# EducationQuest Foundation College Planning Bulletin

A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students

# November 2019

# 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>Click here</u> for instructions.
- Review our FAFSA Checklist for a list of items to gather before you start the form.
- Complete the FAFSA at <u>fafsa.gov</u>. You may also complete it via the myStudentAid app for iOS and Android.
- For free help with the FAFSA, see <u>FAFSA Tools</u> at EducationQuest.org or 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 with your applications. If not, <u>here are steps</u> you should take to apply.

Retake the <u>ACT</u> and/or <u>SAT</u>. 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</u> <u>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 Finding the Right Fit section at EducationQuest.org.

# This app will help you stay on track to college

Download the EducationQuest app for easy access to tools like *Activities Resume*, *College Profiles*, *College Timeline*, *Reality Check*, *and ScholarshipQuest*. There's also a calendar that will guide you through college-planning steps - and you can personalize it with your own tasks.

Download the app and encourage your friends to do the same! <u>Apple</u> <u>Android</u>

# November "To Do" List

Seniors...complete these tasks in November to stay on the path to college:

- \_\_\_\_ Complete the FAFSA.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Apply to your top college choices.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Download the EducationQuest app.
- \_\_\_\_\_<u>Register</u> by November 8 for the December 7 SAT.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Register by November 8 for the December 14 ACT.

Juniors...complete these tasks:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Research colleges that interest you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Take a prep course for the ACT college entrance exam.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Download the EducationQuest app.

#### 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	

#### EducationQuest.org

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