

10 College Positive Activities

All Ages

Discuss College Life

Ask the student what they think college life is like. Explain to them your daily activities; include any clubs, or athletics you participate in. Bring in the school newspaper, brochures, and admission's guides for the student to look over. This will give them a better idea of college and make them feel more comfortable with the idea.

Profession Field Trip

Take the youth to multiple professional offices of their interest, either in one day or over multiple days. During the fieldtrip see if it is possible to talk to anyone about the college education needed to have that profession.

Sports Games

Play games and name teams after colleges in Michigan of the mascots of those colleges. Encourage them to think about playing college sports and that there are scholarships available for athletics.

Elementary School Youth

Dress Up

Ask the youth what they want to be when they grow up. Have them dress up as that profession, in clothes or a handmade paper costume and talk about the education needed to have that profession.

Graduation Simulation

At the end of a semester or year congratulate the youth with a mock graduation ceremony and celebrate them completing another semester. Explain the importance of graduating from High School and College.

Middle School Youth

Map Match Up

Create a Map of Michigan and label the cities of Michigan college towns. Have the youth matchup colleges with the towns they are located in. You could also match up mascots with the schools on the map. This activity is great for educating the youth on how many options there are for post-secondary education in Michigan.

College Fun Drawing/Collage

Create a collage from magazine clippings or draw the fun things you can do in college: study abroad, attend sports events, join fraternities/sororities, participate in community service, and live in a dorm etc.

High School Youth

SAT/ACT Discussion

Discuss when to take college entrance exams, and use "All about the SAT and ACT" in the *Toolkit* on page 29.

Practice Writing a College Essay

Practicing writing essays for college applications can help the youth feel better prepared to tackle the application process. Help them write and edit essays, some commonly asked essay questions are:

- Please complete a one-page personal statement
- Please tell us about your career goals and any plans you may have for your future
- What quality do you like best in yourself and what do you like least? What quality would you most like to see flourish and which would you like to see wither?

College Fair

Before you volunteer look up the different college fairs in your area and print out the dates for the youth. Decide together which one(s) you will go together. Follow up with them to see what schools interest them.