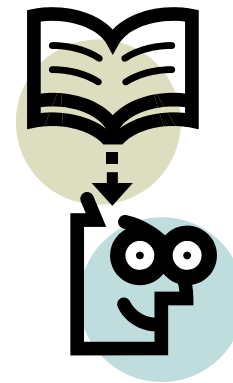


So you want to go to college?:
Tips for getting through the process.



You should begin planning in 9th grade.

- Think about what you might like to do for a career.
- What are your hobbies?
- What are your talents?
- What are your skills?
- What are your goals?



Take an interest/career survey.

- Take a Career Cruiser Survey
- Or.....Take a W. O. I. S. (Washington Occupational Interest Survey)
- You can take either of these in the Career Center
- These surveys will help you discover your learning style and explore a career that interest you.
- You can take these surveys more than once.

Plan your courses



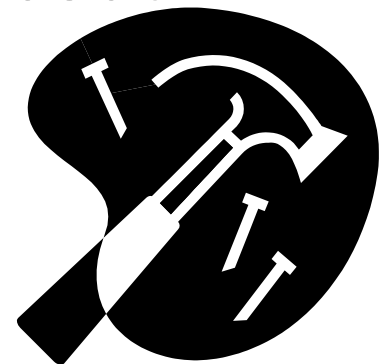
- Use your course planning sheet every year to make sure you meet your graduation requirements first.
- After you plan your requirements, plan those classes that will help you move toward the career/job you want.
- For example: If you want to be a photographer, take a photography class.

Wait a minute.....I don't know what I
want to do!

That's okay. You can keep exploring by :

- Interviewing people in a job you might like.
- Job Shadowing
- Using the Career Center
- Looking a job requirements and descriptions.
- Asking other people who know you about careers for you.

BE REALISTIC IN YOUR CHOICE!



What's next? 9th/10th grade

- Talk to the teacher who is writing your IEP and explain what you want to do. This is written into your IEP as your post-secondary goals and your teacher can help you plan your classes and make suggestions.
- Talk to your parents and counselors and ask them about colleges and trade/vocational schools that might have the courses and programs you need to make your career goal.

Take the PSAT, SAT or the ACT 10th/ 11th grade

- The , PSAT, SAT and ACT are tests that you take (usually on a scheduled Saturday in the fall or spring). These tests have vocabulary, comprehension, writing and math.
- Colleges use these tests to determine if a student is ready for college.
- Students on an IEP or 504 Plan are able to receive accommodations to take this test, but they must talk with their counselor.
- Students register through their counselor or online and there is a fee involved.
- Students can study ahead of time for these tests.
- ***Some programs/colleges do not require these tests. Check with the college you are interested in attending!

Look for a college/program 10th, 11th and 12th Grade

- It is never too early to look for a program that interests you.
- Visit the college that interests you most.
- Think about what the college can offer you.
- What are some things you really want out of college?
It's okay to make a list 😊
- Most importantly, make an appointment with the Disabilities Service Coordinator. Every college has one and they can help you be successful. Take your IEP and Evaluation with you!
- **** Make sure you are on track to graduate each year.

12th Grade



You can apply to more than one college and in fact is encouraged to apply to two to five colleges.

January : Begin the financial aid process with your parents or guardians or get help from your counselor if you need it. For information fafsa.gov.

- March: Begin application process and be finished with it no later than March of your senior year. Make sure you have time to do the essays and get recommendations.

Tips for successful planning

Be a good advocate for yourself!

- Keep talking to your family and teachers about your career goals and interests. 😊
- Keep all your college related information in one place. (Interest inventory, SAT results, financial aid, course planning, etc.) 😊
- Use the Career Center to get ideas about colleges and career planning.
- Plan your courses.
- Earn good grades by working hard! 😊
- Choose a realistic career goal , not everyone is going to be a game developer or professional athlete, but there are lots of great choices out there.