

COLLEGE FLOW CHART

EXPOSURE & EXPLORATION

EXPOSURE TO POST-SECONDARY PATHWAYS BEGINS IN 9TH GRADE:

- Enroll in First Star Academy if entering the 9th grade
- Attend college peer group/workshop
- Explore colleges online with Coach or College Specialist
- Attend a college fair
- Visit colleges
- Discuss college experience with current/former students
- Discuss college options with parents or other significant adults



PREPARATION & PLANNING

COACHES AND /OR COLLEGE SPECIALISTS SHOULD:

- Review transcript and progress toward high school graduation
- Discuss 2-Year and 4-Year college pathways
- Help student take the pre-SATs/SATs
- Connect student to a tutor, if needed
- Review financial resources available to foster youth with the student (see [Appendix G19 College Budget Tools](#))
- Inform youth about ACS Dorm Project/College Room & Board
- Discuss out of state and private college options, if appropriate



APPLICATION & SELECTION: COLLEGE ADVISING PHILOSOPHY | 2 OR 4 YEAR COLLEGES?

Students with **GPAs** in or above the 75-80 range and **SAT SCORES** above 400 in each section should consider **4-YEAR COLLEGES**
Other factors to discuss include: **LOCATION, MAJORS**, and if the student is **AGING OUT***

2-YEAR COLLEGE APPLICANTS

- Apply to 6 CUNY schools
- Consider Guttman Community College and, LaGuardia which have supports for at-risk students and trimester schedules
- If applying to CUNY: apply to College Discovery/SEEK Opportunity Program or CUNY ASAP



4-YEAR COLLEGE APPLICANTS:

- Complete full application to CUNY & SUNY schools
- Apply to Opportunity Programs
- Counsel youth away from private or out of state public schools *unless student will have aid covered and/or the college can commit to covering the tuition/room & board gap*



COLLEGE SELECTION: Review **ACCEPTANCE LETTERS** with Coach or College Specialist, Guidance Counselor, and parent

SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENTS IN CARE

FINANCIAL AID & FUNDING

- Federal PELL Grant** (using the FAFSA form)
- NYS TAP Grant** (Tuition Assistance Program)
- ETV** (Education & Training Vouchers)
- FYSA** (Fostering Youth Success Alliance)
- The nsoro Foundation Scholarship**
- ACS Dorm Project/College Room & Board**

OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

- College Discovery/SEEK** (2-Year)
- EOP and HEOP** (4-Year)
- ASAP** (*Apply if student is attending a CUNY school and is not eligible for CD/SEEK*)



REMEDIAL PROGRAMS

Students with significant remedial needs should apply** to:

CUNY START: A semester-long program for students with remedial needs in reading, writing, and/or math. (*Free; doesn't use financial aid*)

MATH START: An 8-12 week program for students who need assistance in math

COLLEGE PERSISTENCE

THE COACH PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN HELPING STUDENTS PERSIST IN COLLEGE, FROM ENROLLMENT TO GRADUATION:

PREPARING FOR 1ST SEMESTER

- Attend orientation and visit college
- Complete mandated summer prep courses
- Check in the day before classes begin
- Ensure student has food, transportation, and basic living expenses for first month in college

DURING 1ST SEMESTER

- Check in after the first day to debrief, and after the first week
- Help student buy books, if needed
- Ensure student understands how to use online college systems and the consequences of class attendance policies
- Walk through syllabi and put due dates in calendar
- Check in on progress bi-weekly
- Check in during critical junctions: before "Withdraw" period**, during mid-terms, and finals

AFTER EACH SEMESTER

- Submit grades to all ETV and/or scholarship providers
- Check financial aid balance
- Ensure enrollment in proper courses



Let's get ready for college!

* Students **AGING OUT** should consider the **ACS DORM PROJECT** for CUNY schools or the **ACS ROOM & BOARD PROGRAMS** for other colleges

** Students with remedial needs enrolled in Guttman or LaGuardia Community College don't need to apply to Remedial Programs, as both colleges incorporate remedials into the schedule