



HOW CAN YOU PROMOTE COLLEGE APPLICATION MONTH?

IF YOU'RE A TEACHER:

- Ask students if they've filled out their college application ... Don't take 'no' for an answer
- Answer questions about the application process
- Share a "why college was important to me" story at the beginning of each period
- Wear apparel with your college's logo – and share something about why you chose your college
- Encourage your school newspaper to publish a student-written article on applying to college
- Hold a "College Breakfast" for students who have completed their application ... Invite all of your school's teachers

IF YOU'RE A SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR OR PRINCIPAL:

- Post "College Application Month" reminders on your school web page
- Tell families about "College Application Month" via robo-calls
- Tap student groups – sports teams, Student Council, service clubs – to talk up applying to college at their meetings and practices
- Invite high school alums who are in college to come back to speak to your students
- Ask for volunteers from the community to talk with individual juniors and seniors about going to college, especially if you think a student is delaying or "on the fence"
- Make certain that parents know the name of your College Application Month Champion

IF YOU'RE A GUIDANCE COUNSELOR:

- Post "Ask Me about College" signs in hallways and classrooms
- Invite college mascots to visit your high schools
- Meet with each senior student and review his or her college application checklist
- Hold workshops for seniors about finding the right college and the steps to apply
- Ask college recruiters to donate college tee-shirts and other items for a raffle
- Give stickers or key chains to students who complete their application ("Know how to go" or "I applied")
- Make sure student recommendations and transcripts are submitted on time

IF YOU'RE A FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATION OR A SOCIAL-SERVICE PROVIDER:

- Ask seniors in your group to share their college plans with younger students
- Encourage adults who work with teens to talk about why college was important to them or why they wish they had gone to college
- Ask adults to stand and be recognized at worship services or events when the name of their college is called
- Have members of your faith-based group or agency write encouraging letters to students who are already in college
- Encourage families and young people to go to the Ohio Board of Regents' website to learn about applying to college and scholarships
- Tell families and students about the Education Trust's website – it highlights the colleges where students go and stay rather than drop out
- Identify personal mentors or prayer partners for each senior, targeting students who are low-income or the first in their family to go to college
- Hold a prayer service before applications are due
- Invite students who are in college to speak to younger students about their experiences and to encourage high-school students to apply
- Tell students about college debt calculators (Google 'New York Times and Student Debt Calculator') and the Dayton Foundation's ScholarshipCONNECT
- Give students this rule of thumb: Limit your total undergraduate tuition debt – it should never be more than what you expect to earn your first year on the job
- Encourage adults to invite young people to job shadow them to learn about careers