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
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!
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
  - 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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