

Career Planning

Career Planning Suggestions

AS parents, you are an *essential* resource for your son or daughter as they plan their future career. Below are suggestions to help you assist him or her in the career planning process.

Get involved in your child's education and encourage his or her teachers to integrate career exploration activities in the classroom.

Take time to **TALK** and **LISTEN** to each other. Help your child build a positive self-concept.

Become aware of his or her interests, abilities and temperament.

Explore various occupations with your child.

Expand the range of career possibilities by eliminating gender bias from your child's perceptions.

Discuss your occupation and the steps you took during your career decision-making and planning process.

Use valuable career and education resources like *MnCareers*, ISEEK (www.iseek.org) or CareerOneStop (www.careeronestop.org).

Assist your child in developing a resume showing work experience, previous activities and volunteer experiences. Practice preparing an electronic portfolio (www.efoliominnesota.com).

Start saving now for your child's future needs. Explore the "Paying" section of the Web site: (www.getreadyforcollege.org).

REMEMBER that your child is making his or her *own* decision. You are one valuable resource on his or her road to a happy and productive career.

FAFSA (Financial Aid)

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Why fill out a FAFSA?

The FAFSA (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*) is the first step in the financial aid process. You use it to apply for federal student financial aid, such as grants, loans, and work-study. In addition, most states and schools use information from the FAFSA to award non-federal aid.

FAFSA applications are available in the Guidance Office around the middle of December (for the next school year)

You can visit their webpage at: Link to: www.fafsa.ed.gov

Other Resource Links:

Register for the ACT test online: www.act.org

Online Fafsa (financial aide): www.fafsa.ed.gov

Minnesota Careers: www.mncareers.org

The Online version of Minnesota Careers, a comprehensive career and training guide from the Minnesota Department Economic Security.

Minnesota Higher Education Services Office:
www.mheso.state.mn.us

Information about financial aid and how to prepare and pay for higher education.

Fastweb: www.fastweb.com

A free scholarship search that can match you with relevant scholarships.

Free Scholarship Information: www.freschinfo.com

A free service that lets you browse or search a database of scholarship opportunities.

www.scholarships.com

Information on financial aid and a searchable database of over 600,000 awards.

Financial Aid Information Page: www.finaid.org

The largest, most comprehensive resource for financial aid on the Internet.

CollegeBoard: www.collegeboard.com

Planning, paying, and getting ready in general.

Wired Scholar: www.wiredscholar.com

Information for students and parents on preparing, selecting, applying, and financing college.

American College Testing: www.embark.com

College search, scholarship search and applications online.

ISEEK: www.iseek.org

Explore career options, job openings, college and training programs available in Minnesota.

College View: www.collegeview.com

Combines a database of 3,300 two and four year colleges with multimedia tours and direct e-mail options for requesting additional information.

University of Minnesota System: www.umn.edu

Website for all four University campuses and links to their application pages.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities: www.mnscu.edu

Downloadable application for all state colleges and universities.

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA): www.ncaa.org

Selective Service Site: www.sss.gov