

COLLEGE PLANNING WORKSHOP



WELCOME!

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

MRS. WYLES-HERBERT (A-K)

MRS. MACHAMER (L-Z)

CAREER SPECIALIST

MRS. DEL CONTE

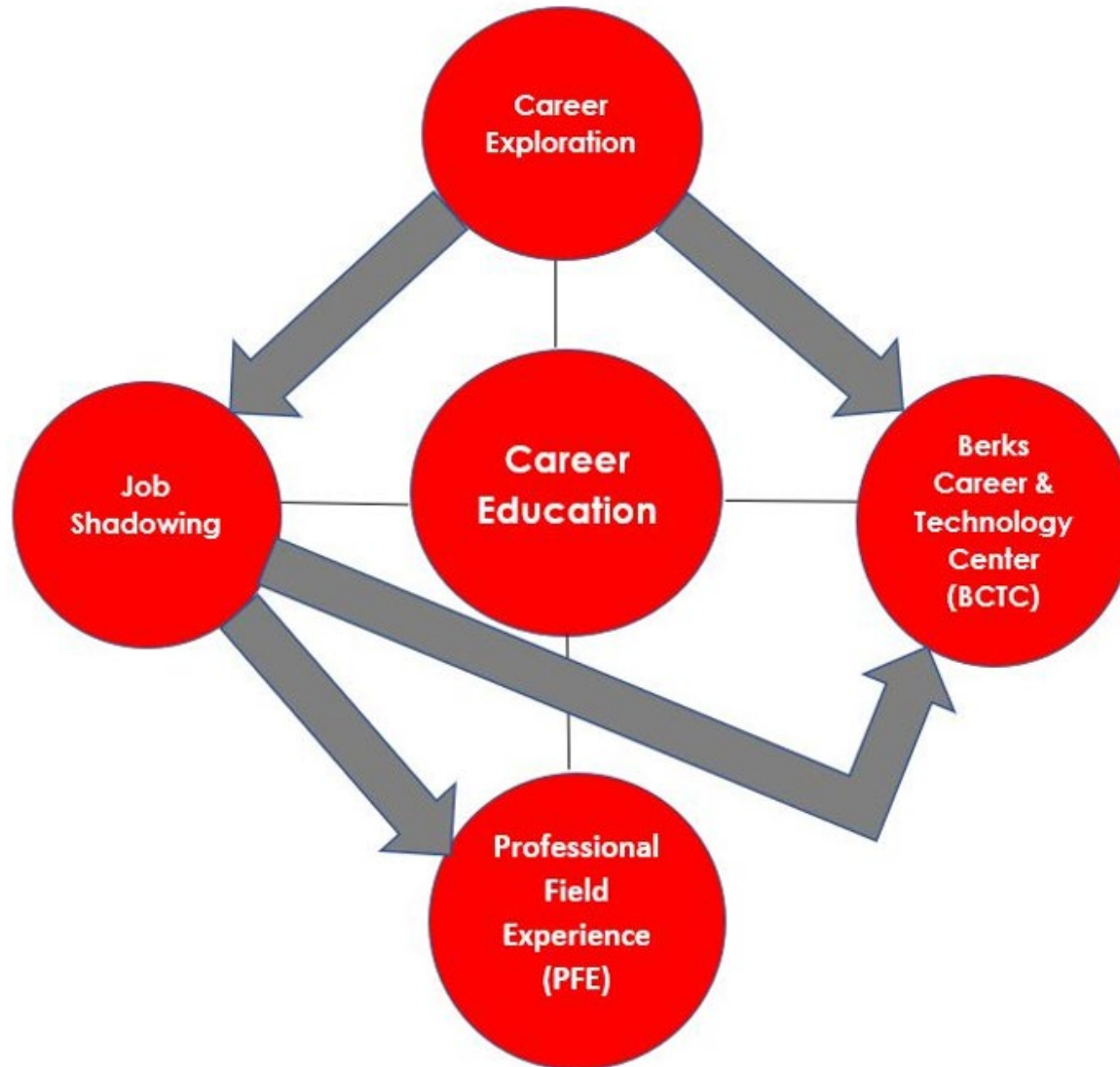
FEB 6, 2025



PLANNING THE PLAN...

- Have you thought about a career?
- What research have you done?
- What makes you happy?
- Why College? Why Military? What Career?
- Be resourceful
- Take initiative
- Know what you should do on your own and when to ask for help
- Job Shadow- shadow the workforce and experience it first-hand.
 - ✓ *Job shadowing can be for a few hours on one day or multiple shadows*

FINDING YOUR PATH



MRS. DEL CONTE

**CAREER
SPECIALIST**

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HAVE YOU TALKED ABOUT ALL OPTIONS?

