

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY



GETTINGTOCOLLEGE.humboldt.edu

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

humboldt.edu
(866) 850-9556

Tours at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.,
Monday through Friday and
Noon on Saturday

1 Harpst Street, Arcata, CA 95521

GETTING to COLLEGE

**You can
DO THIS!**

A NO-NONSENSE GUIDE for 8TH-GRADERS

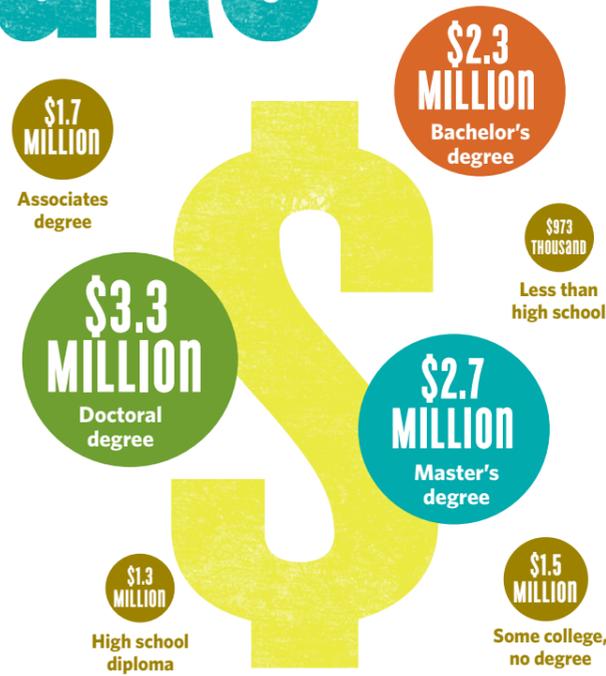
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Imagine your FUTURE

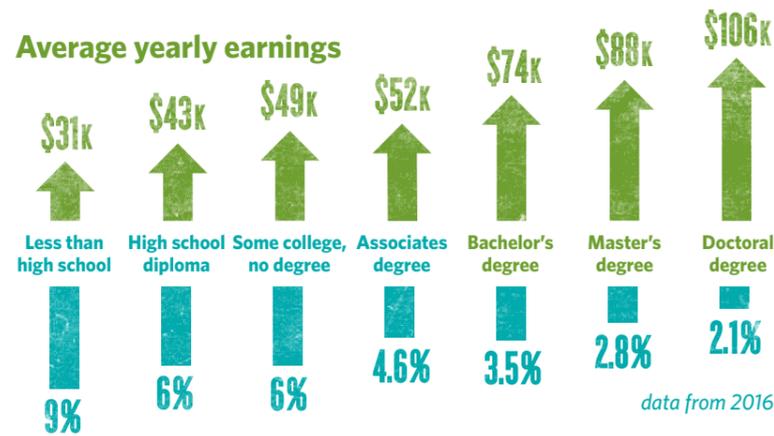
Why Go to College?

College is an investment. Over a lifetime, graduates with four-year degrees earn about \$1 million more than high school graduates.

IN COLLEGE, YOU BUILD WIDER SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND THAT HELPS YOU FIND A GREAT JOB. AN ESTIMATED 70 PERCENT OF JOBS AREN'T POSTED PUBLICLY – THEY'RE FILLED THROUGH CONNECTIONS.



More education leads to greater lifetime earnings



COLLEGE GRADS REPORT BEING HEALTHIER THAN OTHERS – THEY'RE MORE LIKELY TO SAY THEIR HEALTH IS VERY GOOD OR EXCELLENT, LESS LIKELY TO DRINK HEAVILY, & MORE LIKELY TO EXERCISE.

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Challenge YOURSELF

Path to College

Do your best in school—take challenging courses, study hard, develop good study habits

"A-G" REQUIREMENTS

To apply to California State University and University of California campuses, these must be completed with a C or better. CSU's and UC's also want you to have a high school diploma and will consider grade point average (GPA) and test scores.

SUBJECT AREA	YEARS REQUIRED
A HISTORY	2
B ENGLISH	4
C MATHEMATICS	3 (4 Recommended)
D LABORATORY SCIENCE	2 (3 Recommended)
E FOREIGN LANGUAGE	2 (3 Recommended)
F VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS	1
G COLLEGE PREP ELECTIVE	1

"A-G" COMPLETION = YOU CAN APPLY TO A FOUR-YEAR CSU OR UC



Create your four-year high school plan early to ensure you can complete your "a-g" requirements.

BE
YOUR
BEST

FIND the ANSWERS

You have lots of questions. Take charge of getting answers!

