

GEAR UP ACTIVITY IDEA

COLLEGE 101 DAY



Objective

The goal of this activity is to connect with the community to showcase the programs offered by local community colleges. It aims to ensure that all students have the chance to visit a college campus, helping them better prepare for their choice of postsecondary education.

Procedure

These events aim to provide students with the opportunity to explore college options, gain insight into the college application process, and learn about available support services.

Preparation Steps:

1. **Collaborate with the partnering college.** Work closely with the designated college to finalize the day's schedule and resources.
2. **Coordinate with school staff.** Collaborate with high school counselors and graduation specialists to discuss logistical arrangements, including:
 - a. Lunch plans
 - b. Transportation details
 - c. Student registration processes
3. **Follow field trip procedures.** Ensure compliance with both school and GEAR UP field trip protocols.
4. **Assign groups and chaperones.** Assign each student to a designated group and a chaperone for the day to ensure proper supervision.
5. **Prepare chaperone information packets.** Create packets containing:
 - a. Agendas specific to each group and time slot
 - b. Attendance lists
 - c. Bus numbers
 - d. Color-coded campus map
 - e. Student name tags
 - f. Contact information for key staff
 - g. Sign-in sheets for lunch
 - h. Signs for designated areas (e.g., English teacher name)
 - i. Staging room number on cell phone list

Event Schedule:

- **Welcome Session:** 8:15–8:30: Gather all students for a welcome session.
- **Workshops:** 8:40–10:35: Conduct a series of sessions on varying topics:

Themes

- College Applications
- Campus Visits
- Financial Aid & Financial Literacy
- Transitions

Audience

All GU students

Grade Level(s)

9-12

Cost

- Substitutes for staff who chaperoned the event
- Lunch on campus
- Bus/transportation for the entire grade (approximately 300 students per school)

Required Materials

- College Gear (drawing for students)
- Notetaking supplies
- Lunch
- Transportation
- Substitute staff chaperones

Prep Time

- Planning meetings
- Collaborating with school staff
- Building relationships with community colleges

	- College 101 (Application Process, Student Essays, Types of Colleges) - Financial Aid (Loans, Grants, Scholarships, Budgeting) - Student Services (Resources available, Writing Center, Disability Services) - STEAM (Exploration in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts) • Lunch: 10:40–11:10: Lunch for Group A on campus. • Campus Tour: 11:15–12:00: Provide a guided campus tour. • Additional Sessions: 12:05–12:35: High School Programs (Dual Credit, AP classes, Running Start) • Closing Session: 12:50–1:15: Student Panel Discussion followed by the closing session and prize distribution. Post-Event Actions: 1. Send thank you notes. Express gratitude to the partnering college and any guest speakers. 2. Submit documentation. Compile and submit all necessary paperwork related to the event. 3. Collect sign-in sheets. Ensure all attendance records are gathered for follow-up. 4. Update digital portals. Update relevant online platforms with event details and student feedback. Feedback and reflection. Reflect on what students learned and consider areas for improvement: 1. Assess the effectiveness of the panels and workshops. 2. Gather feedback on the event's organization, ensuring accurate communication about the day's agenda. 3. Plan future events based on the reflections: Consider a Career 101 Day for juniors focusing on career exploration and Plan a College Application 101 Day for seniors.	- Organizing field trip logistics (name tags, agendas, staff signs, sign-in sheets) - Managing paperwork
	Additional Notes	
		Contributed by Everett HS.