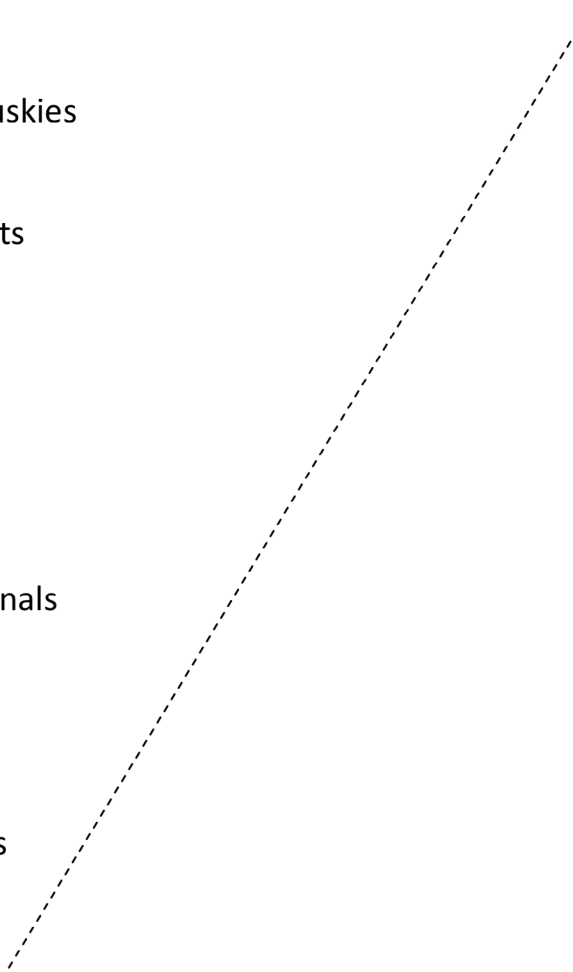
11. Wayne State University Warrior



12. Western Michigan University Broncos

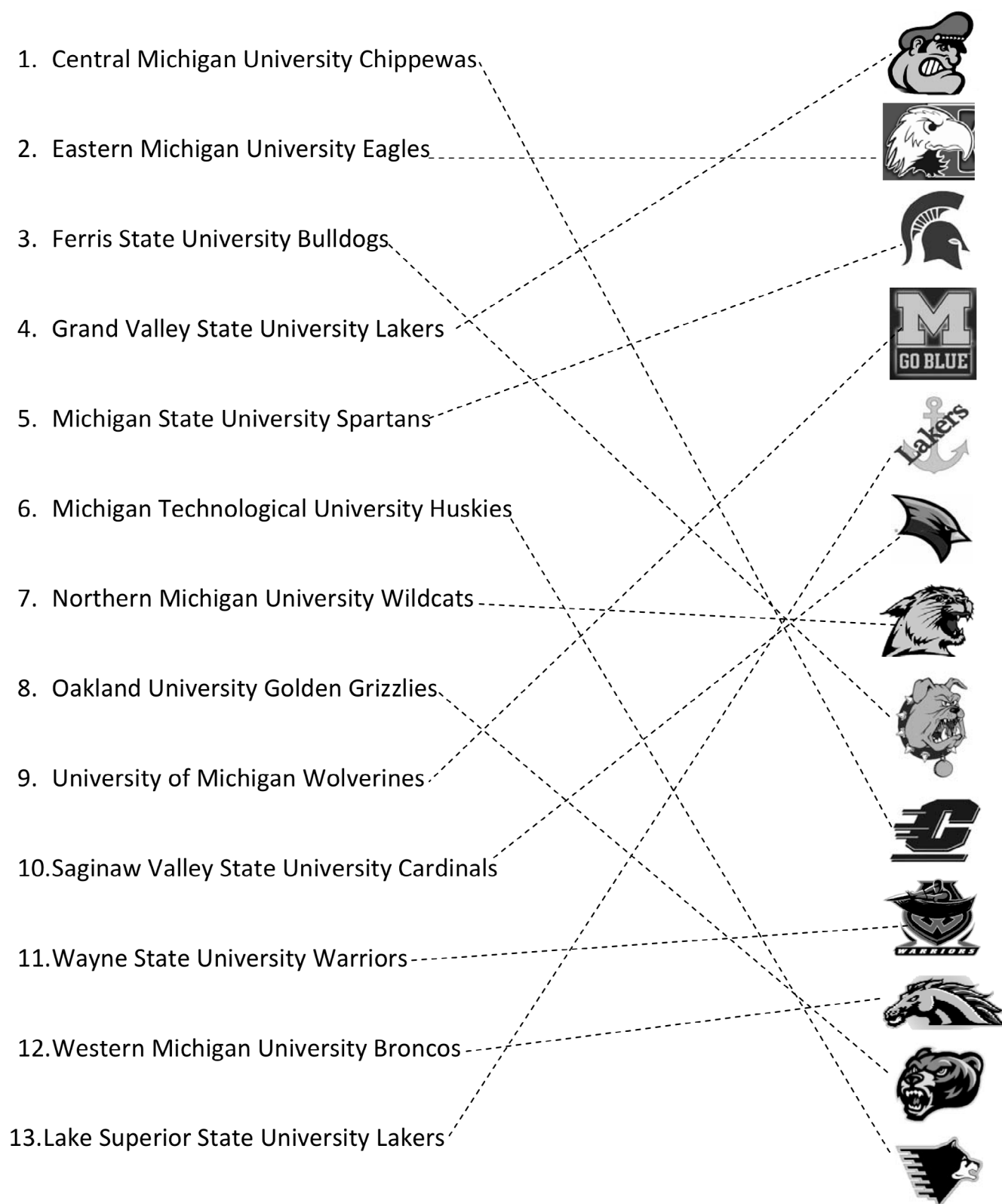


13. Lake Superior State University Lakers



COLLEGE MASCOT MATCH UP

ANSWER KEY





MY FIRST RÉSUMÉ

A résumé is a short summary of a person's work experience and talents. Think about the chores you do at home, and the things you are good at in school or out of school. You can create your first resume by filling in the blanks!

Your Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone number

Position: _____
(A job you might want to have)

Abilities and Talents: (List positive things about yourself and things you are good at. For example, great speller, good friend, good in math, etc.)

★ _____
★ _____
★ _____

★ _____
★ _____
★ _____

Achievements and Awards: (List awards you have received. For example, perfect attendance, Girl Scout or Boy Scout awards and badges, honor role, etc.)

★ _____
★ _____

★ _____
★ _____

Experience: (List jobs you have now and in the past. For example, walking the dog, cleaning your room, helping with dishes, setting the table, watering the plants, etc.)

★ _____
★ _____

★ _____
★ _____

Education: _____
Grade Name of School

References: (List people who will say nice things about you.)

★ _____
★ _____

Adapted from the Texas Workforce Commission Careers are Everywhere Activities Workbook



MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

College is a Public Good

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

Following are a few examples of activities that can be used with middle school age students. Activities have been categorized by college knowledge/aspirations, financial literacy, academic preparation, and career exploration. The activities range in scope. Some are simply ideas to inspire creativity in your building while others have a template to print or links to additional resources to help you execute that particular activity.

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE/ASPIRATIONS

ACTIVITY 1 / ASK ME ABOUT IT!

Provide posters for all teachers and staff to share where they went to college. Encourage faculty and staff to include a photograph of themselves wearing a cap and gown from their graduation ceremony. Display the posters and photos in classrooms and hallways.

Template is available on page 31.

ACTIVITY 2 / COLLEGE-READY ATTRIBUTES¹

Explain to students that the good habits and self-discipline needed for success in college and in careers develop early in life. Have students brainstorm a list of personal attributes and activities that could help someone become college-ready. For example:

- Makes list of things to do
- Follows directions carefully
- Reads every day

ACTIVITY 3 / MARCH MADNESS²

Classrooms fill out bracket information throughout the tournament, following their team/school. When a classroom's team/school loses, it joins the winning team's classroom so that by the championship, half the school will be following each team. Over the course of the tournament, the classrooms research college facts, decorate the classroom and hallways, and wear college gear.

Template is available on page 32.

