EducationQuest Foundation

College Planning Bulletin

A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students

November 2017

Seniors...a reminder of what to do this fall

There's A LOT going on right now with the financial aid and college admission processes, but don't get overwhelmed! Here's a recap of tasks you should complete this fall to stay on track to college.

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- First, create an FSA ID for you and one for a parent at <u>fsaid.ed.gov</u>. You'll need it to access and sign the FAFSA. <u>Here's a video</u> with instructions.
- Review our <u>FAFSA Checklist</u> so you'll know what documents to gather before you start the form.
- Find free <u>FAFSA Tools</u> at EducationQuest.org to help you through the process.
- For free personal help, call EducationQuest to make an appointment: Omaha 888.357.6300, Lincoln – 800.303.3745, Kearney – 800.666.3721, or Scottsbluff – 800.303.3745, ext. 6654.

Apply to your top college choices

If you attend one of nearly 200 Nebraska high schools holding *Apply2College* events this fall, you'll get help (or already have) with your applications. If not, <u>here are steps</u> you should take to apply. You'll also find a <u>college application checklist</u> listing everything you need.

Retake the ACT and/or SAT. Colleges use your best scores for college admission and scholarships.

Get serious about applying for scholarships. See <u>ScholarshipQuest</u> at EducationQuest.org for Nebraska-based scholarships and a list of national search sites.

Juniors...start researching colleges

If you narrow your college choices by the end of your junior year, your senior year will be less stressful. Here's how to get started:

Review <u>College Profiles</u> at EducationQuest.org for information about colleges in Nebraska and across the country. If you're interested in an out-of-state school, check out the <u>Midwest Student Exchange Program</u> to learn about tuition discounts.

Meet with college representatives who visit your school, and then visit the websites of the colleges that interest you to learn more about the schools.

Once you've narrowed your choices, <u>schedule campus visits</u>. Try to visit in the spring of your junior year while colleges are still in session.

For more tips, see the Selecting a College section at EducationQuest.org.

November "To Do" List

Seniorscomplete these tasks in November to stay on the path to college:
Complete the <u>FAFSA</u> .
Apply to your top college choices.
Register by November 2 for the December 2 SAT.
Register by November 3 for the December 9 ACT.
Juniorscomplete these tasks:
Research colleges that interest you.
Take a prep course for the ACT college entrance exam.

For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Omaha	Lincoln	Kearney	Scottsbluff
402-391-4033	402-475-5222	308-234-6310	800-303-3745 ext. 6654
888-357-6300	800-303-3745	800-666-3721	

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Your Journey to College Begins with Us