

Life After High School

Education & Employment Information Center
Connecticut Department of Higher Education

800/842-0229
www.ctdhe.org

It's never too early to plan for your future. The earlier you start thinking about college and career interests, the better prepared you will be for success. The four key steps are to: 1) let everyone know you're thinking about college and would like their help, 2) work hard and don't stop pushing yourself, 3) find out which kind of school best fits you and your career goals, and 4) learn about financial aid – there's lots out there. Follow these steps and you'll find yourself well on your way to a great future.

Start planning now using your computer as your tool for discovery. Unsure of your future direction? One or more of the websites listed below may offer just the spark to explore a college or career you hadn't considered before. You'll be surprised by how easy, informative and fun navigating these resources can be. And, all of these are free using your computer at school, your local library or at home.

A good place to begin is at www.KnowHow2GoCT.org which explains the four steps mentioned above and helps you find "the right fit" by visiting a virtual college campus. This site contains key links to financial aid sources and to our Education & Employment Information Center which created this pamphlet based on hundreds of conversations with young people just like you. If you would like to speak directly with an information counselor, please call the EEIC or email us at edinfo@ctdhe.org. The EEIC is a public service operated by the Connecticut Department of Higher Education.

Planning for College

Tips for Applying & Preparing for College

ACADEMICS – You Can Do It: School Comparison Worksheet –

www.nasfaa.org/SubHomes/DoItAffordIt/schoolc.asp

ACT®: College Planning – www.actstudent.org/college/index.html

College Board – www.collegeboard.com

College.gov – www.college.gov

Department of Higher Education – www.ctdhe.org/sp.htm

ED.gov: Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education –

www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html

ED.gov: Think College Early – www.ed.gov/students/prep/college/thinkcollege/early/edlite-tcehome.html

Getting Ready for College Early – www.ed.gov/pubs/GettingReadyCollegeEarly/index.html

KnowHow2GoConnecticut – www.KnowHow2GoCT.org

Preparing Your Child for College: A Resource Book for Parents – www.ed.gov/pubs/Prepare/index.html

Students.gov – www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/Public

Learn about College Entrance Exams

ACT® – www.act.org

CollegeBoard – www.collegeboard.com

College Entrance Exam Preparation

ACT® – www.actstudent.org/index.html

CollegeBoard: Tests – www.collegeboard.com/testing

ETS – www.ets.org

NUMBER2.com – www.number2.com

Test Prep Review – www.testprepreview.com

Vocabulary University® – www.vocabulary.com

Glossary of College Terms

CollegeBoard: College Prep Glossary – www.collegeboard.com/parents/plan/getting-ready/26304.html

Common Data Set of U.S. Higher Education Terminology – www.uta.fi/FAST/US5/REF/dataset.html

FastWeb: College Admissions Glossary –

www.fastweb.com/college-search/articles/759-college-admissions-glossary

Funding Education Beyond High school: The Guide to Federal Student Aid – Important Terms –

studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student_guide/2009-2010/english/importantterms.htm#faa

Glossary of United States Educational Terminology – www.uta.fi/FAST/US5/REF/glossary.html

College Fairs

CollegeBoard: Find a College – www.collegeboard.com/student/csearch/where-to-start/index.html

(Click on “College Fairs”)

FastWeb! Resources – fastweb.monster.com/fastweb/resources/articles/index/100381?id=

NACAC: College Fairs – www.nacacnet.org/EventsTraining/CollegeFairs/pages/default.aspx

NEACAC: College Fairs – www.neacac.org (Click on “College Fairs”)

SallieMae/College Answer: College Fair Checklist –

www.collegeanswer.com/global/checklists/wscollegefair.pdf

Explore & Apply to Colleges Online

CollegeBoard – www.collegeboard.com

Common Application – www.commonapp.org

New England Board of Higher Education – www.nebhe.org

PETERSON'S – www.petersons.com

The Princeton Review – www.princetonreview.com

Student-Athletes

NAIA – naia.cstv.com

NCAA – www.ncaa.org

NCAA INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY CENTER – www.ncaaclearinghouse.net

NJCAA: National Junior College Athletic Association – www.njcaa.org

College Financial Aid Resources

Department of Higher Education: Student Financial Aid – www.ctdhe.org/SFA

FastWeb – www.fastweb.com

FinAid – www.finaid.org

FSA: Federal Student Aid – www.studentaid.ed.gov

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators – www.NASFAA.org

SallieMae – www.salliemae.com

Planning Your Career

Find a Career that Matches Your Interests

College & Career Quest Exercise – www.njsca.org/col/colquest.htm

Career Self-Assessments from the Office for Students with Disabilities Portland Community College –

spot.pcc.edu/~rjacobs/career/new_page_5.htm

The Career Interests Game – www.career.missouri.edu/students/explore/thecareerinterestsgame.php