¹ Los Angeles Unified School District (2015). *College Awareness Guides*. Retrieved from <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>

² Tri-Cities College Access Network and Muskegon Opportunity

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES³

1. **Alma Mater Pride:** Encourage faculty and staff to proudly display their alma mater flags and/or diplomas in classrooms and offices.
ALL GRADES
2. **Bingo:** Create a college bingo card with college-related information about faculty and staff. Encourage students to complete their bingo card during a college day/week/month celebration.
Template available on page 33.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
3. **College Chants:** Teach students college chants and perform them together at an assembly.
ALL GRADES
4. **College Day:** Designate a college day during homecoming spirit weeks.
ALL GRADES
5. **College Exploration Class:** Teach a college exploration class including students researching colleges they are interested in attending.
MIDDLE SCHOOL
6. **College Map:** Design a bulletin board with school staff photographs and a map of where they attended college.
ALL GRADES
7. **College Road Trip:** Take an imaginary road trip. Have students use a map of the city and state to plot out the route to three colleges in the state.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
8. **Commitment to My Future:** Design a pledge for students to include actions that will keep them on the path to college.
ALL GRADES
9. **Door-Decorating Contest:** Host a door-decorating contest for classrooms; assign college themes to each door.
ALL GRADES
10. **Guest Speaker:** Host a college student to speak about their path to college during an assembly.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
11. **Mascot Quiz:** Offer a college mascot quiz in the classroom.
Templates available on pages 34 and 35.
ALL GRADES
12. **Show Your Pride:** Wear college gear during designated college application days, weeks or months to encourage younger grades to celebrate seniors applying to college.
ALL GRADES

³ Better Make Room College Signing Day Toolkit, Harrisonville Bright Futures, Los Angeles Unified School District, Michigan Campus Compact College Positive Volunteers Toolkit, and Muskegon Opportunity

FINANCIAL LITERACY

ACTIVITY 1 / COMPARE AND SHARE

Inform students that buying college textbooks is often expensive, and there are ways to reduce the costs. Have students visit a variety of websites to compare the cost of college textbooks. Sites to visit are Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, Half.com and directly visiting college bookstore websites. This is also a good time to introduce sites like Chegg.com for book rental service.

ACTIVITY 2 / MONEY RESPONSIBILITY SCENARIOS⁴

Money choices are sometimes difficult. Each student selects a card with a scenario. Provide students time to think independently about their response. Ask each student to share their scenario and discuss their decision. You will find that there will be many different opinions on some of these scenarios.

Scenario cards available at [teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Personal-Financial-Literacy-Scenario-Cards-Kinder-First-Income-Spending-1941567](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Personal-Financial-Literacy-Scenario-Cards-Kinder-First-Income-Spending-1941567) for \$4.00.

ACTIVITY 3 / COLLEGE SAVINGS NIGHT

Host a college savings planning night for students and their families to be introduced to saving options. Include presentations on 529 plans, state or local promise scholarships, and traditional savings plans. Invite local banks to host tables for students to open a new savings account.

⁴ Practical Money Skills
www.practicalmoneyskills.com/teach/lesson_plans/grades_3_6 and www.practicalmoneyskills.com/teach/lesson_plans/grades_7_8

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

ACTIVITY 1 / ALPHABETICAL CAREERS OR COLLEGES⁵

Place students into pairs or groups of three. Give the student teams five minutes to make a list of careers and/or colleges beginning with the letter “A” through “Z.” Have teams compare lists and place the listed items into categories. Teams must explain how they choose their categories. Goal is to recognize there are different ways to process information.

ACTIVITY 2 / CAREER BOOK REPORT

Have students complete a book report on a career of their interest. Encourage students to check out books like “A Day in the Life of a...” series by Diane Lindsey Reeves and “Discovering Careers for Your Future” series by Ferguson Publishing. Have each student prepare a presentation to support their book report that includes educational requirements, salary range, and job locations about their selected career.

⁵ Los Angeles Unified School District (2015). *College Awareness Guides*. Retrieved from <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>

PLANNING/CAREER EXPLORATION

ACTIVITY 1 / CAREERS/COLLEGES SPIDER WEB⁶

Place students into pairs or groups of three. Allow each group to select a letter from the alphabet. Challenge students to create a web (or cluster) of careers or colleges that begin with the selected letters. Encourage students to use the dictionary or career resource guides to aid them. Students should be expected to describe or define the careers. Students should also know where the colleges are located.

ACTIVITY 2 / VIRTUAL CAMPUS TOUR⁷

Take students on a virtual tour of campuses of interest. Find out if the school's website offers an online tour or visit campustours.com. You can also check YouTube or other Internet sources for videos like "Campus Cribbs" to give more popular culture-based virtual tours for students if you feel it would be beneficial. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1ci4lgR4io>)

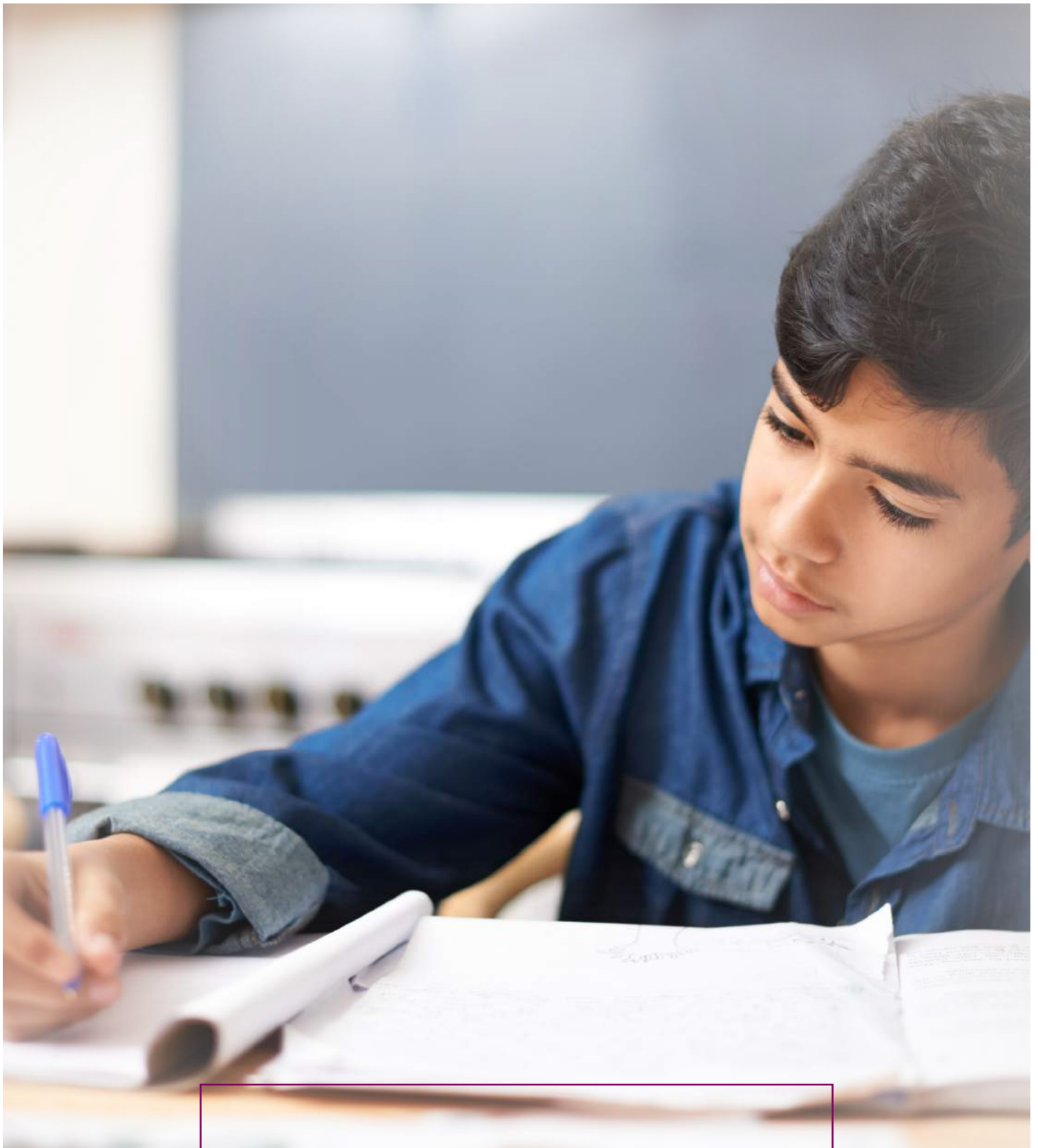
ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES⁸

- Career Exploration:** Ensure school building/district is utilizing a career exploration service such as Xello (formerly named Career Cruising) or Naviance or visit sites like mappingyourfuture.org, pathfinder.mitalent.org, mynextmove.org, and bls.gov/k12 to find out more about general career paths, possible occupations, typical work tasks, required education, and potential wages.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
- Family College Night:** Host an informational night for students and families about early ways to prepare for college.
ALL GRADES
- Job Board Exploration:** Review a job posting site like LinkedIn or Idealist. Have students find a job that interests them and list what he/she will need to know and be able to do to fully qualify for the position.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
- Scavenger Hunt:** Create a college and career scavenger hunt.
Template available on page 36.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

⁶ Los Angeles Unified School District (2015). *College Awareness Guides*. Retrieved from <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>

⁷ Michigan Campus Compact College Positive Volunteers Toolkit

⁸ Access College Foundation, Better Make Room College Signing Day Toolkit, Los Angeles Unified School District, Michigan Association for College Admission Counseling, Tri-Cities College Access Network, Muskegon Area Promise



MIDDLE SCHOOL
ACTIVITY TEMPLATES

MICHIGAN

College Month

Hi! I'm

(TEACHER/STAFF MEMBER'S NAME)

I graduated from...

(COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY)

Ask me about it!!

MARCH MADNESS

MENU OF ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVES

1. Build a college-going culture
2. Build college awareness

WEEK

March Madness games begin as determined by tournament relations. As seen in 2013, March 19, 2013 the games were launched with selection Sunday being held on March 17, 2013.

ACTIVITIES

1. The BRACKET

- a. Classrooms will help fill out bracket information throughout the tournament, following their team/school.
- b. When a classroom's team/school loses, it will join the winning team's classroom so that by the championship, half the school will be following each team.
- c. Beginning with the Sweet 16, classrooms will compete against each other based on rankings of specific topics. Winning teams will receive a STAR (*) next to their name on the bracket for that round. Winning basketball team will advance!

2. College Fact

- a. TCAN will provide a College Info Sheet for each school in the tournament.
- b. Each classroom should design a College Poster using the provided facts and display the College Poster in the hallway.
- c. Additional General College Facts will be provided by TCAN and can be announced throughout the tournament as well.
- d. Beginning with the Sweet 16, Facts of the Day should be displayed on the All-School Bracket.

3. College Door Decorating Contest

- a. Each classroom will be responsible to decorate their door to represent "their team."
- b. See March Madness Calendar for dates of judging!

4. Additional College Decorations in Buildings

- a. Teachers hang signs on their doors about what school they attended (see "I Graduated From" template provided)
- b. Pennants hung around the building (see pennants provided)

5. College Day Attire

- a. Once a week (March 18th – April 2nd) students wear favorite college shirts and/or colors
- b. Students create college buttons to wear throughout the tournament

6. Very Optional: Faculty Basketball Game to Kick-off or some type of Celebrate College to wrap-up



College BINGO Activity

Complete your BINGO card by locating teachers or other school staff members that experienced the following college scenarios or can answer “yes” to the following questions. Be sure to get the individual to sign in the space, and you can only use each person for one space!

B	I	N	G	O
Attended a 4-Year College	Lived at Home While Attending College	Worked Full-Time While Attending College	Is Still Close Friends with His/Her College Roommate	Studied Abroad While in College
Attended a College in Michigan	Went to College on a Scholarship	Changed Majors 2 or More Times	Attended a 2-Year College	Majored in Math
Majored in Science	Attended an Out-of-State College	FREE SPACE	Worked for the School Newspaper, TV Station, or Radio Station in College	Met His/Her Partner in College
Lived on Campus	Is Currently Enrolled in a College Program or Course	Had a Mentor or Other Close Advisor in College	Was President or Leader of a School Club	Has Completed Graduate School
Attended 2 or More Colleges	Wishes They Were Still in College	Ate Ramen Noodles Several Times a Week While in College	Played Sports in College	Took Out Student Loans to Pay for College

College Mascot Quiz

(Michigan Private Colleges & Universities)

Write down the name of the school that matches the mascot:

1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____



9. _____



10. _____



11. _____



12. _____



Choices:

- A. Adrian College
- B. Albion College
- C. Alma College
- D. Aquinas College
- E. Calvin College
- F. Davenport University
- G. Hillsdale College
- H. Hope College
- I. Kettering University
- J. Marygrove College
- K. Northwood University
- L. Olivet College

ANSWERS:

1. G – Hillsdale College
2. L – Olivet College
3. C – Alma College
4. I – Kettering University
5. E – Calvin College
6. F – Davenport University
7. A – Adrian College
8. H – Hope College
9. D – Aquinas College
10. K – Northwood University
11. J – Marygrove College
12. B – Albion College



NAME: _____

TEACHER: _____

College & Career Week Scavenger Hunt, 4th – 8th Grade

For each question, research to find the answer or find a person who fits the description, write their answer & have them sign (if you don't talk to them in person, your parent can sign).

1. Find someone who became a police officer, firefighter or EMT and ask them what kind of training they had to have.
2. What are the two rival colleges that have "Border Wars?" Find someone from both schools and ask them why they chose that school.
3. What school in Kansas City would you attend to become an artist? A chef?
4. What does Missouri S&T stand for?
5. Find someone who has been in the military. What training/education did they receive in the military?
6. Ask three people what their first job was & what training/education they had to have.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
7. What are the names of two Kansas City area colleges?
 - 1.
 - 2.
8. Ask a teacher what college they attended and why they chose that college.
9. What is required to attend college?



HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

College is a Necessity

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

Following are a few examples of activities that can be used with high school age students. Activities have been categorized by college knowledge/aspirations, financial literacy, academic preparation, and career exploration. The activities range in scope. Some are simply ideas to inspire creativity in your building while others have a template to print or links to additional resources to help you execute that particular activity.

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE/ASPIRATIONS

ACTIVITY 1 / ASK ME ABOUT IT!

Provide posters for all teachers and staff to share where they went to college. Encourage faculty and staff to include a photograph of themselves wearing a cap and gown from their graduation ceremony. Display the posters and photos in classrooms and hallways.
Template is available on page 46.

ACTIVITY 2 / COLLEGE-READY ATTRIBUTES¹

Explain to students that the good habits and self-discipline needed for success in college and in careers develop early in life. Have students brainstorm a list of personal attributes and activities that could help someone become college-ready. For example:

- Makes list of things to do
- Follows directions carefully
- Reads every day

ACTIVITY 3 / MARCH MADNESS²

Classrooms fill out bracket information throughout the tournament, following their team/school. When a classroom's team/school loses, it joins the winning team's classroom so that by the championship, half the school will be following each team. Over the course of the tournament, the classrooms research college facts, decorate the classroom and hallways, and wear college gear.

Template is available on page 47.

ACTIVITY 4 / SHOW A VIDEO ON YOUR COLLEGE³

Discuss student life and show a video (use an existing one or create one) of your college or university. If you have time to create your own video, use your friends to help you make it fun. You could also use any videos posted on your college website. Be sure to include on-campus resources for as many types of students as possible. The idea is to highlight the diversity found within your university and what it offers students.

1 Los Angeles Unified School District (2015). *College Awareness Guides*. Retrieved from <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>

2 Tri-Cities College Access Network and Muskegon Opportunity

3 Michigan Campus Compact College Positive Volunteers Toolkit

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES⁴

1. **Alma Mater Pride:** Encourage faculty and staff to proudly display their alma mater flags and/or diplomas in classrooms and offices.
ALL GRADES
2. **Bingo:** Create a college bingo card with college-related information about faculty and staff. Encourage students to complete their bingo card during a college day/week/month celebration.
Template available on page 48.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
3. **College Chants:** Teach students college chants and perform them together at an assembly.
ALL GRADES
4. **College Day:** Designate a college day during homecoming spirit weeks
ALL GRADES
5. **College Map:** Design a bulletin board with school staff photographs and a map of where they attended college.
ALL GRADES
6. **College Jeopardy:** Host a “College Jeopardy” game show during an assembly or during half time of a sporting event.
HIGH SCHOOL
7. **College Row:** Hang college flags in a common area like a hallway, cafeteria, or near the front office.
HIGH SCHOOL
8. **College Word Search:** Create an age-appropriate college word search using terms.
Templates are available on pages 49 and 50.
ALL GRADES
9. **Commitment to My Future:** Design a pledge for students to include actions that will keep them on the path to college.
ALL GRADES
10. **Completion Incentives:** Provide incentives for seniors to complete the steps to college. Anything from candy bars for submitting a college application to a pizza party if a class meets a certain goal (i.e. 85% FAFSA completion).
HIGH SCHOOL
11. **Digital Decision Day:** Announce senior college decisions on social media. Be sure to tag the selected colleges and include a photo of the senior.
HIGH SCHOOL
12. **Door-Decorating Contest:** Host a door-decorating contest for classrooms; assign college themes to each door.
ALL GRADES
13. **Friday Night Lights:** Incorporate college into athletic events, potentially through presentations during half-time, announcing senior player’s college decisions, financial aid information tables, or declaring a game “College Night.”
HIGH SCHOOL
14. **Guest Speaker:** Host a college student to speak about their path to college during an assembly.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
15. **Sample College App:** Complete a sample college application with students their junior year. Review correct grammar and language to use and stress importance of using appropriate email address.
HIGH SCHOOL
16. **Senior Slideshow:** Create a slideshow of seniors and their college decisions to be looped in the cafeteria, televisions in hallways, or at athletic events.
HIGH SCHOOL
17. **Show Your Pride:** Wear college gear during designated college application days, weeks or months to encourage younger grades to celebrate seniors applying to college.
ALL GRADES
18. **Student Photos:** Take photos of students in a cap and gown with signs stating their intended major.
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
19. **Virtual Scavenger Hunt:** Host a scavenger hunt using social media tools like Instagram or Twitter. Take pictures of college-related items hidden around the school or tweet college trivia. Offer a prize for the student(s) who finish first/answer most question correctly.
HIGH SCHOOL

⁴ Access College Foundation, Better Make Room College Signing Day Toolkit, Los Angeles Unified School District, Michigan Association for College Admission Counseling, Tri-Cities College Access Network, Muskegon Area Promise

FINANCIAL LITERACY

ACTIVITY 1 / BOOK STORE AND MORE⁵

Ask faculty, staff and family who are currently attending college to provide a list of required textbooks or work with professors from a near-by college. Tell students to either visit a college bookstore or to go online to determine how much college textbooks costs. Have students determine the average cost for one course, full time and part time, using the data the class collected.

