College Basics

Simple descriptions of what you need to know to start the college decision process
Types of “College”

• **Vocational/Technical School** (Short Term, Trade Programs)
  - Think: Adult Center for Education, CDL Certification program

• **Community College – Two Year**
  - Think: Zane State College, Central Ohio Technical College (COTC)

• **College or University – Four Year**
  - Think: The Ohio State University, Muskingum University
  - Could be Public or Private

• **Graduate School**
Types of Degrees

- Certification/Certificate
- Associate’s Degree
- Bachelor’s Degree
- Graduate Degrees
  - Masters
  - Doctorate
  - Medical
Applications

• The form on which you are requesting entrance to the College
• Common Application
• May include:
  • Your personal information
  • Demographics
  • Parent/family information
  • Essays
• May require inclusion of High School transcript or test scores
• DEADLINES, DEADLINES, DEADLINES!
Entrance Exams

• Used to test student readiness in certain areas, usually math or English, for proper placement in classes.
• ACT
  • Can be taken many times
• SAT
• Accuplacer, COMPASS
Ways to Pay for College

• FAFSA
  • Free Application for Federal Student Aid
  • Calculates EFC (Expected Family Contribution) based on parent/student tax information

• Grants
  • Free money you don’t pay back, such as PELL (federal) or OCOG (state)

• Loans
  • Borrowed money you must pay back after college. Could be student or parent loans.
  • May be from the federal government or alternative/private

• DEADLINES! Check to find out your school’s deadline date!
Ways to Pay for College, cont…

• SCHOLARSHIPS!!!
  • Designated monies available to College students
  • Could be for ANYTHING
  • Students (YES YOU!) must seek out and apply for this money
  • Free money you don’t pay back
  • DEADLINES! Check to see when they are!
Classes and Credits

- All schools in Ohio are on SEMESTERS
  - Fall begins in August, Spring begins in January, Summers vary by school
- Each class is a specific number of CREDIT HOURS
  - The number of credits per semester could determine your status full time, part time
- Some institutions charge one fee per year/semester, some charge per class
Other things you’ll probably need…

- Room and Board
- Books
- Transportation

- ALL of these expenses are in addition to the cost of tuition!
After your first day

• You can change your mind!
• You can TRANSFER credits earned at one institution to another
• You will need to file the FAFSA each year
• Personnel, advisors, instructors are here to help, but YOU must communicate!
How to Prepare NOW

- College Credit Plus (formerly Post Secondary and Dual Enrollment)
  - At home high school OR on college campus
- AP/CP/Honors/Advanced Classes
- Know what classes you need for career goals
- Explore!
- Ask questions
The benefits of education...

- Students with an education earn more money – a bachelor’s degree earns you a MILLION dollars more than a high school diploma over your career.
- By the year 2028 there will be 19 million more jobs for educated workers, than people qualified to fill them.
- As compared to people with less education, a higher level of education has been linked to: lower blood pressure, lower levels of the stress hormone cortisol, and lower risk of certain types of cancer!
Questions?

Jody Burchett
Director of Admissions
Zane State College
740-588-1277 ~ jburchett@zanestate.edu