



# High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

November 2016

9<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Why Visit Colleges?

A key part of deciding which college to go to is finding a good fit. And a great way to get more information is to visit the colleges in person.

Campus visits can help students and families see the possibilities that exist beyond high school and their community. Plus, they can help ease concerns and anxieties of both students and families, especially for students who would be the first in their family to go to college.

A campus visit is your opportunity to get a firsthand view of a college. A college catalog, brochure, or website can only show you so much. To really get a feel for the college, you need to walk around the campus, sit in on a class and visit the dorms.

Students will have multiple opportunities to visit campuses, including those for two- and four-year schools. In middle school, your teen had the chance to have a broad look at options. Now as your child gets older, campus visits should target his or her specific interests. When teens get a chance to visit college campuses, they often can begin to envision themselves there.

**Sources:** [Getting Ready for Campus Visits: A GEAR UP Handbook for Providing Campus Visits for Middle and High School Students](#) and [BigFuture](#)



NAVIANCE

Have Naviance Questions?

[naviance@everettsd.org](mailto:naviance@everettsd.org)

Ever wanted to find the perfect type of college option?

**Now you can!**

**Check it out in**  
Naviance Family Connection...

• **SuperMatch**



## Did You Know?

### COLLEGE BENEFITS GO BEYOND EARNINGS.

In addition to earning more, college-educated Millennials also have lower unemployment and poverty rates than their less-educated peers. They're also more likely to be married and less likely to be living in their parent's home.

**Source:** [Pew Research](#)

## Myth Buster

**MYTH:** Forget the “top” colleges; they’re way too expensive.

**REALITY:** Harvard, Yale, Stanford, and Princeton all have “sticker prices” in excess of \$60,000 a year.

Students who attend these and many other “top” colleges find that they receive significant financial aid and graduate with little or no student debt. In fact, well-known “expensive” colleges are often less costly to attend than “second tier” or even state colleges.

Every college is now required by federal law to have a financial aid calculator on the college’s website. Use the [U.S. Department of Education Net Price Calculator](#) to really understand how much financial aid your family will probably receive from the college.

Source: [Washington Post](#)

 [Check Student Online Grades Here!](#)

## Study Skills & Homework Tips

Few students love **homework**, but it does serve several purposes:

- Reinforce what they’ve learned during the day.
- Build study habits that are essential in college.
- Prepare for their classes.
- Get a sense of progress.

**Homework is one of the first places many students fall behind.** Help your children get the most out of homework by teaching them to talk to their teachers and counselors. Encourage them and let them know that it is okay to ask questions if the assignment is unclear and to ask for help if needed.

**Homework takes organization.** You can help your child learn to:

- Keep a “homework notebook” with all assignments and deadlines.
- Make a quiet space and time for homework.
- Gather materials needed for the homework task.
- Turn in completed assignments on time.

**Homework also requires focus, persistence, and determination.** You can help your children problem-solve what gets in the way and remind them to take a short break when frustrated.

**Homework demands time management.** You can help your child learn to prioritize homework tasks by importance and deadline.

**When students put their attention and effort to homework, they learn habits that will help them in college and beyond!**

Source: [Advice for Parents: Helping Your Child Succeed in School--and Life.](#)

## Student Checklist

- ☐ **Explore reasons to consider college** and ways you can get help preparing.
- ☐ **Talk to your family about how to pay for college.** Most families use a combination of savings, current income and loans. Discuss what works best for your family.
- ☐ **Participate in study skills and tutoring activities.**

## Family Checklist

- ☐ **Start thinking about financial aid.** It’s not too early to learn about the types of aid. Start by reading [7 Things You Need to Know About Financial Aid](#).
- ☐ **Encourage your child to participate in class and turn in homework on time.** Find out about your child’s grades, assignments, and attendance on the [district’s online system](#). If you don’t know how to access this system, contact [lms@everettsd.org](mailto:lms@everettsd.org) for assistance.

Source: [BigFuture](#)



Visit [readyssetgrad.org](http://readyssetgrad.org) to learn more and access resources to help your child make a plan.