ACTIVITY 2 / GAME OF LIFE

The Game of Life is a game-show style presentation useful to illustrate to high school students modern-day living expenses and how earning power directly correlates with one's level of education. Students are contestants competing to survive in "The Game of Life." Survival entails a contestant's ability to "pay bills" using a month's worth of salary. The envelopes ("wallets") that hold the "money" are inconspicuously labeled (unknown to the student "contestants") according to the level of education they've obtained. Although they may not understand why, some students will begin to realize the "wallets" hold different amounts of money as a few contestants fail to survive the Game of Life. After the game, the host facilitates discussion of WHY higher education is important, then HOW to pursue it.

Presentation prezi.com/t99z3cuhsjg7/the-game-of-life/

Instructions michigancollegeaccessnetwork.box.com/s/elihiq9o7zi2aupc9xbuy1n3cg75rafl

ACTIVITY 3 / COLLEGE FINANCIAL PLANNING/FAFSA NIGHT

Host a college financial planning night for students and their families to be introduced to saving options and to complete the FAFSA. Include presentations on 529 plans, state or local promise scholarships, and traditional savings plans. Invite local banks to host tables for students to open a new savings account. Provide space to complete the FAFSA with school staff and volunteer support. Additionally, consider naming the event "Paying for College" rather than "FAFSA Night," which can sometimes dissuade parents' attendance. If possible, provide food and childcare or youth activities to encourage family attendance.

⁵ Los Angeles Unified School District (2015). *College Awareness Guides*. Retrieved from <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>

PLANNING/MATCH AND FIT

ACTIVITY 1 / CAREERS/COLLEGES SPIDER WEB⁶

Place students into pairs or groups of three. Allow each group to select a letter from the alphabet. Challenge students to create a web (or cluster) of careers or colleges that begin with the selected letters. Encourage students to use the dictionary or career resource guides to aid them. Students should be expected to describe or define the careers. Students should also know where the college are located.

ACTIVITY 2 / VIRTUAL CAMPUS TOUR

Take students on a virtual tour of campuses of interest. Find out if the school's website offers an online tour or visit campustours.com. You can also check YouTube or other Internet sources for videos like "Campus Cribbs" to give more popular culture-based virtual tours for students if you feel it would be beneficial. youtube.com/watch?v=Z1ci4lgR4io

Fast Facts Worksheet is available on page 51.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES⁷

1. **Career Exploration:** Ensure school building/district is utilizing a career exploration service such as Xello (formerly named Career Cruising) or Naviance or visit sites like mappingyourfuture.org, pathfinder.mitalent.org, mynextmove.org, and bls.gov/k12 to find out more about general career paths, possible occupations, typical work tasks, required education, and potential wages.
A Career Interest Profile worksheet is available on pages 52 and 53.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
2. **College Fair:** Organize a student-led college fair.
HIGH SCHOOL
3. **Family College Night:** Host an informational night for students and families about early ways to prepare for college.
ALL GRADES
4. **Field Trip:** Coordinate a college field trip for students and families.
HIGH SCHOOL
5. **Hot Jobs:** Check out the Michigan Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives for Michigan's "Hot 50" list which highlights Michigan occupations that show a favorable mix of long-term job growth, projected annual job openings, and median wages through 2024.
Michigan's "Hot 50" poster available on page 54.
HIGH SCHOOL
6. **Job Board Exploration:** Review a job posting site like LinkedIn or Idealist. Have students find a job that interests them and list what he/she will need to know and be able to do to fully qualify for the position.
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL
7. **Texting Campaign:** Require students (and/or guardians) to sign up for a texting platform like Up Next, CollegeSnapps, Bridgit, or Signal Vine to receive important reminders about the college-going process.
HIGH SCHOOL
8. **Virtual College Visit:** Organize a virtual college visit for campuses that are hard to travel to.
HIGH SCHOOL

⁶ Los Angeles Unified School District (2015). *College Awareness Guides*. Retrieved from <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>

⁷ Better Make Room College Signing Day Toolkit, Los Angeles Unified School District, Michigan Campus Compact College Positive Volunteers Toolkit, Michigan State University college adviser, Muskegon Opportunity, and VISA's Practical Money Skills

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

ACTIVITY 1 / TIME TO READ

Ask staff and family members who are attending college to provide a copy of the syllabus for the courses they are taking, or work with a local professor. Ask students to compare and contrast the syllabi with assignments they have been given. Ask students to draw conclusions about the college workload and the preparation they will need for college.

ACTIVITY 2 / ALPHABETICAL CAREERS OR COLLEGES⁸

Place students into pairs or groups of three. Give the student teams five minutes to make a list of careers and/or colleges beginning with the letter “A” through “Z.” Have teams compare lists and place the listed items into categories. Teams must explain how they choose their categories. Goal is to recognize there are different ways to process information.

⁸ Los Angeles Unified School District (2015). *College Awareness Guides*. Retrieved from <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/308>

SENIOR YEAR

MICHIGAN COLLEGE MONTH

Michigan College Month is part of a national initiative that takes place every October, and aims to provide every high school senior the opportunity to apply to college, and for financial aid. The initiative places special emphasis on assisting first-generation college students, and those who might not otherwise consider applying to college.

Some of the most significant and demanding steps in the college-going process happen during the fall. Schools that participate in Michigan College Month have all of the month of October to plan and implement events that support students as they apply to college and file the FAFSA. The initiative also is helpful to school counselors; by obtaining college-going resources at the beginning of the school year, they are better equipped to support students who may need additional help throughout the college-going process.

Schools that wish to participate in Michigan College Month benefit from training, technical assistance, and resources provided by Michigan College Access Network.

Michigan College Month resources include activities and templates such as:

- Locker poster templates
- Fee Waiver information
- College BINGO activity
- College-going assessment rubric
- College scavenger hunt

Learn more about Michigan College Month at micollegeaccess.org/statewide-initiatives/michigan-college-month.

MICHIGAN COLLEGE DECISION DAY

Once high school seniors have successfully navigated the college application process, Michigan's College Decision Day serves to applaud their efforts and success. The initiative is held on or around May 1, and is Michigan's adaptation of National College Signing Day, a program of former First Lady Michelle Obama housed at Civic Nation. Inspired by the NCAA National Signing Day, the College Decision Day initiative reinforces the idea that excellence in the classroom should be awarded the same accolades as athletic excellence. To this end, College Decision Day events achieve the following:

- recognize students for their postsecondary plans,
- encourage students' decision making,
- support the best match/fit for each student,
- influence younger students to prepare for college, and
- support a college-going culture.

Schools that wish to participate in College Decision Day benefit from training, technical assistance, and resources provided by Michigan College Access Network.

College Decision Day resources include activities and templates such as:

- Ask Me About It poster
- Student questionnaire
- Senior checklist for college-enrollment steps

Learn more about Michigan College Decision Day at micollegeaccess.org/statewide-initiatives/college-decision-day.

ACTIVITY 1 / COLLEGE WALL

Seniors write the names of the colleges to which they have applied on banners or strips of construction paper to hang in a main hallway. Consider transitioning to an “accepted” wall as college acceptance letters come in. Utilize art teachers for additional promotional materials to create a “college-going culture” on the walls of your school.

ACTIVITY 2 / WRITING WORKSHOPS

Coordinate writing workshops for personal statements or essays. English teachers can use tips from Big Future to encourage students to work on admission or scholarship essays.

ACTIVITY 3 / COLLEGE APPLICATION PLAN⁹

Require every senior to complete a College Application Plan. This plan should include the student’s colleges of interest (ranked), application deadlines, essay requirements, GPA requirements and plans to visit that college.

Template available on page 55.

ACTIVITY 4 / FAFSA THERMOMETER

Measure school-wide FAFSA completion progress by hanging a thermometer on the wall and filling it in every couple of weeks as FAFSA completion rates are updated.