Click on
to learn more

CLICK
HERE



CLICK
HERE

MILITARY

CLICK
HERE



CLICK
HERE

WORK

CLICK
HERE



CLICK
HERE

COLLEGE

CLICK
HERE



WHY GO TO POST SECONDARY SCHOOL?

To become a professional in your field of interest. (Earn the degree)

Job opportunities

Earning potential

Opportunities for professional growth, advancement & leadership

Personal growth/Independence

Good
Idea



Understanding College Drop Out

24% OF COLLEGE STUDENTS DROP OUT IN THE FIRST YEAR

47% OF COLLEGE STUDENTS GRADUATE IN 4 YEARS

THESE FIGURES HAVE STEADILY INCREASED OVER THE LAST DECADE

Drop-out rates can be influenced by many factors such as:

- Financial concerns
- Academic struggles
- Poor habits
- Social & emotional challenges

Planning & resiliency can significantly reduce the likelihood of drop out

- Parents can play a key role by helping talk through realistic college expectations & encourage the development of building skills in independence.
- Build time management skills
- Create strong study habits
- Maintain a support network

5 SIMPLE STEPS...

College opportunities exist for everyone.
These 5 steps can help simplify the process:

1. Understand the types of post-secondary education
2. Explore Colleges (College search)
3. How to get accepted and STAY IN!
4. College entrance exams (SAT/ACT)_{optional or required?}
5. Develop a financial plan



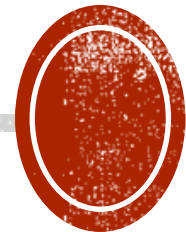
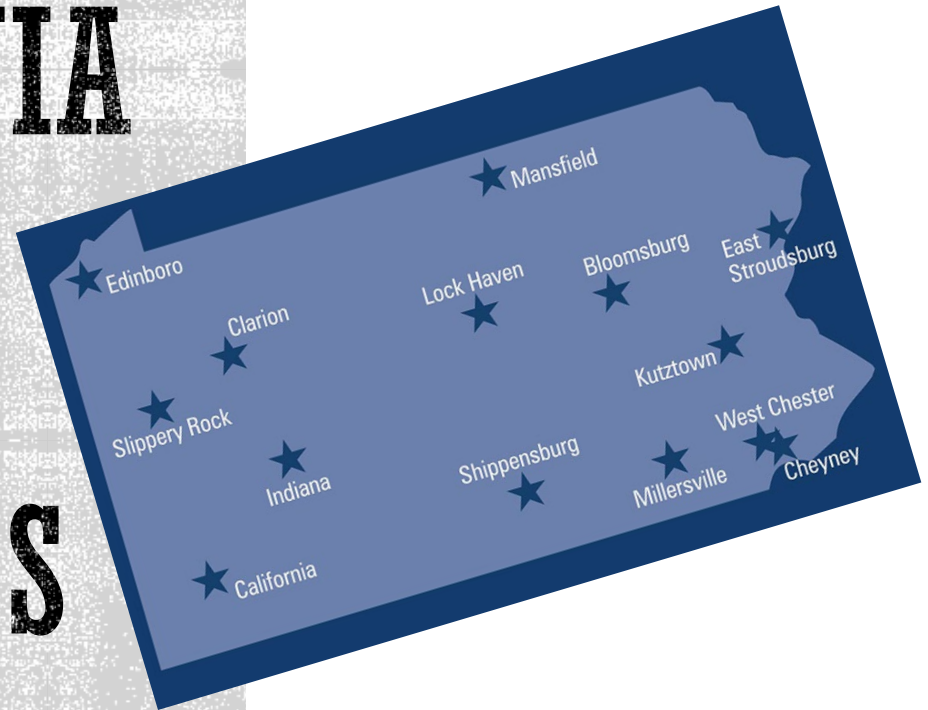
1. TYPES OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION:

- **Technical/Training Institutes**
 - BTI, Empire Beauty, UTI, McCann, Adult BCTC
- **Community/Junior Colleges/2-year colleges**
 - RACC, LCCC, Thaddeus Stevens
- **Traditional 4-year College\University**
 - State-Owned
 - State-Related
 - Private

1.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

[PASSHE WEBSITE](#)



1.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

- Penn State University
- University of Pittsburgh
- Temple University
- Lincoln University

PRIVATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

- **Most Colleges you think of:** Albright, Alvernia, Lehigh, Yale, DeSales, Wilkes, Elizabethtown, Princeton, LVC, Moravian, Thomas Jefferson, etc.

