

ROADS to SUCCESS

Grade 11 Education After High School

Family Newsletter

Getting Ready for College

Roads to Success is a new program designed to help middle and high school students prepare for their futures. This newsletter will keep you posted on what we're doing in school, and how families can follow through at home.

For more information about Roads to Success, please visit our website: www.roadstosuccess.org

Did you know? The U.S. government provide \$150 billion in grants, work-study, and low-interest college loans.

SOURCE: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/about>

What are you doing for the rest of your life? It's a scary question for many high school juniors and seniors. Even students who know what they want (and are well on the way to getting it) get nervous about the long list of things to do to get ready for the next step in their education.

Here are some things to focus on during junior year:

Investigate. Students should gather information about schools so they know where they want to apply next fall. Experts suggest that students apply to more than one school. To find the best match, students should select some schools that are difficult to get into and some that are easier.

Junior year is also a great time to visit schools for a first-hand look.



Take the SAT or ACT. Many schools select students based on grades and scores received on the SAT or ACT. Students may take these tests more than once. A first try during spring of junior year leaves time for a second try during fall of senior year.

Don't be discouraged by the high cost of college. Financial aid is available to families that need it.

All students should plan on completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in January of their senior year. The FAFSA uses information about family income to determine the amount of financial help students receive.

Remember that there are good educational options for every student. Four-year colleges, community colleges, tech/trade schools, and apprenticeships are all worth investigating to find the perfect fit.

For more information, visit RUReadyND.com.

Grade by Grade

In Grade 11, Roads to Success students spend nine weeks exploring their educational options – from apprenticeships to trade school, the military to four-year colleges. They review their own grades and compare their performance with college entrance requirements. They discuss college majors and see what's recommended for their chosen careers. Finally, they compare colleges and select schools that seem like a good fit.

By fall of senior year, students should have a good idea of schools where they want to apply. This means the summer after junior year is a good time to continue college research. During senior year, Roads to Success will guide students through the application process, whether they're headed to school or work.