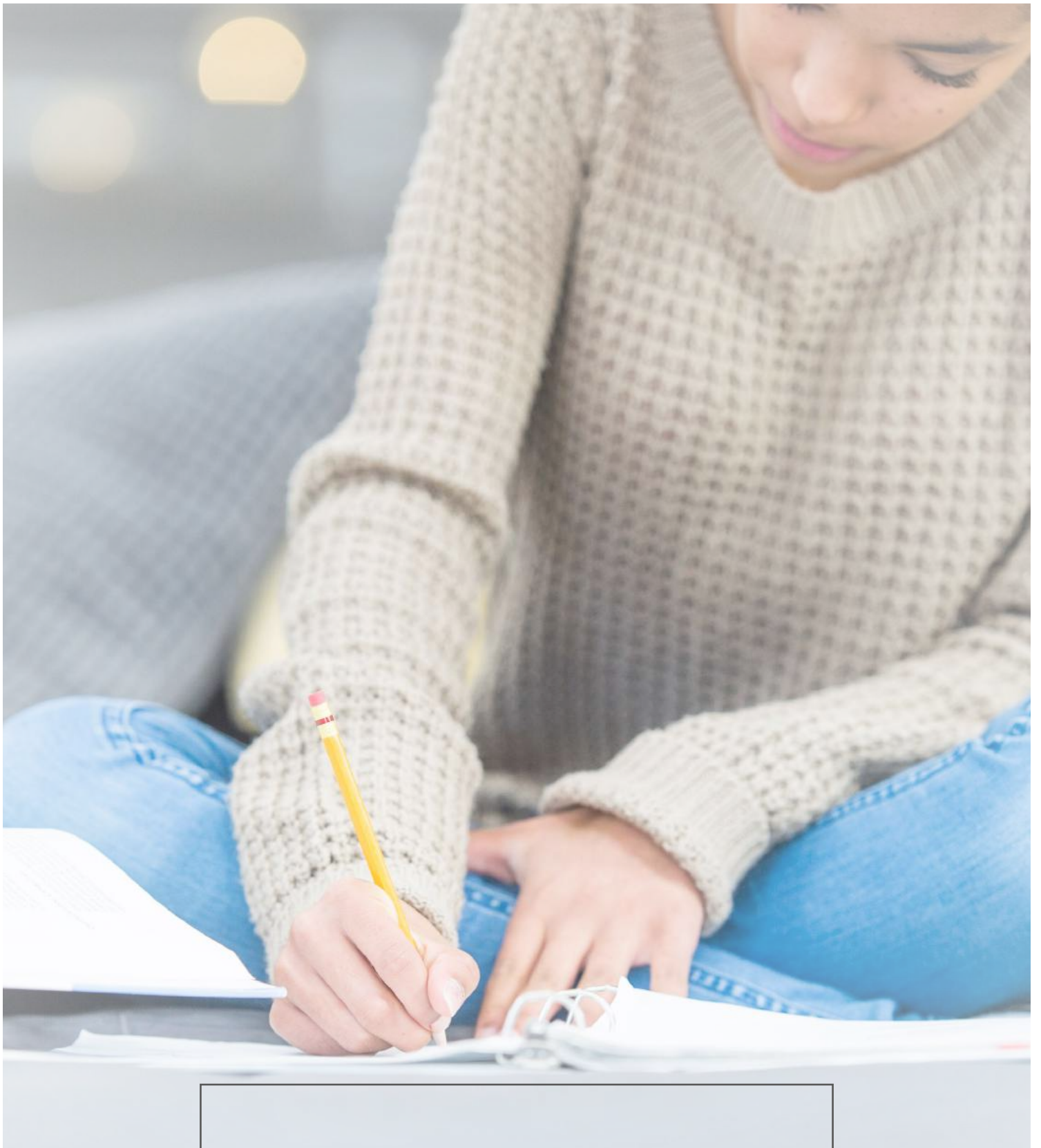
ACTIVITY 5 / SENIOR MOVE-DOWN

If school has assigned seating for school assemblies, turn it into a ceremonial process. The graduation seniors will “move- down” to the gym floor as new graduates while the junior class will “move up” to their new senior seats. This can be done as part of a College Decision Day school assembly.

ACTIVITY 6 / ALUMNI REMIND

Before graduating seniors depart on their last day, encourage them to sign up for a text messaging reminder service such as Remind or Signal Vine. Send alumni messages throughout the year when seeking alumni involvement or to invite back and participate in school activities.

⁹ Grand Rapids Christian High School



HIGH SCHOOL
ACTIVITY TEMPLATES

MICHIGAN

College Month

Hi! I'm

(TEACHER/STAFF MEMBER'S NAME)

I graduated from...

(COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY)

Ask me about it!!

MARCH MADNESS

MENU OF ACTIVITIES

OBJECTIVES

1. Build a college-going culture
2. Build college awareness

WEEK

March Madness games begin as determined by tournament relations. As seen in 2013, March 19, 2013 the games were launched with selection Sunday being held on March 17, 2013.

ACTIVITIES

1. The BRACKET

- a. Classrooms will help fill out bracket information throughout the tournament, following their team/school.
- b. When a classroom's team/school loses, it will join the winning team's classroom so that by the championship, half the school will be following each team.
- c. Beginning with the Sweet 16, classrooms will compete against each other based on rankings of specific topics. Winning teams will receive a STAR (*) next to their name on the bracket for that round. Winning basketball team will advance!

2. College Fact

- a. TCAN will provide a College Info Sheet for each school in the tournament.
- b. Each classroom should design a College Poster using the provided facts and display the College Poster in the hallway.
- c. Additional General College Facts will be provided by TCAN and can be announced throughout the tournament as well.
- d. Beginning with the Sweet 16, Facts of the Day should be displayed on the All-School Bracket.

3. College Door Decorating Contest

- a. Each classroom will be responsible to decorate their door to represent "their team."
- b. See March Madness Calendar for dates of judging!

4. Additional College Decorations in Buildings

- a. Teachers hang signs on their doors about what school they attended (see "I Graduated From" template provided)
- b. Pennants hung around the building (see pennants provided)

5. College Day Attire

- a. Once a week (March 18th – April 2nd) students wear favorite college shirts and/or colors
- b. Students create college buttons to wear throughout the tournament

6. Very Optional: Faculty Basketball Game to Kick-off or some type of Celebrate College to wrap-up



College BINGO Activity

Complete your BINGO card by locating teachers or other school staff members that experienced the following college scenarios or can answer “yes” to the following questions. Be sure to get the individual's signature in the space, and you can only use each person for one space!

B	I	N	G	O
Attended a 4-Year College	Lived at Home While Attending College	Worked Full-Time While Attending College	Is Still Close Friends with His/Her College Roommate	Studied Abroad While in College
Attended a College in Michigan	Went to College on a Scholarship	Changed Majors 2 or More Times	Attended a 2-Year College	Majored in Math
Majored in Science	Attended an Out-of-State College	FREE SPACE	Worked for the School Newspaper, TV Station, or Radio Station in College	Met His/Her Partner in College
Lived on Campus	Is Currently Enrolled in a College Program or Course	Had a Mentor or Other Close Advisor in College	Was President or Leader of a School Club	Has Completed Graduate School
Attended 2 or More Colleges	Wishes They Were Still in College	Ate Ramen Noodles Several Times a Week While in College	Played Sports in College	Took Out Student Loans to Pay for College

What Degree Do You Need?



P	P	O	L	I	C	E	O	F	F	I	C	E	R	T	F	S	C	J	F
H	E	C	J	Z	V	D	Z	I	F	A	N	J	E	O	P	D	O	Q	O
Y	I	D	E	N	I	F	L	S	S	G	A	O	G	G	H	V	L	N	R
S	K	R	T	T	R	B	Y	U	I	M	U	Q	I	G	A	G	L	V	E
I	N	Y	R	E	G	R	L	N	E	L	N	A	S	E	R	J	E	S	N
C	O	G	L	I	E	E	S	U	R	S	C	T	O	M	O	G	C	S	
I	R	G	R	R	N	E	M	L	B	V	M	Z	E	T	A	D	E	H	I
A	F	Y	R	A	R	E	E	R	X	V	Y	O	R	G	C	L	P	O	C
N	O	D	U	C	P	N	A	M	A	Z	M	A	E	E	I	K	R	L	T
A	L	O	R	C	W	H	C	W	I	L	P	I	D	M	S	M	O	R	E
S	K	C	S	O	E	B	I	G	O	H	O	S	N	A	T	T	F	R	C
S	S	T	F	U	S	E	N	C	I	M	B	V	U	S	Q	O	E	S	H
I	T	O	W	N	L	Q	A	C	D	L	M	H	R	O	B	A	S	H	N
S	A	R	G	T	E	I	R	M	X	E	J	O	S	N	T	S	S	I	I
T	T	N	Q	A	Y	F	M	K	H	Z	S	G	E	H	E	B	O	P	C
A	E	U	M	N	A	C	C	E	S	S	O	I	L	Y	C	Y	R	S	I
N	F	S	G	T	N	C	F	D	Q	T	Y	T	G	I	J	Z	V	L	A
T	F	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R	T	E	C	H	N	I	C	I	A	N
I	I	H	F	Q	E	S	H	A	O	A	Y	T	W	I	E	W	Q	S	I
G	U	I	D	A	N	C	E	C	O	U	N	S	E	L	O	R	O	U	A

*Find all twelve occupations in the word search and return to your ACCESS Advisor for a giveaway.

