

Anacortes College and Career Outreach  
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Series of 4 meetings in Fall semester, repeated in  
Spring semester

- Overview of College Admissions
- Special Guest Speaker from a College
  - Financial Aid
- Non 4 year post high school educational choices

Monthly meetings - check district calendar,  
Facebook page, for dates

ALL meetings in AHS library for middle AND  
high school families

ALL are welcome, 7th-11th grade especially

Students with or without parent(s)

Parent(s) with or without student

October 11:  
Pomona College (and more)

ACCO will show you how to find  
colleges/careers that  
**fit** you: socially, emotionally, academically  
and financially.

where you go is less  
important than what you  
do there

“The college admission process begins the minute you start making your first choices in course selection and in co-curricular activities in middle school...they lay the groundwork... they are not easily reversed...**these are the decisions that will allow you to market yourself to the colleges of your choice.**”

-Barron's

start early  
expand your horizons  
don't believe sticker price



A bachelor's degree can result in more than \$1 million more  
in lifetime earnings

Any post high school education improves earnings and job  
choices

but...did you choose an affordable school? the right major?

A majority of students will attend public colleges and universities;

70% of financial aid comes from private schools;

a significant % of financial aid is already earmarked for students in college databases by 10th grade.

1 out of 3 students will pay “sticker price” - 2/3 won't.

# Financial Aid

need-based

merit-based

scholarship, grants, work-study  
loans

**Are you: low, middle or high income?**

Don't assume you won't  
qualify for financial aid!

88% of students at private colleges will receive  
some kind of institutional financial aid

# Make Your Plan

- \*4 year high school coursework
  - \*extracurricular activities
  - \*standardized tests
- \*do a self-assessment - who are you, what do you want
  - \*build your college list - RESEARCH
    - \*demonstration of interest
  - \*financial aid - work it like a job!
  - \*family finance conversation

# True or False

*You will graduate from college in four years. UW ~56%*

*Gonzaga 68% Whitman 80%*

*It costs more to go to an out of state college.*

*Washington has one of the highest acceptance rates at out of state colleges.*

*Most freshman classes at most public schools are taught by professors.*

*Ivy league schools do not charge tuition.*

# WESTERN UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE (WUE)

3-2 programs  
special schools

## Learn:

- \*who you are (self-assessment)
- \*what do you want (Barron's)
- \*which colleges are for you (research)
- \* what is affordable for you (family conversation)



# What matters in admissions?

GPA

rigor of curriculum

standardized test scores

demonstration of interest

letters of recommendation

## Research what matters to *your* school

[collegedata.com](http://collegedata.com)

[collegetransitions.com/dataverse](http://collegetransitions.com/dataverse)

common data set

[bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org)

[prepscholar.com](http://prepscholar.com)

Barron's

website mission statement

net price calculator

## Barron's Profiles in American Colleges

p 1207 What % of OSU applicants were accepted?

p 1076 What is tuition at Webb Institute?

p 507 Boise State takes students from how many states?

Look at the questions on pages 1, 3 and 7

RECRUITERS: demonstration of interest

# Demonstrating Interest

For some schools, having no connection with the school can drastically reduce your chance of admission.

- Sign up for their email list
  - WRITE to them
- Attend college fair (with prep)
  - business card
  - request alumni visit
    - college visit
    - thank you notes
  - follow up questions

“On the road”  
school visits

apply to schools where you will be in the top

25%

parents consider early financial aid strategies



Keep track of what you're doing  
Have a good email address for  
everything college related

# How do you become a desirable candidate?

Start early!

Develop relationships!

Plan ahead, create a course of study that keeps your options open.

Take the most challenging coursework you can handle, and do well.

Be interested.

YOU make sure that colleges know you exist consistently

persistently

insistently

**Students:** Take the most challenging coursework in which you can do well; engage longitudinally in extracurriculars

**Parents:** Help with college research; have a conversation about financial aid and what you can afford.

**Decision-making: Students + Parents**

FAFSA October 1!

<http://www.collegedata.com/>

[niche.com](http://niche.com) live for ahs

educate to career

[prepscholar.com](http://prepscholar.com)

[goodcall.com](http://goodcall.com) for scholarship search

net price calculator

[understandingfafsa.org](http://understandingfafsa.org)

The Financial Aid Handbook Carol Stack and Ruth Vedvik

Paying for College 101 (a Facebook private group)