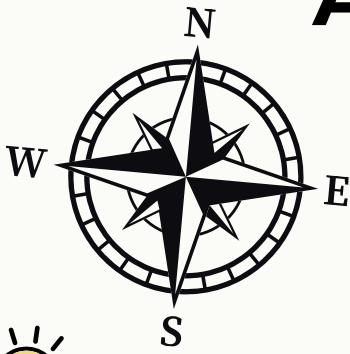




# A Quick Guide for Parents of College-Bound Teens

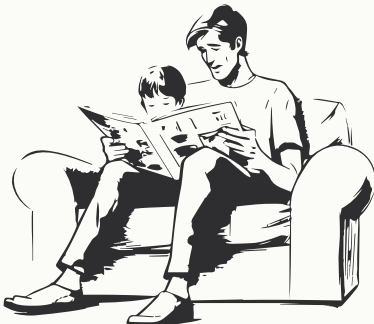
Practical tips and real-world advice to support your child on their college journey.



## Tip #1: Let their passion be their compass

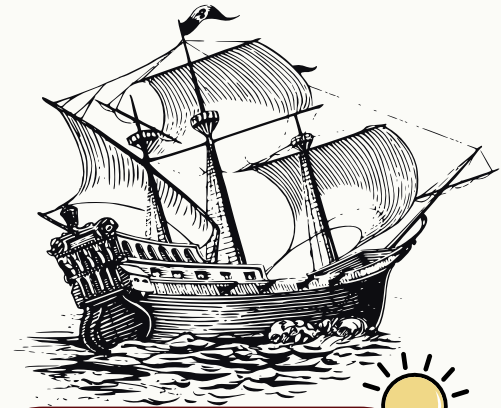
Every student has a passion, and that passion can serve as their best compass in the college admissions journey. Their interests might differ from what you once imagined, and that's okay—it's natural to feel a bit reserved.

**Encourage them to follow their passion, because that's where they'll find their true north.**



## Tip #3: Explore colleges

Each campus has its character and "vibe." Some students thrive in the bustling energy of a big city, while others find their place in the quiet charm of a small town. Explore these options to find a university where your child can truly grow, learn, and feel at home.



## Tip #2: Talk, plan, and dream together

You bring the experience and wisdom; they bring the dream and energy. Together, you make the perfect team. Regular check-ins about their college journey—like schedules, deadlines, and extracurriculars—are key.

**Open, honest conversations will help you stay on course, making the process less overwhelming.**



## Tip #4: Find the balance between dream and fit

Don't forget to consider all the outstanding schools beyond the Ivy League; you might discover the perfect-fit for your child. Make a well-balanced college list with schools that might be slightly beyond reach and ones within reach, keeping in mind their academic record and personal interests.



### Tip #5: Guide them through setbacks

The college application process is full of ups and downs. When setbacks happen—and they will—your family’s strength lies in how you weather the storms together.

**Focus on new opportunities that come up and steer through each challenge as a team.**



Create a space where they feel comfortable being themselves without judgment. Remember, comparison is the thief of joy. Celebrate their unique path and progress, which will help them stay motivated and positive as they continue to chart their own course.



### Tip #6: Be their safe haven

## What should your high-schooler’s timeline look like?



HIGH SCHOOL YEAR	TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES
Freshman Year	<p><b>Course Selection:</b> Choose challenging classes like IGCSEs, IB, Honors, or AP to build a strong academic base.</p> <p><b>Community Involvement:</b> Dive into different activities to get a better idea of what you’re interested in.</p> <p><b>Extracurricular Activities:</b> Try out different clubs and activities to find where your strengths lie.</p>
Sophomore Year	<p><b>Identify Your Passion:</b> Start zeroing in on what excites you and where you excel.</p> <p><b>Focus on Extracurriculars:</b> Get more involved in activities that resonate with you; think quality over quantity.</p> <p><b>Prep for ACT/SAT:</b> Begin your preparation for standardized tests.</p>
Junior Year	<p><b>Internships:</b> Seek out practical experiences related to your interests.</p> <p><b>Major Identification:</b> Reflect on what you might want to study and your future career goals.</p> <p><b>College Research:</b> Start exploring colleges to find the best fit for your academic and personal goals.</p>
Senior Year	<p><b>Research Paper:</b> If applicable, complete and polish any major research projects.</p> <p><b>College Summer Internships:</b> Look into summer programs to enhance your application.</p> <p><b>Retake SAT/ACT:</b> If needed, consider retaking the tests to improve your scores.</p> <p><b>Personal Essays &amp; Applications:</b> Write, refine, and finalize your college essays and applications.</p>

