

# APRIL FOR FAMILIES OF 12THGRADE STUDENTS

# STUDENTS

NEWSLETTER TEMPLATE

High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

# Make A Plan

Seniors! It’s not too late to apply! There are many schools that are still accepting applications for Fall 2020. Make a plan with these 5 steps: <bit.ly/StepstoCollege>

For students who have already applied, May 1st is typically when students notify a college/university that they have accepted their offer and will attend next fall. If your child received acceptance offers from a college, university, or training program, congratulations! Now is the time that your child will decide which school is the best fit. If your child is unsure of which school to select, encourage them to:

* Get more information.
* Ask questions.
* Visit — or revisit the campuses.
* Talk to current students at the college.
* Think things over.
* Compare the colleges.
* Compare financial aid awards.

Encourage your teen to use BigFuture’s Compare Your Aid Awards tool at: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid-awards/compare-aid-calculator> to compare up to four financial aid offers side by side. Talk about which colleges work best financially. Is the school that offers the most financial aid the best match for finances overall? Which financial aid package works best for your family? Which financial aid package best matches your child’s long-term goals?

Once your teen has decided which college to attend, have your child inform all the colleges that accepted them about their decision. Your child must accept an offer of admission and submit a deposit to secure a spot at that institution. If the deposit is a hardship and you can’t afford it, call the financial aid office for help. Additionally, make sure to send in any items that the school has requested. Students, who are waitlisted or did not get in, should see the school counselor for information on next steps.

There are many changes happening due to school closures. Use this newsletter to learn what 12th graders need to know and do this spring to plan for their education after high school.

**For current updates related to college admissions, events, test dates, and financial aid:**

* Visit <https://gearup.wa.gov/news/covid-19-resources-updates>

**Build an action plan:**

* Visit <https://wsac.wa.gov/actionplan>

# Coronavirus & College: What You Need To Know

## Insert School Logo

School Contact Information:Click here to enter text.

Personnel: Click here to enter text.

Tutoring Center: Click here to enter text.

# Upcoming Events & Announcements

* Click here to enter text.

# Myth Buster

# Student Checklist

* **Compare financial aid awards from colleges and decide which school to attend.** Be realistic – have you calculated all your college costs and did you receive enough financial aid to cover them? Notify all colleges of your decision by May 1.
* **When you decide which school you want to attend, notify that school of your commitment and submit any required financial deposit.** Many schools require this notification and deposit by May 1. If the deposit is a problem, call the financial aid office for help. Additionally, make sure to send in any items that the school has requested.
* **Keep your grades up!** Don’t let homework and assignments slip. Make sure you are following all guidance from your local school district to make sure you are meeting the graduation requirements as they may have changed due to the COVID-19 related school closure.

# Family Checklist

* **Help your child process college responses**. Once your child starts hearing back from colleges about admission and financial aid, he or she will need your support to decide what to do.
* **Review financial aid offers together**. Your 12th grader will need your help to read through financial aid award letters and figure out which package works best. Be sure your child pays attention to and meets any deadlines for acceptance.
* **Help your child complete the paperwork to accept a college’s offer of admittance.** Once your child has decided which college to attend, he or she will need to accept a college’s offer, mail a tuition deposit and submit other required paperwork. If the deposit is a problem, call the financial aid office for help.

# Did you Know?

MYTH: College professors don’t ever get to know their students personally.

REALITY: Students develop relationships in the same way they did with their teachers in high school. For example, by talking to them before, after or during class, college students will have the opportunity to develop relationships with their professors as well. While instructors are also very busy individuals, they are there to help students learn.

Depending on the size of a college class, students may have more or less access to their professor in class. However, each professor will also have office hours during which students can visit him or her.

Relationships with professors are also important when students need to request letters of recommendation for scholarships, internships, graduate school, or other activities.

Ready Set Grad has an interactive dual credit look-up tool. Students can enter their AP, IB, & Cambridge courses and scores; select colleges they are interested in attending; and see how their dual-credit work in high school will translate into college credit.

**Try this tool:** [**http://readysetgrad.org/rsg\_cred\_wiz/form**](http://readysetgrad.org/rsg_cred_wiz/form)