Mapping Your Future – mappingyourfuture.org/planyourcareer

Career Exploration Resources for Middle School Students

Aquarium Careers – www.mbayaq.org/lc/kids_place/kidseq_careers.asp
Engineer Girl! – www.engineergirl.org
The Fun Works for Careers You Never Knew Existed –
thefunworks.edc.org/SPTUI--FunWorks/funworks/accessible/home.php
Kids.gov – www.kids.gov/k_careers.htm (Links to a variety of career information sites)
NASA KIDS – www.nasa.gov/audience/forkids/home/index.html (Information on space-related subjects and careers)
NIEHS IDS' PAGES: Health and Science Careers – www.niehs.nih.gov/kids/labcoat.htm
Sci4KIDS – www.ars.usda.gov/is/kids

Career Exploration Resources for High School Students

About Veterinarians – www.avma.org/careforanimals/animatedjourneys/aboutvets/aboutvetsfl.asp
Career Voyages – www.careervoyages.gov (Assess your interests and find schools)
College of Technology – www.comnet.edu/services/college_of_tech.asp
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF LABOR: Pathways to the World of Work for Young Adults –
www.ctdol.state.ct.us/youth/main.htm
Exploring Career Information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics: What Do You Like –
www.bls.gov/k12/index.htm (Find a career that matches your interests)
H.O.T. Health Occupations and Technology Careers in Connecticut – www.healthcareersinct.com
Institute of Sustainable Energy: Green Jobs in Connecticut –
www.ctenergyeducation.com/images/greenjobCT709.pdf
Job & Career ConneCTion – www.ctjobandcareer.org (A comprehensive site providing links to self-assessment tools, occupational information, educational resources and job search services)
Mapping Your Future™ – mappingyourfuture.org (Outlines steps that students need to take in each grade for future success)
The National Association of Music Education – www.menc.org/careers
Ocean Careers.com – www.oceancareers.com/2.0/index.php
The Riley Guide – www.rileyguide.com (A comprehensive career planning resource)
SIAM: Thinking of a Career in Applied Mathematics – www.siam.org/careers/thinking/intro.php (Not sure if a math related course is right for you, find out about new and existing jobs in this field)

Choosing a Major

Jobweb: Choosing Your Major – www.jobweb.com/studentarticles.aspx?id=720
Major Resource Kits – www.udel.edu/CSC/mrk.html
Match Major Sheets – www.career.fsu.edu/occupations/matchmajor/index.html
What Can I Do With a Major In... – www.uncw.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/index.htm

Career Descriptions & Requirements

Career Guide to Industries – www.bls.gov/oco/cg
CareerOneStop – www.careeronestop.org
Collegeboard.com: Major & Career Profiles – www.collegeboard.com/csearch/majors_careers/profiles
JobStar Central: Career Guides – www.jobstar.org/tools/career/index.php
Occupational Outlook Handbook – www.bls.gov/oco
O*NET OnLine – online.onetcenter.org

Labor Market Information

Bureau of Labor Statistics: Employment Projections: Education Pays... –
www.bls.gov/emp/emptab7.htm

Careeronestop: America's Career Infonet – www.careerinfonet.org (Click on "Occupation Information")

Careeronestop: Salaries & Benefits – www.careeronestop.org/SalariesBenefits/SalariesBenefits.aspx

CT Department of Labor: Labor Market Information for Students –
www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/students.htm

Occupational Licensure

Careeronestop: America's Career Infonet – www.careerinfonet.org (Click on "Certification Finder" and "Licensed Occupations")

Connecticut Licensing Info Center – www.ct-clic.com

University-based Career Centers

JobWeb: Career Center Websites – www.jobweb.com/article.aspx?id=648

Volunteerism

AmeriCorps – www.americorps.org

Citizen Corps – www.citizencorps.gov

Corporation For National and Community Service – www.cns.gov

Department of Higher Education: Connecticut Commission on Community Service –
www.ctdhe.org/Cccs/default.htm

Peace Corps – www.peacecorps.gov

SERVE.GOV – www.serve.gov

Students.gov – www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/Public (Click on "Volunteer Service")

Volunteer.gov/gov – www.volunteer.gov/gov

Internships

E-Scholar – www.studentjobs.gov/d_internship.asp

InternHere.com – www.internhere.com

Students.gov – www.students.gov/STUGOVWebApp/Public (Click on "Internships")

USAJOBS – www.thejobpage.gov

Other Sites of Interest

Study Skills

Study Skills – www.shsu.edu/~counsel/hs/studyskills.html

Study Skills Self-Help Information – www.ucc.vt.edu/stdysk/stdyhlp.html

Study Tips – www.shsu.edu/~tst_www/tips