



Why Visit Colleges'

A key part of deciding which college to go to is finding a good fit. 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.

GEAR UP stands for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs and is a federally-funded program that helps rural, low-income middle and high schools prepare students for education after high school.

College Fact

The experiences and degrees offered by 2-year and 4-year colleges will be different, but one is not necessarily “better”. Students should choose the type of college they attend and degree they get based on what they might be interested in doing and the kind of college experience they are interested in. A higher degree usually translates to increased income, although there are many 2-year degree programs whose graduates earn more than those with a Bachelor’s degree.

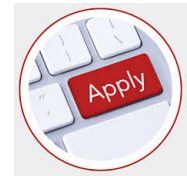
Did you know?

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.



Apply it



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.
- 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 school’s online system (like Poweschool). If you don’t know how to access this system, contact your child’s counselor for assistance.



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GEAR UP Right Choices for Youth