



It's Never Too Soon to Explore and Plan

When it comes to career planning, there is time for dreaming and reflecting. There is also a time to choose and act. The first step of career planning is to simply understand whom you are and what you love to do. Discovering yourself, your personality, preferences, interests and abilities is a great place to start.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Most students want a great job when they graduate from high school or college. Help yourself find a great job tomorrow by building upon your interests today. Have you always wanted to be a doctor? Hospitals are always hiring employees to assist in patient transport. Interested in sports management? Try working at a local ballpark or community-recreation organization. It is never too early to start thinking about your dream job. Meet with your guidance counselor to discuss career possibilities now. Look into summer jobs, special summer programs and internship opportunities.

Getting your dream job

Some of the best jobs and careers are offered to college graduates. This is one of the many reasons why it is so important to study and work hard in school. College is where students have the opportunity to not only earn a degree, but also to learn specialized skills. For example, are you interested

in television broadcasting? At college, you can learn how to become a TV reporter or newscaster. Many of your favorite television stars and role models are college graduates. Did you know that President George W. Bush studied Business at Yale University? Or that Oprah Winfrey studied Speech and Drama at Tennessee State University and Nomar Garciaparra majored in Management at Georgia Institute of Technology? Even the most talented people recognize that going to college helps you to be truly accomplished!

Start planning for college today

While college may seem like decades away to most students, the time to begin thinking about the road that leads to college is now. Think about what subjects you enjoy or have excelled at. This is a great place to begin when thinking about college majors. A college major is a specific area of study that students will focus on in college. There are many majors to choose from, and there are many careers to think about as well. Your college major will provide the knowledge and training that you need in your career field. For example, a teacher may major in early childhood education and an architect may major in engineering. Ask yourself, "What am I good at and what do I like to do?" By answering this question, you will have a great head start towards choosing a college major and a career.

Get involved with school clubs and youth groups

This is a great way to explore new and exciting activities. Many students discover their true interests by trying out different clubs, community service events, student groups, or sport teams. These activities are perfect to include on your resume, college application, or in a job interview. Job shadowing is another great way to explore possible careers. If you would like to know more about a job, just ask the professional if you can observe him/her by going to their workplace for a few hours. You will learn what special skills are needed, what level of education is required, and what classes have helped in preparation for the job.

Preparing for college and your dream job

Because colleges and universities like to see students who have challenged themselves in school, you should be taking the most challenging courses possible while maintaining a B- or better. Involve yourself in activities that matter most to you. Do not hesitate to talk with your parents and your guidance counselor about your future goals and interests. They can help lead you in the right direction and give you advice about ways to accomplish your goals. Don't be shy when asking for help. By involving your family and your teachers, you will be building a foundation of positive support. And don't forget...study, study, study.

The counselors at the Center for College Planning have designed various workshops that help students research what type of jobs and careers will best fit their style. The Center for College Planning is part of The New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation (NHHEAF) Network. The following early awareness programs and career development workshops are available to New Hampshire students:

- Who Wants to be a College Graduate - 8th grade workbook and presentation
- Laying the Foundation for the Perfect Career - 10th grade career workbook and presentation
- The Road to College for High School Students - High school college preparation workbook and presentation
- The Road to College for Junior High and Middle School Students - College and career planning handouts and presentation
- Destination College - Annual statewide college convention attended by over 1,000 high school juniors and parents in March. For more info, visit www.destinationcollege.org

Scott Power, NHHEAF Program Manager

We're here for you! To order our **free** materials or for more information, call the Center for College Planning at:

1-800-525-2577 x 119

or visit us on the web at: <www.nhheaf.org>



NH Higher Education Assistance Foundation
Center for College Planning
4 Barrell Court, Concord, NH 03302

NEW HAMPSHIRE HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION

Step Right Up and Get Your Scholarships Here!

"This scholarship is guaranteed or your money back."

No one can guarantee that they'll get you a grant or scholarship. Refund Guarantees often have conditions or strings attached. Get refund policies in writing--before you pay.

"You can't get this information anywhere else."

There are many free lists of scholarships available. Check with your school or library before you decide to pay someone to do the work for you.

"May I have your credit card or bank account number to hold this scholarship?"

Don't give out your credit card or bank account number on the phone without getting information in writing first. It may be a set-up for an unauthorized withdrawal from your account.

"We'll do all the work."

Don't be fooled. There's no way around it. You must apply for scholarships or grants yourself.

"The scholarship will cost some money."

Don't pay anyone who claims to be "holding" a scholarship or grant for you. Free money shouldn't cost a thing.

"You've been selected" by a 'national foundation' to receive a scholarship, or "You're a finalist" in a contest that you never entered.

Before you send money to apply for a scholarship, check it out. Make sure the foundation or program is legitimate.