Isn't it too early to think about college?

Not at all. Focusing on school, getting involved in extracurricular activities, and planning ahead now will give you more options later.

What if I'm not smart enough for college?

Obviously, most 8th-graders aren't ready for college yet. As you get ready for high school, it's up to you to work hard to gain the knowledge and skills you need. Keep your options open!

What if my family can't pay for college?

More than two-thirds of college students get some type of financial aid. There is state and federal financial aid that can help cover the cost, and there are also scholarships, campus jobs, and loans that you pay back after college. Colleges expect you and your family to pay as you're able, but other financial aid can help make up the difference.

What if nobody else in my family went to college?

Be the first! Set an example that others in your family could follow. And remember you're not alone—at HSU, 54% of students are the first in their family to go to college.

Shouldn't I just get a job after high school?

Maybe. You might be able to get a job with decent pay after high school. Or you can invest in yourself to have more career options with better pay later.

Why go to college if I don't know what I want to do?

Many students start college without knowing exactly what they want to do as far as a career. Many others change their mind during college. It's a time to explore and discover new options.

Get advice from others

Parents	School counselors
Family members	Coaches
Teachers	Neighbors

"It's hard to get a good job straight after high school. You really do need that degree. I want to set an example for my nieces, nephews, and little sister to show them that this is attainable."

— CELESTE ALVAREZ

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STICK with IT

There are some important traits we can all improve with effort.

An ability to try and try again, keeping up the effort toward long-term goals. Overcoming obstacles to conquer a big challenge.

✓ **THAT'S GRIT**

An ability to bounce back from failures and challenges, and to take healthy risks. Being curious and brave, and pushing beyond your comfort zone.

✓ **THAT'S RESILIENCE**

You aren't just "born with it." Abilities and intelligence can be improved with effort. Love the challenge and keep on learning.

✓ **THAT'S GROWTH MINDSET**

YOU GOT THIS

do WHAT it TAKES

UPWARD



“I feel like I am my mom’s American dream, and I can’t let her down. She just wants me to see my own potential.”

– MARTIN MONJARAZ

8th Grade Checklist

Aim High

- ✔ Think about your future possibilities with a college education.
- ✔ Do your best in school and on standardized tests. If you’re having difficulty, get help from a teacher, tutor, or mentor.
- ✔ Strive to get A’s and B’s in your classes.

Explore & Plan

- ✔ Ask your counselor about challenging and interesting courses you can take in high school to prepare for college.
- ✔ Learn about, and plan to take, all the “a-g” college prep classes in high school.
- ✔ Discuss your thoughts and ideas about college with family and people at school.
- ✔ Ask your parent or guardian to help you research which high schools or special programs will most benefit your interests.

Study Smart

- ✔ Focus extra time to your math and English classes.
- ✔ Set aside time in a quiet place every day for school work. Do your homework, study for tests, and finish extra work if you have time.

Connect & Talk

- ✔ Get involved in school or community activities that let you explore your interests and learn new things.
- ✔ Explore possible careers using an online “career interest survey” tool.
- ✔ Talk with teachers, school counselors, librarians, relatives, or family friends who have interesting jobs. Ask what they like about their job and what education they needed.

9th Grade Checklist

Focus on Academics

- ✔ Meet with your school counselor and map out a 4-year plan for finishing your “a-g” college prep classes. These are needed to apply to CSU or UC campuses.
- ✔ Explore possible careers using an online “career interest survey” tool. Research the type of education you need for various careers.
- ✔ Keep a growth mindset. With effort, you can get smarter and build new skills.

Plan Ahead

- ✔ Ask your school counselor about applying for support programs that help you get ready for college—like TRIO Upward Bound, TRIO Talent Search, and AVID.

Do Something Extra

- ✔ Keep a running list of accomplishments, honors, awards, and recognition for your resume and college/scholarship applications.
- ✔ Explore your options by getting involved with extracurricular or leadership activities at school.
- ✔ Find new interests by volunteering for school or community service projects.
- ✔ Attend college prep events and information sessions.

“I think it’s really good to put yourself out there. Get the associate’s degree, get the bachelor’s degree, even get the master’s degree. Then when it comes to finding a career, you can be the one calling the shots rather than having to take whatever comes your way.”

– ADRIAN ZAVALA



“One of my favorite academic experiences was my botany class, which was not like a typical class where you just look at a couple of samples in a lab. We actually got to go into the forest to collect our test samples and went into the greenhouse for even more observations.”

– SABRINA SIBBETT



BE THE ONE TO CALL THE SHOTS



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