College Application 101

The Graduating Class of 2015 should be thinking about the college application process over the summer. Here is a checklist of things you should have already done, or if not, make your first priority now:

- Take the ACT/SAT
- Research Colleges/Universities of interest you
- Identify a teacher/counselor/ETS coordinator to write a letter of recommendation
- Create a list of achievements/honors you have received or activities in which you have participated
- Find your transcript (list of classes you have completed) on Infinite Campus, especially those classes that provided college credit

With these tasks completed, you will be ready to fill out college applications! Remember ETS can often get application fees waived or deferred. Before paying any application fees, contact your coordinator or the ETS office to inquire about fee waivers/deferments.

Summer Jobs

Do you have a summer job? If so, start thinking about saving some of those earnings for college! Figure out how much money you need each week to cover your NEEDS (gas for your car, food, clothes, phone bill) and some "FUN" money (not more than 10% of your earnings). Save the rest! Open a savings account and deposit money directly into that account via direct deposit or when cashing your pay check. Look for things to do that are free or are discounted for students. Do not buy anything on impulse. Remember that saving now will save you time and stress later!

CONGRATS to Central College’s ETS TRIO Scholarship Winners!!

ETS is a federally funded TRIO program and a part of the organization, Iowa TRIO. Each year, Iowa TRIO awards scholarships to nominated TRIO participants from across the state. This year two students from our ETS program were awarded $500 scholarships!

Roger Childs Achievement Award :

Fatima Fadel, East High School, Des Moines, IA.

Fatima plans to attend the University of Iowa in the fall to study secondary education or psychology.

Ed and Mary Jane Banfield Achievement Award :

Brittany McQueen, Oskaloosa High School, Oskaloosa, IA.

Brittany plans to attend Drake University in the fall to study Actual Sciences and Business Administration.

Fatima and Brittany have both worked very hard in their academics and were active in co-curricular activities. We wish them the best of luck on their college journeys!

Participation in the program is voluntary. Although the program is administered through Central College, it is not a recruiting tool for the college. ETS does not promote any particular program or school, but makes information available on as many schools and/or training programs as possible. The choice to continue education, and where to go, is the decision of each individual student.

ETS is 100% funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education in the amount of $363,832 to serve 874 students in grades 6 through 12 in the target schools designated in the grant.
Transitioning from Middle School to High School

Top 5 ways to get set for your first day of high school:

- Buy the right supplies—color code folders and notebooks for each class. Get and USE a planner or assignment book.
- Check out your schedule—make sure your scheduled classes are what you registered for. If there are errors, contact the main office of your school and ask how to make corrections.
- Visit the school—if possible, bring your schedule and map out your day. Check out your locker, gym, cafeteria, and counselors’ offices. Find where ETS meetings will be held.
- Talk to people—start with older students you trust to get advice. Try to meet teachers, coaches or other school staff. Ask your ETS coordinator for any insights about the school.

Middle School College Visits

This spring middle-school students visited Simpson College and Graceland University. These campus visits give young students the opportunity to start exploring their options for post-secondary education.

ACT Test Dates/Deadlines 2014-2015

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Class of 2016, ETS recommends you take the ACT in the spring of your Junior year. Remember ETS can provide you 2 ACT Fee Waivers!

Class of 2015, if you have not taken the ACT or did not like the score you received, we recommend you take it ASAP (Sept. or Oct.)!

Sophomore Trip 2014

In May, the ETS sophomores visited Northwest Missouri State University and Avila University (Kansas City). Students were able to compare and contrast a large, public, rural setting with a small, private, urban setting. Students also had the opportunity to explore the Kansas City Art Institute, practice their skills at bowling, tour the WWI museum, and enjoy some thrills at World’s of Fun. ETS students succeeded in making new friends and learning about their peers from other schools.

2014-2015 Events

Look for opportunities to attend shows at the Civic Center, Student Leadership Conferences, ACT prep sessions, many campus visits in and out of Iowa, TRIO advocating opportunities, STEM events at the Science Center of Iowa, and MUCH more!!

How do I get to go on an ETS event? When an event is planned, you will be sent an application. If a grade sheet is included, have your teachers fill it out. You must return the completed application, and any other components, ASAP. ETS staff takes into consideration your grades, meeting attendance and participation, and school attendance/behavior.