

Career Search

- Get to know your career/guidance counselor, and become familiar with Upward Bound's college/career available resources.
- Talk to your counselor or UB staff regarding aptitude tests or skills assessments.
- Complete a career inventory and discover how your interests and abilities affect your career choices.
- Talk to adults in a variety of professions to determine what they like and dislike about their jobs and what kind of education is needed for the job.
- Talk with your guidance counselor or UB staff member about possible careers and sources of information about career planning.
- Explore your interests in careers and attend career/job fairs.

College Search

- Start to discuss college choices with others. As you talk to others, listen to their comments and advise, this may prove to be very helpful.
- Look at college information; many colleges and universities have web pages with a vast amount of info on them. The Upward Bound office also has information on many colleges.
- Visit nearby college campuses and talk with people/friends who live on or near a college.
- Set up a filing system so your information from different colleges can be accessed easily.
- Ask your parents how much they think they can assist you with paying for higher education. Continue or begin a college savings plan.

Activities

- Become involved in extracurricular activities (before or after school). Demonstrate initiative, creativity, commitment and leadership in each.

Activities - continued

- Use your daily planner to prioritize your life and balance your personal, academic, and extra-curricular activities.
- Get to know National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) requirements if you are thinking of playing sports during college.

Academics

- Take classes such as English literature, algebra/geometry, biology, world history, geography, foreign language, government, civics, economics, and the arts.
- Make every attempt to obtain good grades: your entire high school transcript is used to calculate your ending Grade Point Average (GPA). This may make a difference when applying for a college or receiving a scholarship.
- Realize the importance of setting personal and academic goals.
- Set quarterly grade goals that are attainable and measurable.
- Develop strong study habits.
- Read, Read, Read and Write, Write, Write: the more you read and write the better you get at reading, writing, and spelling.
- Develop a way to read and take appropriate notes from your textbooks.
- The more you read the better you will get at reading and have the opportunity to vary your reading speed.
- Practice the concepts of grammar and punctuation. Learn to proofread your own and others' papers.
- Learn the elements of essay writing: formulating a thesis, an introduction and a conclusion.
- Expand your word knowledge and perfect your word usage.