With a 2 year degree (Associate's Degree) you can be a:

- Police Officer
- Registered Nurse
- Forensic Technician

With a 4 year degree (Bachelor's Degree) you can be a:

- Physician Assistant
- Graphic Designer
- Computer Technician

With a 6 year degree (Master's Degree) you can be a(n):

- Guidance Counselor
- Accountant
- Engineer

With an advanced degree (Doctorate) you can be a:

- College Professor
- Doctor
- Pharmacist

Name: _____

Date: _____

Building College Awareness

ADMISSIONS
APPLICATION
BACHELORS
BOOKS
CAREERS
CLASSES
COLLEGE
DIPLOMA
EDUCATION
ESSAY
FINANCIALAID
GOODPROGRAM
GRANTS
HIGHSCHOOL
HOUSING
INSTITUTE
LOANS
REQUIREMENTS
SATSCORE
SCHOLARSHIPS
TRADESCHOOL
TRANSCRIPT
TUITION
UNIVERSITY

Try to find **all 24** words on this board.

U	N	I	V	E	R	S	I	T	Y	A	S	S	E	W
L	O	O	H	C	S	E	D	A	R	T	T	R	S	F
C	D	D	I	P	L	O	M	A	N	Q	N	O	A	G
L	F	C	I	C	A	R	E	E	R	S	A	L	T	J
A	H	X	D	A	Z	M	M	C	C	N	R	E	S	N
S	K	C	O	L	L	E	G	E	I	C	G	H	C	O
S	P	I	H	S	R	A	L	O	H	C	S	C	O	I
E	T	X	H	I	T	P	I	R	C	S	N	A	R	T
S	H	O	U	S	I	N	G	C	S	B	N	B	E	A
L	J	Q	T	U	I	T	I	O	N	K	E	A	W	C
I	E	D	U	C	A	T	I	O	N	A	O	Y	O	I
R	D	I	N	S	T	I	T	U	T	E	N	O	B	L
W	Y	S	N	O	I	S	S	I	M	D	A	I	B	P
E	H	I	G	H	S	C	H	O	O	L	M	W	F	P
Y	U	G	O	O	D	P	R	O	G	R	A	M	T	A

ACCESS
College Foundation



College/University FAST FACTS

School/Location: _____ Date of Visit: _____ PUB PVT Affiliated: _____

Total Undergrad Enrollment: _____ Graduate: _____ M _____% F: _____%

Rep: _____ Minority: _____% AA _____% His _____% Asian _____%

Description of Campus: _____ Dining: _____

Admissions: (EA, ED, Rolling, CA Member, Supplement, Median GPA/ACT, HS Course Requirements, Important Factors on App)

Highlighted majors: (Strong, Unusual, Popular)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Scholarships:

Frats _____ Sororities _____ Greek _____% Study Abroad _____% Calendar _____

Political Climate: Conservative Middle Liberal Participation: Passive Moderate Active

Tuition & Fees _____ Room & Board _____

Cross Apps: _____

Five things to remember:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Notes:

NAME _____

CAREER INTEREST PROFILER ACTIVITY

Directions: After you have completed the inventory, you will have an opportunity to do some career exploration by viewing a list of occupations that fit with your personality.

1. Looking at the results of your Career Interest Profiler, fill in your numbers for each personality type below, and circle your three highest scores:

REALISTIC _____
ARTISTIC _____
ENTERPRISING _____

INVESTIGATIVE _____
SOCIAL _____
CONVENTIONAL _____

2. After reading your profile and personality descriptions, do you agree with the results? Why or why not?

Directions: Click on the box "View Matching Occupation List."

3. List at least 4 careers that match your personality: _____

4. Choose any career from the group of "**Medium**", "**Considerable**", or "**Extensive Preparation**" that you want to research. When you click on the career link to information about the career, be sure that it has "**(find colleges)**" in blue print toward the bottom of that first page. Write the name of the career here:

Then answer the following questions about that career:

5. What is the **Holland Interest Code** for this job? _____

6. List at least 5 **skills and abilities** that you need for this career. A. _____

B. _____ C. _____

D. _____ E. _____

7. Read through the **typical tasks**. Write down 4 that interest you.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

8. What are the **Most Important Knowledge Areas**? _____

9. Now look at the **Most Common Work Activities**. Find 3 things you would enjoy.

A. _____ B. _____

C. _____

10. What would your **AVERAGE salary** be if you work in Michigan? _____

Name of the state with higher/highest salary and amount _____

Name of the state with lower/lowest salary and amount _____

11. What surprised you while you were reading information about the career? _____

Now you will have a chance to research some information about a college that might prepare you for the above career.

12. Under the Overview tab, click on the “(find colleges)” in blue print and click on a college that

you are interested in. Under the **General Info**, what **type** of college is it? _____

How many students are **enrolled**? _____

What is the **surrounding campus**? _____

13. Under the **Admissions** information, do you have to take the **ACT** test? _____

What is the average **GPA** of students who get into this college? _____

14. Look at **Financial Aid**. Is **Out-Of-state-Tuition** the same as **In-State-Tuition**? _____

What does it cost for **Out-of-State-Tuition**? _____

EXTRA CREDIT: Why is out-of-state-tuition at public universities more costly than in-state-tuition?

15. In Student Life, list 2 activities that might interest you. A. _____

B. _____

16. What surprised you when you were looking at information about the college? _____



Rick Snyder
Governor

MICHIGAN'S HOT 50

HIGH-DEMAND HIGH-WAGE CAREERS



MICHIGAN'S HOT 50

TOMORROW'S HIGH-DEMAND HIGH-WAGE CAREERS

Job Outlook Through 2024

Michigan's Demand Occupations	Projected Annual Job Openings	Hourly Wage Range	Percent Job Growth 2014-2024	Education and Training Beyond High School
Accountants and Auditors	1,190	\$24 - \$40	13.6%	Bachelor's degree, license
Architectural and Engineering Managers	436	\$47 - \$70	10.5%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience, license
Civil Engineers	262	\$29 - \$40	12.0%	Bachelor's degree, license
Commercial and Industrial Designers	196	\$31 - \$45	10.2%	Bachelor's degree, license
Computer and Information Systems Managers	262	\$42 - \$63	16.6%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Computer Systems Analysts	513	\$30 - \$51	22.6%	Bachelor's degree
Computer User Support Specialists	601	\$17 - \$29	14.3%	Some college, no degree
Database Administrators	104	\$31 - \$50	14.0%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	227	\$31 - \$64	10.2%	Master's degree, plus work experience
Electrical Engineers	276	\$33 - \$49	9.0%	Bachelor's degree, license
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	195	\$29 - \$41	10.0%	Long-term OJT
Electricians	662	\$21 - \$34	14.1%	Apprenticeship, license
Financial Analysts	190	\$28 - \$46	10.4%	Bachelor's degree
Financial Managers	446	\$37 - \$66	8.9%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
General and Operations Managers	2,169	\$30 - \$67	9.4%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Healthcare Social Workers	247	\$20 - \$31	14.8%	Master's degree, license
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	231	\$17 - \$27	15.6%	Postsecondary nondegree award, plus long-term OJT, license
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,966	\$16 - \$23	11.8%	Postsecondary nondegree award, plus short-term OJT, license
Human Resources Managers	154	\$34 - \$59	10.5%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Industrial Engineers	967	\$33 - \$50	13.5%	Bachelor's degree, license
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	752	\$19 - \$30	27.1%	Long-term OJT
Industrial Production Managers	410	\$39 - \$62	8.0%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Insurance Sales Agents	664	\$17 - \$37	11.4%	Moderate-term OJT, license
Lawyers	395	\$33 - \$63	7.4%	Doctoral or professional degree, license
Loan Officers	241	\$18 - \$33	11.2%	Bachelor's degree, plus moderate-term OJT, license
Machinists	1,279	\$15 - \$24	19.0%	Long-term OJT
Management Analysts	484	\$29 - \$49	14.2%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	405	\$21 - \$42	21.6%	Bachelor's degree
Marketing Managers	139	\$37 - \$72	12.8%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Mechanical Engineering Technicians	178	\$22 - \$35	13.1%	Associate's degree
Mechanical Engineers	1,994	\$34 - \$52	18.1%	Bachelor's degree, license
Medical and Health Services Managers	440	\$33 - \$55	9.9%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Milwrights	118	\$25 - \$36	20.1%	Apprenticeship
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	222	\$26 - \$43	9.4%	Bachelor's degree
Nurse Practitioners	136	\$40 - \$51	23.5%	Master's degree, license
Occupational Therapists	166	\$29 - \$40	16.3%	Master's degree, license
Operations Research Analysts	106	\$31 - \$49	35.7%	Bachelor's degree
Personal Financial Advisors	339	\$24 - \$59	26.6%	Bachelor's degree, plus long-term OJT, license
Physical Therapist Assistants	213	\$18 - \$27	28.6%	Associate's degree, license
Physical Therapists	422	\$33 - \$46	21.9%	Doctoral or professional degree, license
Physician Assistants	158	\$39 - \$56	19.4%	Master's degree, license
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	439	\$58 - \$100+	7.8%	Doctoral or professional degree, plus residency, license
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	279	\$19 - \$36	11.4%	Apprenticeship, license
Registered Nurses	3,372	\$27 - \$37	12.4%	Bachelor's degree, license
Sales Managers	334	\$39 - \$73	7.7%	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Sales Representatives, Except Technical and Scientific Products	1,555	\$18 - \$39	7.9%	Moderate-term OJT, training
Sales Representatives, Technical and Scientific Products	240	\$27 - \$52	8.8%	Bachelor's degree, plus moderate-term OJT
Software Developers, Applications	541	\$31 - \$51	20.0%	Bachelor's degree
Software Developers, Systems Software	428	\$34 - \$51	19.5%	Bachelor's degree
Web Developers	108	\$22 - \$37	24.7%	Associate's degree

