



PROMISING PATHWAYS

TOP 10 TIPS FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE

Middle School Students

1. Think about college as an important part of **YOUR** future. Everyone has the power to positively impact their future with the choices and actions they take **NOW**. Start using phrases like, “*When I go to college...*” instead of “*If I go to college...*” Discuss your thoughts and ideas with your family and with people at school.
2. Start saving for college if you haven’t already. There are options to help fund your education, such as scholarships and grants, but even savings just small amounts of money each year can help make attending college a little easier financially.
3. Take challenging and interesting classes to prepare for high school.
4. Ask your parent or guardian to help you research which high schools or special programs will most benefit your interests.
5. Develop strong study habits. Stay after school for extra help!
6. Do your best in school and on standardized tests. If you are having difficulty, don’t give up—ask for help from a teacher, tutor, or mentor.
7. Become involved in school- or community-based activities that let you explore your interests and learn new things.
8. Speak with adults, such as your teacher, school counselor or librarian, relatives, or family friends, who you think have interesting jobs. Ask them, “*What do you like about your job?*” and “*What education did you need for your job?*”
9. Read, Read, Read! Reading helps you to thinking critically, spark curiosity, and even become more skilled in other things.
10. Think in a positive way. Never say that you can’t do something. Do your best, and don’t give up on your future!

YOUR COLLEGE-GOING RESOURCE:

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