2. EXPLORE COLLEGES (COLLEGE SEARCH):

Use College Search Programs to find schools with major of choice:

Big Future

Petersons

College Navigator, and so on..



Dream Schools



**Good Match
Schools**



**Safety / Value
Schools**

2.

COLLEGE VISITS/FAIR

Campus tour (group or individual)

Get answers to your questions

Get a feel for campus and surrounding areas

Meet with Admissions, Financial Aid, Athletics

Online visits, tours, fairs! [Campus Reel](#), [NACAC](#)

Berks Spring College Fair (@Alvernia) 3/5/24)

[BigFuture College Visit Checklist](#), [click](#)



3. BECOME FAMILIAR WITH ADMISSIONS FACTORS: HOW TO GET IN & STAY!

Primary Factors

- Quality/Rigor of Academic Courses Academic
- Performance (Grades, GPA, Rank)
- Test Scores (SAT, ACT, optional?)

Additional Factors

- Extracurricular Activities
- Essay/Short answer Qs
- Letters of Recommendation
- Demonstrated Interest
- Standout Factors - Summer Programs

4. COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

TEST OPTIONAL OR NOT?

SAT now digital!

Students must install Bluebook app, practice using the software prior to taking the exam.

What to expect on test day

• 3 Sections:

- Math
- Reading
- Writing & Language

• **Length:** self-paced. Leave when complete (by noon)

• **Score Range:** 200-800 per section, 400-1600 overall

ACT

• **4 Sections:** English, Math, Reading & Science and an optional writing test

• **Length:** 4 hours

• **Score Range:** 1-36 per section, Composite score range from 1-36 (average of scores on the 4 subject tests)

SAT Prep – Khan Academy, Practice Tests

5. DEVELOP A FINANCIAL PLAN

- Speak with your student now about financing college...always have one safety school (specifically for cost factor) RACC is a smart option!
- Determine all college expenses (not just tuition)
- Estimate your family's expected contribution (no longer called the EFC, now the Student Aid Index, SAI)
- Search for scholarships – including Hamburg's Counseling Department's Scholarship Webpage Esther Ludwig (85% or 80%gpa)
- Complete FAFSA (opening date possibly Oct 1 but this year was delayed to December/ use 2023 tax returns) www.fafsa.gov
- Attend financial aid workshop in the county: RACC, Albright, Kutztown, etc.



5.

BIG FUTURE SCHOLARSHIPS- COLLEGEBOARD

- How can students participate?
- Students can return to the homepage to opt into the program via their College Board account.
- Specifically for juniors
- Students can opt-out if they no longer wish to participate

The Scholarships

The more effort you put in, the more opportunities you have to earn a scholarship. Complete all six, and you're eligible to earn \$40,000. Scholarships will be awarded through monthly drawings to students who complete each action.



1. Build Your College List: \$500

Get started by [exploring colleges](#) you're interested in. [Learn More](#)



2. Practice for the SAT: \$1,000

Use [Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy](#) to get ready for test day. [Learn More](#)



3. Improve Your Score: \$2,000

Show how practice pays off by improving your SAT score. [Learn More](#)



4. Strengthen Your College List: \$500

Make sure your college list has a mix of academic safety, fit, and reach schools. [Learn More](#)



5. Complete the FAFSA: \$1,000

Fill out the free government form to apply for financial aid. [Learn More](#)



6. Apply to Colleges: \$1,000

Apply to the schools you want to attend. [Learn More](#)



Complete Your Journey: \$40,000

Complete all six scholarship steps to be eligible for a \$40,000 scholarship. [Learn More](#)



JUST A FEW REMINDERS...

- Spring Berks College Fair – March 4th **Permission forms on table**
- Register for the SATs and/or ACTs **Must study first!**
- Choose challenging courses for senior year or appropriate for student (AP, dual enrollment)
- Plan College Visits **Virtual and in person**
- Narrow down options
- College Athletes must register with the **NCAA**



ANY QUESTIONS ???

**RESOURCES FROM THIS
EVENING INCLUDING SLIDES
AND RECORDING OF THE
COLLEGE PANEL WILL BE
EMAILED/SHARED EARLY
NEXT WEEK**

**THANK
YOU!**