Note: This list includes occupations that show a foreseeable rate of projected long-term job growth, projected annual job openings, and median wages. It does not necessarily reflect current hiring demand. Hourly wage range represent the 25th to 75th percentile.

Source: DTMB, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives
www.michigan.gov/mi



Grand Rapids Christian High School

Application Plan for _____

(Print Name)

Teacher(s) Writing Letters for me:

1. _____
2. _____

Seniors: You must have your **Counselor and Parent** sign off on this form between August 22 and Sept. 30. (No letters will be written for ED/EA/REA Application Deadlines if this plan is approved after Sept. 30.)

College or University (in order of preference)	Common App? Y or N	Applying Rolling, Regular, REA, EA or ED?	Application Deadline	Essay or Supplement Required?	\$ App Fee \$ OR Fee Waiver?	# of teacher recs required	Test Scores Sent? If not, Date I (myself) will send them:	Requires CSS Profile?	Date I will visit campus:

- ☐ I have updated my Junior Brag Sheet in Family Connection
- ☐ I have added all these schools to "colleges I'm applying to" in my Family Connection account
- ☐ I understand that all Transcripts and Teacher Letters must be requested through my Family Connection account
- ☐ **(ONLY if applying to Common App Schools)** I have completed the Common App Account Matching in Family Connection

Student Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Counselor Signature: _____ Date: _____



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

The following are nonprofits and campaigns committed to improving college access and success. Each provides its own set of resources and support for their content area of expertise. With each organization and campaign description, we've included the age recommendation, topic and if it is a resource to use long-term or at a specific point of the college-going process.

ACT PROFILE

AGE RECOMMENDATION Middle and High School

TOPIC College Readiness and Academic Preparation

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

ACT Profile is a first-of-its-kind college and career planning community, built on 30+ years of ACT research. Mobile, social and free to the public, ACT Profile delivers powerful, personalized insights to inform individuals as they navigate through life's key decision points.

act.org/profile

AMERICAN COLLEGE APPLICATION CAMPAIGN

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC College Application, Match and Fit

WHEN TO USE Fall of senior year (September-November)

The American College Application Campaign (ACAC) is a national effort to increase the number of first generation students and students from low-income families pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential. The primary purpose of this effort is to help high school seniors navigate the complex college admissions process and ensure they apply to at least one postsecondary institution. The effort occurs during the school day, with a focus on students who might not otherwise apply to college.

Download the host site coordinator materials at acenet.edu/news-room/Pages/ACAC-Resources.aspx

BETTER MAKE ROOM

AGE RECOMMENDATION Elementary, Middle, High School

TOPIC College-Going Culture, Awareness and Aspirations

WHEN TO USE Spring (March-June)

Better Make Room, a campaign of Civic Nation, provides a comprehensive College Signing Day Toolkit that includes how to get involved with the national campaign, ideas to celebrate in elementary and middle schools, an event guide, a sponsor ask letter, social post guide including graphics and professional hashtag signs, and a store to purchase #CollegeSigningDay gear.

Download the templates at bettermakeroom.org/college-signing-day/

BIG FUTURE

AGE RECOMMENDATION Middle and High School

TOPIC Match and Fit; Paying for College, Career Exploration

WHEN TO USE Long-term; multi-year

A free college planning site provided by the College Board with a step-by-step approach to help students find, afford and enroll in a college that's right for them. There are simple ways to get started throughout the site, so that all students can have a college planning experience that is engaging, personal and helps them stay on track.

bigfuture.collegeboard.org

COLLEGE GREENLIGHT

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC College Readiness and Academic Preparation

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

College Greenlight is a free online resource that addresses the needs of first generation and underrepresented students. They provide support to high schools, community-based organizations, parents, and seniors throughout the college search and admissions process.

collegegreenlight.com

COLLEGE RAPTOR

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC College Readiness and Academic Preparation

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

College Raptor is a great way for high school families to find college matches, discover colleges that may offer them the best financial aid and simplify the college search process – all for FREE.

collegeraptor.com

COMMON APP READY

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC College Application

WHEN TO USE Summer and Fall

Common Application offers the Common App Ready Toolkit, a comprehensive training resource for counselors and college advisers. It is designed to be a powerful, flexible, advising tool to be used at the pace and needs of each school community. Resources are also available in Spanish.

commonapp.org/ready

DOLLARS FOR COLLEGE: A STUDENT FINANCIAL PLANNING TOOLKIT

AGE RECOMMENDATION Elementary, Middle, and High School

TOPIC Financial Planning

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

This toolkit breaks down the confusing parts of the financial aid process and gives students the most important information they need at each grade level. In five comprehensive and easy-to-use chapters, plus an additional chapter for parents and caregivers, students discover resources, answers to tough questions they might be afraid to ask and clear steps that will put students on an affordable path toward college.

americaspromise.org/sites/default/files/d8/Dollars%20for%20College.pdf

EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Special Populations; Paying for College

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

To ensure that homeless children and youth in Michigan have access to a free and appropriate public school education, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Subtitle VII-B) of 2002, part of No Child Left Behind, requires the Department of Education to implement several items. As a response, the state has designated Homeless Education Liaisons in every district. These individuals are key for students to complete necessary paperwork, especially around financial aid and FAFSA.

michigan.gov/homeless

FORM YOUR FUTURE

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Paying for College

WHEN TO USE Junior and Senior year

Nearly all students would receive money for college, if they applied for it. The “Form Your Future” campaign urges young people to claim what is theirs and achieve their educational dreams by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The Form Your Future Campaign is specifically focused on assisting low-income, minority students who would be the first in their family to attend college. They are less likely to apply for financial aid, even though they could benefit from it most. Nationally, only 45 percent of high school seniors complete the FAFSA before high school graduation.

formyourfuture.org

GOING TO COLLEGE

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Special Populations; Match and Fit; Paying for College; Career Exploration

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

A web-based resource for teens with disabilities. This website contains information about living college life with a disability. It's designed for high school students and provides video clips, activities, and additional resources that can help you get a head start in planning for college.

going-to-college.org

GOODCALL

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Paying for College

WHEN TO USE Senior year

GoodCall integrates data and technology to make finding scholarships easier for students and their families. The site is free and open – no fee or account sign-up required. View thousands of scholarships, filter results by specific requirements, and even search by competition level and entry difficulty.

goodcall.com/scholarships

I'M FIRST! GUIDE TO COLLEGE

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Special Populations; Match and Fit; Awareness and Aspirations

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

The I'm First Guide to College (formerly the College Access & Opportunity Guide), provided by the Center for Student Opportunity, is a unique college guidebook designed to help first-generation college students make their college dreams a reality. The 2017 Edition features 179 profiles of college and universities committed to serving first generation college students, an interactive college planning and preparation curriculum for students, teachers, and counselors, and a section for parents and mentors.

store.imfirst.org/products/im-first-guide-to-college

I'M FIRST! WEBSITE

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Special Populations; Match and Fit; Awareness and Aspirations

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

An online community celebrating first-generation college students and supporting those who will be. Hear inspiring stories and share your own, discover colleges that care about first-generation students, find answers to your questions about college, and receive guidance on the road to and through college.

imfirst.org

KHAN ACADEMY

AGE RECOMMENDATION Elementary, Middle, High School

TOPIC College Readiness and Academic Preparation; Paying for College

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

Khan Academy is a “personalized learning resource for all ages,” offering web-based practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard for students; while empowering academic coaches on how best to assist their students or children. The creators of the SAT have given Khan Academy exclusive access and advice to build a personalized practice program for anyone, anywhere. Learners study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom – all provided at no cost.

khanacademy.org

MICHIGAN FUTURE SCHOOLS COLLEGE SUCCESS E-BOOK

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Academic Preparation, College Readiness

WHEN TO USE Freshmen – senior year

Michigan Future Schools (MFS) was established in 2009 as a high school accelerator by Michigan Future, Inc. MFS has released its research in a series of e-books including the College Success e-book. The e-books are written with the intent to provide resources for building high-quality central offices to change the educational landscape.

