

Preparing for College

Sending a teen to college is a tough decision for families. Frequent family discussions during high school helps to eliminate financial and emotional stress. It's still not too late to plan during the senior year. The following tips are helpful guides for families.

Eliminate stress

- Have verbal discussions frequently
- Avoid pressure and making hasty decisions
- Establish guidelines and due dates

Making the decision

- Look at student's interest and enroll in college readiness program
- Decide how much you can afford
- Apply for every applicable scholarship
- Meet with present students and alumni

Avoid Procrastination

- Observe deadlines
- Follow up as needed
- Have references completed as soon as the senior year begins
- Schedule campus visits

Specialized Needs Accommodations

- Locate a school that fits the student's educational needs
- Involve peer support for the student

Guides and resources:

Davis, K. (2001). *Financing college*. Washington, D.C.: Kiplinger.

Fiske, E. (2002). *Fiske guide to getting into the right college*.

Naperville, Ill: Sourcebooks.

Heron, H. (2000). *College countdown: A planning guide for high school students*. Livermore, CA: Heron.

www.CollegeQuest.com

Sources:

Hall, M. (2000). Going to college! Postsecondary programs for students with moderate and severe disabilities. *Teaching Exceptional Children*, 32(3), 58-65.

Peterson's (2002). *Get a jump!* Stamford, CT: Thomas Learning.