

CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 12-23 ▲ CONDUCTING THE COLLEGE SEARCH IN 12TH GRADE

GRADE LEVEL FOCUS

Because of the importance of this topic, this lesson spirals itself each year from 8th through 12th grade, with a combination of consistent content and new content.

The focus for the College Search Lesson is as follows:

- Grade 8: Introduction to College Search
- Grade 9: Awareness of College Options
- Grade 10: Comparing College Options
- Grade 11: Conducting a College Search
- Grade 12: Choosing Your College

FACILITATOR NOTE: Assume a very broad definition of college, to include any postsecondary learning option (two-year community and technical colleges, four-year universities, certificate programs, military training, or apprenticeships).

LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES

- ▶ How to organize an online search for college information.
- ▶ Questions to ask yourself about the search.
- ▶ Critical information to find.
- ▶ Identify information for a college they are interested in attending.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ▶ **Student Handouts:**
 - Finding the Right Fit Worksheet
- ▶ **Computers or tablets with internet access for each student** to research college websites

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Grade 12 Focus: Choosing Your College

Since this lesson spirals (repeats itself with differing focus areas from grade to grade), a recommended emphasis for 12th grade is finding the right fit.

1. **Introduce the concept of searching and choosing effectively (i.e. using time effectively) to get the information you want and need.** Ask students to share a worst web search experience. What are the challenges? What causes the greatest frustrations when you are trying to find or keep track of important information? Acknowledge that many students may have already been online searching for college information. Share that this lesson is a tune-up to make the process more efficient and effective.
2. **Distribute the *Finding the Right Fit Worksheet*.** Then, for each question on the worksheet:
 - Pose a question as it appears on the student worksheet;
 - Give students time to talk with a partner about their answers;
 - Encourage students jot down the answers to the questions on the worksheet; and
 - The class discusses best practices.
3. **Have students go back individually and determine or indicate the one strategy they are going to add to what they already knew.** Ask them as a group to indicate that they learned overall.
4. **If time and web access allows, begin to research helpful tools and resources.** Students will likely have up-to-date suggestions for each other.

STUDENT PRODUCTS

- **Completed *Finding the Right Fit Worksheet***

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION

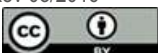
Career and College Planning

- **Washington Career Bridge**
<http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov/>
Helps students in Washington State find the education and training they need for the job they want via career interest exploration, job trend and education information.
- **College Board**
<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/explore-careers#>



College Board's Big Future

- ▶ **Washington Career Pathways**
<http://washingtoncareerpathways.org/>
- ▶ **NCES**
<http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>
College Navigator
- ▶ **Know How 2 Go**
www.knowhow2go.org
College planning resources
- ▶ **First in the Family**
www.firstinthefamily.org
College planning resources
- ▶ **Check Out a College**
www.checkoutacollege.com
College planning information





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LESSON 12-23 STUDENT HANDOUT

FINDING THE RIGHT FIT WORKSHEET

Planning your college search will save you a great deal of time and energy. Take some time to think about your answers and share responses with other students.

Questions I need to ask myself	My Answers
When will I schedule time to search out information on colleges or scholarships?	
What are some of the best resources?	
What questions should I have in mind about colleges?	
What questions should I have in mind about scholarships?	
Where will I start?	
What kind of filing system can I use to keep track of the information on colleges?	
What kind of filing system can I use to keep track of information on scholarships?	
Who or where can I ask for help?	
How will I use my High School & Beyond Plan's Personalized Pathway Requirement in making these decisions?	



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