COLLEGE PERSISTENCE CHECKLIST

BEFORE COLLEGE:

☐ APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID
  - Apply for ETV
  - Create an FSA ID
  - Fill out the FAFSA
  - Fill out the TAP application
  - Save a copy of the FAFSA Student Aid Report for records

☐ APPLY FOR COLLEGE
  Best practice: all college applications should be done by Halloween

☐ APPLY TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS
  - Apply to College Choice (if eligible) (see Appendix G13)
    - College Choice applications are usually due a few weeks before the start of the semester.
  - Make sure “YES” is checked on college applications answer to any questions about interest in ASAP/ACE or Opportunity Programs (HEOP/EOP/SEEK/CD) (see Appendix G9 & Appendix G8).
  - Fill out supplemental applications for HEOP/EOP/SEEK/CD
  - Check your email regularly for outreach from opportunity programs and respond quickly

☐ APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS
  - If applying to private schools, fill out College Board CSS
  - Research scholarships as needed and apply (see Appendix G11)

☐ ACCEPT AN ADMISSIONS OFFER
  - Contact the school admissions department to see if they are willing to waive the commitment deposit
  - Most colleges require offers to be accepted by May 1st. If you need more time, call the admissions department

☐ GET ORGANIZED
  - Make a folder for college paperwork (keep somewhere safe)
  - Get a copy of a foster care letter on agency letterhead, when relevant
  - Write down your login and password for any college student account in the folder
    - Share passwords with college specialist or coach to avoid getting locked out of your student account!
  - Plan to check your email regularly (3-4x per week)

☐ VERIFY INDEPENDENT STUDENT STATUS FOR FINANCIAL AID
  (when relevant)

☐ REGISTER FOR CLASSES

☐ ATTEND ANY SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAMS OR ORIENTATIONS OFFERED BY THE COLLEGE

☐ IF DORMING AWAY:
  - Pay any housing deposits up front
  - Get a copy of your lease or housing agreement to send with your Choice documentation (if you are eligible) (see Appendix G13)
  - Make sure dorm supplies are purchased before the student moves into the dorm

☐ APPLY FOR NEW YORKERS FOR CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL PACKAGE PROGRAM (if currently in care/aged out)
  - It is vital every student going to college has a laptop of their own

☐ ARRANGE FOR DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS (IF NEEDED)
  - Contact campus office for students with disabilities

EVERY SEMESTER:

☐ PURCHASE BOOKS & ONLINE ACCESS FOR ALL CLASSES BY THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF THE SEMESTER!
  - Agencies may have emergency funds available for any students who do not have books either due to a funding gap or a delay

☐ CHECK IN WITH: Coaches, tutors, counselors, and any other supportive adults regularly, especially during freshman year

☐ RE-APPLY FOR COLLEGE CHOICE

AT THE HALFWAY MARK OF THE SEMESTER:

☐ CHECK IF IT’S NECESSARY TO WITHDRAW FROM ANY CLASSES

☐ REGISTER FOR CLASSES FOR NEXT SEMESTER
  - Registration for the next semester opens around the middle of the semester.
  - Students should register for the following semester as soon as possible; definitely before they start studying for finals.

☐ CHECK STUDENT ACCOUNT & FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS
  - Check student account for holds and past-due balances
  - Submit any missing financial aid documents
  - Apply for emergency funding if needed

AFTER EACH SEMESTER:

☐ REVIEW GRADES FROM THE SEMESTER
  - Celebrate the positives, and make a plan to improve anything that needs improvement

☐ SUBMIT ANY NEEDED APPEALS
  - Grade appeals (if received "WU" or "F" or was graded unfairly)
  - Financial aid appeals (if student lost financial aid)
  - Dismissal appeals (if academically dismissed)

IF ELIGIBLE FOR ETV:
  - Send Transcript to ETV

RE-APPLY FOR NYFC BACK TO SCHOOL PACKAGE
  - Even students who already have a laptop will receive an Amazon gift card every semester if they reapply.

IF STUDENT IS INTERESTED IN TRANSFERRING:
  - Submit transfer applications (see Appendix G18)

IF STUDENT IS NEARING COMPLETION OF A 2-YEAR DEGREE AND WANTS TO TRANSFER TO A 4-YEAR COLLEGE AFTER:
  - Submit transfer application (see Appendix G18)

☐ RE-CHECK STUDENT ACCOUNT & FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS
  - Check student account for holds and past-due balances
  - Submit any missing financial aid documents
  - Apply for emergency funding if needed

EVERY YEAR:

☐ FILL OUT ETV APPLICATION
☐ RE-APPLY FOR FAFSA & TAP
☐ APPLY FOR NICK’S SCHOLARS, WHEN RELEVANT