

TOP 10 TIPS

for College Admissions and Financial Aid

- 1 Take a challenging high school curriculum.**
(consult with your guidance counselor)
 - www.collegeispossible.org
 - www.yic.gov/secondary/planning/index.html
- 2 Research a college that fits you.**
 - studentaid2.ed.gov/gotocollege/collegefinder/
 - www.collegeboard.com/csearch
- 3 Take appropriate tests.**
 - www.act.org
 - www.collegeboard.com/testing/
- 4 Familiarize yourself with the application process.**
(apply first semester senior year)
 - mapping-your-future.org/selecting/applying.htm
 - www.yic.gov/secondary/getting/index.html
- 5 Research your eligibility for financial aid.**
 - mapping-your-future.org/paying/finaid2.htm
 - studentaid.ed.gov
- 6 Investigate scholarship opportunities early.**
(start in the 9th grade)
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.collegeanswer.com
- 7 Beware of scholarship scams!**
 - www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/scholarship/index.html
 - www.nacac.com/preventscams.html
- 8 Understand specific costs associated with college.**
 - www.nasfaa.org/SubHomes/DoltAffordIt/affordit3.html
 - www.collegeanswer.com/paying/content/pay_college_costs.jsp
- 9 Fill out the FAFSA in January of your senior year - and every year thereafter that you are in college.**
 - www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - www.finaid.org/fafsa/
- 10 Investigate student and parent loans.**
 - www.finaid.org/loans/
 - www.scholarships.com/EducationLoans.asp

For more information on planning and paying for college, request a free "Paying for College" guide from www.salliemae.org.