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# JUNIOR COLLEGE AND CAREER ACTION PLAN

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Two Year College or Technical Program



STUDENT'S NAME

BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Student's Shop

### **Suggested Completion Deadlines**

✓	Section	Suggested Completion Deadline
	I. Career Goals	Friday, December 7 <sup>th</sup>
	II. Career/Technical Program List	Friday, February 1 <sup>st</sup>
	III. Campus Visits	Friday, February 15 <sup>th</sup>
	IV. Testing	Friday, January 4 <sup>th</sup>
	V. Letters of Recommendation	Friday, March 8 <sup>th</sup>
	VI. Applications	Friday, March 8 <sup>th</sup>
	VII. College Essay	Friday, March 22 <sup>nd</sup>
	VIII. Financial Aid	Friday, April 12 <sup>th</sup>
	IX. Placement Testing	Friday, March 22 <sup>nd</sup>
	X. Action Plan	Friday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup>

## I. Career Goals

What career(s) are you considering pursuing? Use **Naviance Student- Careers- Explore** to help you find information about each career.

<b>Career 1 Name</b>	Information Support and Service
<b>Holland Interest Code</b>	Conventional, Realistic, Investigative.
<b>Related Occupations</b>	Computer and Information Research Scientists, Systems Managers, Computer Network Architects, etc.
<b>Related College Majors</b>	Information Science/Studies, System Administration/Administrator, etc.
<b>Related Career Clusters &amp; Pathways</b>	Network Systems, Web and Digital Communications, Programming and Software Development.
<b>State Wage Average</b>	\$49,000 Per Year.
<b>National Wage Average</b>	\$46,000 Per Year
<b>Is the career shop-related?</b>	Yes.
<b>What job/volunteer/coop experience do you have related to this field, if any?</b>	I have no previous professional experience in this field outside of school.

<b>Career 2 Name</b>	Graphic Designer
<b>Holland Interest Code</b>	Artistic, Realistic, Enterprising
<b>Related Occupations</b>	Editors, Mechanical Drafters, Web Developers
<b>Related College Majors</b>	Industrial Design, Commercial Photography, Computer Graphics
<b>Related Career Clusters &amp; Pathways</b>	Visual Arts, Network Systems, Information Technology.
<b>State Wage Average</b>	\$61,400
<b>National Wage Average</b>	\$53,280
<b>Is the career shop-related?</b>	No.
<b>What job/volunteer/coop experience do you have related to this field, if any?</b>	No professional experience.

## II. College/Technical Program List

What degree or certification(s) are you considering working towards?

Associate's Degree	CompTIA A+

Please list the colleges you are thinking of applying to below and fill in the specified information for each one. Use the **Naviance Student- Colleges- Home** to lookup each school. You can also use the college website to find this information.

- **Average Net Price** is listed under the **Cost Tab**. You can select your household income from the dropdown to get the most accurate figure.
- **Transfer Rate** is usually listed on the college website, but you may have to do some digging. Try using search words like "Transfer Rate" and "Transfer Report".

**\*If you have a particular major(s) in mind, make sure the schools you list offers this major.**

College Name	Degree/Certification	Full Time/ Part Time	Credits/ Program Length	Avg. Net Price	College Value Score
Quinsigamond Community College	Associate's Degree	Full Time	2 Years	\$18,040	

**\*\*\*PLEASE SAVE YOUR LIST OF SCHOOLS ON NAVIANCE UNDER "COLLEGES I'M THINKING ABOUT"\*\*\***

### III. Campus Visits

Many students visit the campuses of the schools they are thinking of applying to starting in the spring of their junior year. Create a tentative tour schedule for the schools you listed. Campus visit schedules are listed under the admissions section of most college websites.

College Name	Tour Date	Tour Time
Quinsigamond Community College	Monday-Thursday	3:00-4:00 PM

**\*NOTE THAT YOU MUST TURN IN A CAMPUS VISIT FORM TO THE BRC AT LEAST 2 DAYS PRIOR TO ANY CAMPUS VISIT THAT OCCURS DURING SCHOOL HOURS. YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING UP ANY MISSED WORK. THE FORMS ARE LOCATED IN THE COLLEGE- FORMS & CHEAT SHEETS FOLDER OF THE DOCUMENT RESOURCES ON NAVIANCE.**

#### IV. Testing

Most two year colleges and technical programs **do not** require SAT/ACT scores. **However, you may still want to take the SAT, if you want to keep the option of going to a four year college open.** Do any of the schools you listed above require SAT/ACT scores?


Students typically take the SAT and/or the ACT in the spring of their junior year and the fall of their senior year. Please complete the information below if you plan to take these tests.

Test Name	Test Date	Registration Deadline
SAT	August 24, 2019	N/A

Initial here, if you do not plan to take the SAT/ACT: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* LINKS TO THE SAT WEBSITE (COLLEGEBOARD) AND THE ACT WEBSITE CAN BE FOUND ON THE BOTTOM OF YOUR NAVIANCE FAMILY CONNECTION HOMEPAGE.**

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACTS AND SATS, SUCH AS THE SAT TEST DATE CALENDAR AND TEST PREP RESOURCES, CAN ALSO BE FOUND IN THE COLLEGE- GPA, ACTS, & SATS FOLDER IN THE DOCUMENT RESOURCES ON NAVIANCE.**

### V. Letters of Recommendation

Most two year colleges and technical programs ***do not*** require students to provide letters of recommendation from teachers and/or their school counselor. How many letters of recommendation do the schools you listed above require?

