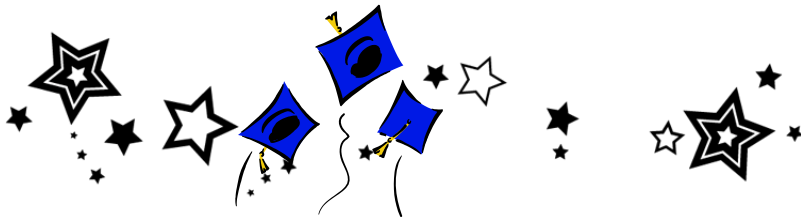


CHECKLIST FOR TEENS: EDUCATION TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD



6th Grade 7th Grade 8th Grade 9th Grade 10th Grade 11th Grade 12th Grade

Attend college fairs and presentations by representatives of colleges and universities. Listen to your school announcements for information about college representatives visiting your school.						X	
Write or call the Office of Admissions of colleges and universities in order to request a copy of an application for undergraduate admissions and financial aid; a catalogue or bulletin, information about financial aid, materials about your proposed college major. Your school guidance counselor can provide the addresses and telephone numbers of these schools.						X	
Obtain information on financial aid, student exchange opportunities, and other academic services.							
Read all college materials you receive carefully. Compare requirements for admission and financial aid available at each institution.							
Start thinking about when, and how many times, you will take the college entrance examinations (SAT or ACT). Your school guidance counselor can provide you with the test dates and descriptive brochures.						X	
Update your files from each college or university. Each file should include a checklist of all of the admissions items required by each school: transcripts, application fees, test scores, letters or recommendations, essays, student aid applications, etc. Pay particular attention to all deadlines – mark them down on your personal calendar or agenda.							X
Obtain information about application fee waivers from your school college counselor.							X
Make sure that your application forms are filled out completely and neatly and make a photocopy of all completed application forms prior to mailing them. Keep copies in your files.							X
Apply early! Generally during the months of October or November you may apply for “early action,” “early decision,” or “priority consideration” plans. Usually during December, January, or February you may apply under regular admissions plans. December should be the latest time to apply in order to be considered for honors scholarships and programs at most universities.							X
Obtain information on financial aid, student exchange opportunities, and other academic services.							X
Remind your parents to prepare their income tax statements as early as possible, since a photocopy of these must be sent to most colleges to which you apply for financial aid.							X
In January or early February, mail your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), in order to be considered for financial aid. You can obtain these form from you school college counselor or apply online at www.fafsa.com . Check to see if there are other forms required if you are going to an out-of-state college.							X
During the following months, compare the letters of acceptance and the financial aid offer letters from colleges and universities before deciding on which school to attend.							X
Mail in your acceptance from and deposit check as soon as possible, particularly if you plan to live in a residence hall on campus. Pay particular attention to the deadline to send in your acceptance letter.							X
Participate in orientation programs for incoming freshmen offered by your college or university.							X
Continue to be involved in school-based or community-based extracurricular activities that enable you to explore your interest, meet new people, and learn new things.							X
It is important to keep copies of everything that you send to the U.S. Department of Education and to the colleges and universities of your choice.							X