

Prodigy College Planning & Retirement Solutions Guides Parents in College Preparations for children

By Sponsored Post on October 14,2013

As a comprehensive resource that offers reliable solutions for higher education, Prodigy College Planning is quite familiar with the many steps that are required to properly prepare a young student for university life. While many parents do not look forward to the day they send their children off to college, this noted firm says preparation can help make the process run much more smoothly.

When to Start

While it may seem excessive to start thinking about college as soon as a student enters high school, Prodigy College Planning says it is vital to become comfortable with what the application, admissions, acceptance, and financial aid process looks like. Although younger high school students may not prove to be that interested in the college experience yet, parents should still encourage their children to begin exploring their options early. Taking into consideration how competitive college admissions are in today's academic climate, students who are more aware of what they want to get out of higher education statistically have higher success rates when applying to their selected schools.

Defining Academic Interest

During freshmen and sophomore years, prepping for college may involve looking at point of academic interests. This helps students get a better grasp of what they would like to build into a career. According to Prodigy College Planning this can be a hard choice to make, but getting a general area of study can allow teens to explore colleges that offer programs specialized toward their academic interest.

Encouraging you children to participate in volunteer services, enroll in community college courses, or engage in extracurricular activities can also be a great way for a student to not only stay active and boost credentials for future college applications, but also allow exploration of several varied areas of interest.

Tour Colleges

Although the internet has made it incredibly convenient for families to explore potential universities for future enrollment, Prodigy College Planning strongly encourages in person tours of facilities. It is very typical for students in their junior year of high school to take college tour trips with their parents to learn more about the institutions they are thinking of attending. While college websites can provide insight on available courses and financials, tours allow families to get a true feel of the atmosphere at the school, its available resources, and the true potential it can offer.

Test Prep

Although many high school students dread the ACT and SAT exams, Prodigy explains that there are many resources available to assist in the preparation of these vital tests. For example, students preparing for these entrance exams can self- practice on a wide array of online modules available and updated texts. Also available are practice exams and/or extracurricular courses. The earlier students begin to prepare for the exams, the more opportunities they have to achieve scores needed to gain acceptance into their preferred college. Parents are encouraged to motivate children to take these tests near the beginning of their junior year.

Highlight the Benefit of College

Some parents may face the obstacles in encouraging their children to attend college. One suggestion the firm makes, suggests that parents maintain open communication with their children about the importance higher education plays in personal and professional development.

However, while it is important to help your child remain focused on the big picture of university education, it is also imperative to recognize that the college selection and enrollment process is a very personal experience for the student. As such, parents are encouraged to give their children freedom to explore their options and listen to what the student says their goals of the experience are as well. Sending a child to school knowing that they want to attend will often prove to be a better investment for parents.

Financial Preparation

According to Prodigy College Planning & Retirement Solutions, perhaps one of the hardest elements in getting a student prepared for college is making sure that they will have enough funds to attend an accredited university and gain a valuable education. As tuition costs continue to rise at an annual rate of 6-7%, many parents are finding that even with substantial savings, it is still difficult to fund all the costs associated with a college education. Fortunately, those who opt for early planning can take advantage of scholarship opportunities, financial aid programs, and other forms of financial prep to ensure that all fiscal grounds are covered and secured before a child goes to school. With proven, distinctive resources for college admissions and financial aid planning, Prodigy College Planning is a required tool for parents looking for an edge in preparing their children for college life.