[michiganfuture.org/cms/assets/uploads/2016/09/
College-Success-eBook-2.0-20160607.pdf](https://michiganfuture.org/cms/assets/uploads/2016/09/College-Success-eBook-2.0-20160607.pdf)

NATIONAL COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK ADVISOR TOOLBOX

AGE RECOMMENDATION Middle and High School

TOPIC Early Awareness, Financial Aid, College Awareness and Application Process, Persistence and Completion

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

NCAN has gathered the tools and resources useful to college access professional who not only are helping seniors, but also the youngest of their students. The provided resources can be implemented at a school, district or community level to implement large-scale early awareness strategies in their area.

collegeaccess.org/Advisor_Toolbox

NATIONAL OFFICE FOR SCHOOL COUNSELOR ADVOCACY COUNSELOR GUIDES

AGE RECOMMENDATION Elementary, Middle and High School

TOPIC College and Career Readiness

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

NOSCA has developed an Eight Components of College and Career Readiness Counseling series helps school counselors intentionally focus their work on college and career readiness counseling. The three guides illustrate how school counselors can use the Eight Components to establish a college-going culture across the K-12 pipeline, promote college and career readiness for all students, and close gaps between low-performing or traditionally underrepresented students and their peers.

High School

secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/nosca/11b-4151_HS_Counselor_Guide_web.pdf

Middle School

secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/advocacy/nosca/11b-4382_MS_Counselor_Guide_WEB_120213.pdf

Elementary School

secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/advocacy/nosca/11b-4383_ES_Counselor_Guide_WEB_120213.pdf

PURE MICHIGAN TALENT CONNECT

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Career Exploration

WHEN TO USE Senior year; post-high school

Pure Michigan Talent Connect – a collaborative effort of the State of Michigan’s Workforce Development Agency (WDA) with the Talent Investment Agency (TIA) and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) – is your launch pad for new jobs, careers and talent. It is an online marketplace connecting Michigan’s job seekers and employers, and serves as a central hub linking all public and private stakeholders who support Michigan’s workforce. New in 2017, Pure Michigan Talent Connect launched Pathfinder, an online web portal to assist students as they navigate the path to college and career.

mitalent.org

pathfinder.mitalent.org

THINK COLLEGE

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Special Populations; Match and Fit

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

Doors in colleges are opening for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities in many different ways all over the country. This website is designed to share what is currently going on, provide resources and strategies, let you know about training events, and give you ways to talk to others. The information is for transition-aged students as well as adults attending or planning for college. It provides resources and tools for students, families, and professionals.

thinkcollege.net

TEXT MESSAGING APPLICATIONS

AGE RECOMMENDATION High School

TOPIC Awareness and Aspirations

WHEN TO USE Long-term planning; multi-year

There are a handful of organizations providing student support through text messaging. Up Next is a free college access tool that gives you personalized support on all things college: college search and application, federal student aid, event student loan repayment, all through texting. Sign up by texting “college” to 44044. Remind, Signal Vine, CollegeSnapps, and Bridgit2College allow you to sign up for accounts and schedule your own reminders for students.

bridgit2college.com

collegesnapps.com

remind.com

signalvine.com

bettermakerroom.org/up-next

COLLEGE TERMINOLOGY A-Z

The path to college can be challenging. Complicated lingo in paperwork doesn't make it any easier. From "accredited" to "work study" or "zoology" many students and parents can be overwhelmed when trying to decipher the meaning of terms often used in admissions and financial aid documents. This section includes a brief list of 15 commonly used college terms excerpted in part from "College Terminology" by CollegePrep-101, as well as a list of resources for many additional definitions.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR/COUNSELOR

This person will help you select the correct courses, review the course requirements in the field you have selected to pursue and help you with any academic problems you may encounter. At some institutions, academic advisement is conducted by faculty as part of their job duties. Other institutions may designate specific staff as academic counselors.

ADVANCED STANDING CREDIT

These are credit hours that an institution accepts toward a degree from courses that the student has earned elsewhere. Such credit may be given for work done at another higher education institution, by examination or «testing out,» or by military service.

ACT AND SAT

These letters are acronyms for the American College Test and the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Both tests are designed to measure a student's level of knowledge in basic areas such as math, science, English and social studies. Colleges may require the results of either the ACT or SAT before granting admission.

APPLICATION/ACCEPTANCE/ADMISSION

Application is the process by which a prospective student submits the required forms and credentials to his/her chosen institution. Application criteria may include one or more of the following: previous academic records, test scores, interviews, recommendations, and other information provided by the applicant. Depending on the application requirements of a particular school, the student can gain Acceptance to the institution if the decision to accept the application is positive. Admission is the status granted to an applicant who meets the prescribed entrance requirements of the institution. It must be noted that there is a wide variation nationwide in the Application/Acceptance/Admission policies of higher education institutions. Check the college catalog for specific requirements of the schools you are considering.

CLEP

The College Level Examination Program can be administered to students who desire to obtain college credit by taking proficiency tests in selected courses. If the student scores high enough on the test, college credit can be awarded. There is a charge for each test taken. Information concerning an individual institution's policies toward CLEP Tests can be found in the institution's catalog.

COMMUTER

A commuter is a student who lives off-campus and drives to class, or commutes.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

A student can enroll and attend two educational institutions at the same time provided that certain criteria are met. For example: In Oklahoma, a high school senior can concurrently enroll in high school and in college provided he/she meets established criteria. A college student can concurrently enroll at two higher education institutions provided that certain criteria are met. Permission for concurrent enrollments are generally made in advance.

CREDIT HOURS

Courses taken in college are measured in terms of credit hours. To earn one credit hour, a student must attend a class for one classroom hour (usually 50 minutes) per week for the whole semester (usually 16 weeks). Classes are offered in 1 - 5 credit hour increments, and sometimes larger amounts.

DROP AND ADD

Students are generally permitted to drop courses from their class schedules and/or add other courses. Colleges allow varying lengths of time for students to add and drop classes. The college catalog or class schedule should note the correct procedures. Students usually need written approval from designated college officials to initiate dropping or adding a class. A small fee is often required.

FAFSA

Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The almost universal application for financial aid, including loans, grants, college work-study and other federal and state programs. It is often required before a student can be considered for scholarships also.

FINANCIAL AID

Aid is made available from grants, scholarships, loans, and part-time employment from federal, state, institutional, and private sources. Awards from these programs may be combined in an «award package» to meet the cost of education. The types and amounts of aid awarded are determined by financial need, available funds, student classification, academic performance, and sometimes the timeliness of application.

PREREQUISITE COURSES

A prerequisite course is a course taken in preparation for another course. For example, Accounting 1 is a prerequisite for Accounting 2.

REGISTRAR

The registrar of an institution is responsible for the maintenance of all academic records and may include such duties as: maintenance of class enrollments, providing statistical information on student enrollment, certification of athletic eligibility and student eligibility for honor rolls, certification of the eligibility of veterans, administering probation and retention policies and verification of the completion of degree requirements for graduation.

TRANSFER OF CREDITS

Some students attend more than one institution during their college career. When they move or transfer from one college to another, they also transfer accumulated credit hours from the former institution to the new one. The new institution determines which courses will apply toward graduation requirements.

WITHDRAWAL

Students may withdraw from courses during a semester, but there are established procedures for doing so. The college catalog and/or Class Schedule generally specifies the procedures. Written approval from a university official must be secured, and some fees must be paid.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR COLLEGE TERMINOLOGY

These five websites contain glossaries of commonly used terms that students might encounter throughout the college-going process. An English/Spanish glossary also is available, and included in the list below.

College Lingo Admission Glossary: Learn the Lingo

College Board. Big Future

bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/applying-101/college-admission-glossary

College Terminology

CollegePrep-101

collegeprep101.com/college-terminology.html

First Generation at Ohio College Lingo

Ohio University

ohio.edu/uc/firstgen/college-lingo.cfm

Student Aid Glossary

U.S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid

studentaid.ed.gov/sa/glossary

The English Spanish Glossary of Student Financial Aid and Postsecondary Education

TG and the U.S. Department of Education

tgslc.org/pdf/Spanish-glossary.pdf

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CIVIC NATION'S BETTER MAKE ROOM

COLLEGE PREP 101

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HARRISONVILLE BRIGHT FUTURES

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING

MICHIGAN CAMPUS COMPACT

MONTANA CAREER RESOURCE NETWORK

MUSKEGON AREA PROMISE

MUSKEGON OPPORTUNITY

NATIONAL COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION

TRI-CITIES COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

VISA PRACTICAL MONEY SKILLS

MICHIGAN
COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

MICOLLEGEACCESS.ORG