



**PREPARING YOUR MIDDLE
SCHOOL STUDENT FOR
COLLEGE...NOW!**

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PREPARATION BEGINS EARLY

- Students should begin taking challenging courses in Middle School (ie Algebra, Geometry, World Languages)
- Students must hold themselves to high academic standards
- Students should be involved in extracurricular activities and college readiness programs



STEP 1: MAKING THE DECISION

Statistics have shown that by going to college (2 year and 4 year institutions) students:

- Get (and keep) a better job.
- Earn more money.
- Get a good start in life.



AVAILABLE JOBS

Two-Year College (Associate Degree)	Four-Year College (Bachelor's Degree)	More Than Four Years (Various Graduate Degrees)
Computer Technician	Teacher	Lawyer
Surveyor	Accountant	Doctor
Registered Nurse	FBI Agent	Architect
Dental Hygienist	Engineer	Scientist
Medical Laboratory Technician	Journalist	University Professor
Commercial Artist	Insurance Agent	Economist
Hotel/Restaurant Manager	Pharmacist	Psychologist
Engineering Technician	Computer Systems Analyst	Priest or Rabbi
Automotive Mechanic	Dietitian	Dentist
Administrative Assistant	Writer	Veterinarian
Water and Wastewater Treatment	Investment Banker	Public Policy Analyst
Plant Operator	Graphic Designer	Geologist
Heating, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration Technician	Social Worker	Zoologist
	Public Relations Specialist	Management Consultant

Just in case you don't win the lottery...

Average Family Income

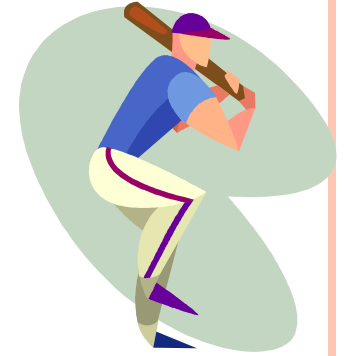
by Educational Attainment of Householder, 2007

Source: U.S. Census Bureau
http://pub833.www.us.gov/macro/052008/FamInc/rep08_D01.htm

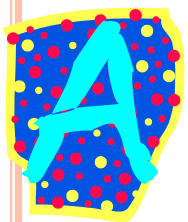


STEP 2: GET READY EARLY...

TAKE HIGH SCHOOL COURSES IN MIDDLE SCHOOL



- Algebra I, Geometry, Foreign Languages
 - Begins High School GPA
 - Counts toward Bright Futures Scholarship
 - Athletic Eligibility
 - 9th grade GPAs are calculated for 2nd semester participation
 - MS courses do not disappear from transcript



Middle School Promotional Requirements

- 3 Language Arts
- 3 Mathematics
- 3 Science
- 3 Social Studies
 - Successfully pass 8th grade social studies course which integrates career and education planning including the creation of an ePEP and selection of a major on FACTS.org.
- 2.25 Physical Education
- 0.75 Health
- 3 Electives

18 credits

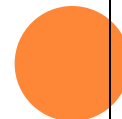
Minimum 1.5 GPA, A minimum final grade of “D” in all 12 required Core courses in the middle school required curriculum.

Standard Graduation Requirements

- 4 English
- 4 Math (can start earning credits in middle school)
 - Through Algebra 2
- 4 Science
 - Biology and 2 Physical Sciences
- 3 Social Studies
 - World History
 - American History
 - Am Govt/Economics
- HOPE
- 2 World Languages (can start earning credits in middle school)
- 5 Electives (4 MAI electives)
- 1 Performing Art

24 credits

Minimum 2.0 GPA, pass 10th grade Reading/Math FCAT



STEP 3: PLAN AHEAD

- Most people believe that college is much more expensive than it really is.
- Although some colleges are expensive, many colleges are within reach.
- Even if a student wants to go to a more expensive school, financial aid (money available from state governments, colleges and the U.S. Department of Education) can help those students who have planned ahead and worked hard in school pay for college.



STEP 4: GET INVOLVED

- Students are encouraged to sign up for Take Stock in Children, GEAR UP, GRADS, FAME, CROP, Upward Bound, ETS and other such programs to help get them prepared for college.



A WORD FROM THE PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS

- Take Stock in Children . . . Leah Barker
- FAME . . . John Grisset
- ETS . . . Sabrina Mixson
- Upward Bound . . . Cecelia Severin



GETTING READY FOR COLLEGE EARLY

We must make the thirteenth and fourteenth years of education, at least two years of college, just as universal in America by the 21st century as a high school education is today, and we must open the doors of college to all Americans.

President Clinton
State of the Union Address
February 4, 1997



FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

- Department of Education
 - www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/thinkcollege/early/
- College is Possible
 - <http://www.collegeispossible.org>
- College Board's Pay for College
 - <http://www.collegeboard.com/pay>
- Facts.org
- FastAid
 - <http://www.fastaid.com>
- FastWeb
 - <http://www.fastweb.com>
- The Smart Student Guide to Financial Aid
 - www.finaid.org



IT PAYS OFF IN THE END!

