

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 you 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?

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