College Name	# Letters

You should ask teachers to write letters for you at the beginning of senior year. If you need a letter of recommendation, who do you plan to ask to write a letter of recommendation for you?

Recommender's Name	Recommender's Title

## VI. Applications

It is important to get your applications in on time. Schools may offer early action, early decision, and regular decision deadlines or they may have rolling admissions.

Use Naviance Family Connection to list the application deadlines for your schools. Underline the deadline you plan to use to apply to each.

**Please be cautioned that you can only apply to 1 school early decision and you are contractually obligated to go there, if you choose to use this method to apply.**

College Name	EA Deadline	ED Deadline	RD Deadline	Rolling Adm.
Quinsigamond Community College				Anytime.

You can send the same application to multiple schools, if they are members of Common App. Common App schools prefer receiving applications through the Common App system. Use Naviance Family Connection to determine which of your schools accept the Common App and list them below.


Initial here, if none of your schools are Common App schools: CG



## VII. College Essay

Most two year colleges and technical programs *do not* require students to write a college essay of approximately 650 words or less. Which of the colleges you are thinking about applying to require you to write a college essay?


Most colleges that require an essay have similar options for topics, so students can send the same essay to all of their schools. The essay prompt options for all Common App Schools are as follows:

1. Some students have a background or story that is so central to their identity that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

If you have to write an essay, which essay prompt would you choose?

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If you have to write an essay, who would you ask to edit it?

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Initial here, if none of the colleges or technical programs you are applying to require a college essay: CG

## VIII. Financial Considerations

**You will likely need help from your parent/guardian to complete this section of your career plan.**

In January of your senior year, you will complete the FAFSA and send it to the colleges that you applied to.

**The FAFSA is used to determine your Estimated Family Contribution (EFC)** or how much a family is expected to pay out of pocket toward one year of educational expenses. The financial aid office at each of your schools will subtract their cost of attendance (tuition, fees, room & board, books & supplies, other education expenses) from the EFC calculated through your FAFSA in order to determine what your financial need is to go to their school. Then, they will put together a financial aid package consisting of scholarships, grants, and federal loans to make up the difference between their cost of attendance and the amount of money your family is expected to pay without assistance (EFC).

To find the **cost of attendance** you can use the college's website or you can look up the school on Naviance and research under **the Financial Aid Tab**.

**Use an EFC calculator, like the one at <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/tools-calculators>** to get an estimate of what your **EFC** will be.

Calculate an estimate of what each college will determine your **financial need** to be for attending their school. Please note that the formula is **Cost of Attendance – EFC = Financial Need**.

College Name	Cost of Attendance	EFC	Financial Need
<i>Example: University ABC</i>	<i>\$25,000</i>	<i>\$6,500</i>	<i>\$18,500.00</i>
Quinsigamond Community College	\$6,303	N/A	\$6,303

**\*YOU WILL LIKELY NEED HELP FROM YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION OF YOUR CAREER PLAN.**

Your living situation and mode of transportation are important to plan for and may vary from school to school. List information about where you plan to live (eg. on campus, in an apartment, at home) and what your form of transportation you would use in the case of each school.

**Do not include the cost of housing or transportation, if it was calculated in the Cost of Attendance of the Previous Page.**

**Please note that some colleges do not allow freshman to have a car, if they are living in the dormitories.**

College Name	Housing	Est. Cost Per Month	Transportation	Est. Cost Per Month	Total Cost
<i>Example: University ABC</i>	<i>On Campus</i>	<i>Included</i>	<i>Subway/Bus</i>	<i>\$84.50</i>	<i>\$760.50</i>
Quinsigamond Community College	Home	Included	Car/Bus	\$80.00	\$80.00

There may be other expenses that you will need to consider when creating a budget for while you are in college that will likely be more stable expenses across schools. Please fill out the estimated expense information below.

Item	Cost Per Month	Item	Cost Per Month	Item	Cost Per Month	Total Cost
Utilities	N/A	Laundry	N/A	Health Care	N/A	<b>N/A</b>
Phone	N/A	Recreation	N/A	Other	N/A	N/A

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**Financial aid is comprised of gift aid that you *will not* need to pay back like grants and scholarships and self-help aid like loans that you *will* need to pay off.** Colleges use preferential packaging to determine how much gift aid and how much self-help aid to give you.

**Safety schools typically offer the most scholarship money because you would be a strong student at these colleges.**

**Fit schools typically will offer a combination of scholarships and loans.**

**Reach schools typically will not offer much scholarship money because you would not be considered a strong applicant. Instead, they offer loans that you will have to pay back.**

The following is an example of preferential packaging at College X for three different students:

	Difficulty Level	Grants/Scholarships	Loans
<b>Student A</b>	Safety	\$35,000	\$0
<b>Student B</b>	Match	\$20,000	\$7,500
<b>Student C</b>	Reach	\$0	\$35000

Look at your financial need for attending each school on your list and the other costs of going to each school that you listed. Based on that information and how preferential packaging works, which schools will likely be the most affordable for you to attend?

College Name
Quinsigamond Community College

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### IX: Placement Testing

Many two year colleges and technical programs require students who enroll at their school to take a placement test in the spring of their senior year of high school in order to help with class scheduling. Sometimes the placement test may be referred to as the Accuplacer. Visit the websites for the schools you are thinking of applying to. Which schools will require you to take a placement test?

College Name
Quinsigamond Community College

### X. Action Plan

Using the information you have compiled, create a calendar for yourself for completing all of the components of the college application process. Your tasks should be listed in chronological order.

Task	Month/Date	Task	Month/Date