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Ways to Build College Knowledge

1. Create high school-college partnerships

- Work with local and in-state institutions to provide opportunities for students to learn about what they offer.
- Invite college representatives to visit your school(s).
- Organize visits to the institutions.
- Invite past students who are enrolled in college or postsecondary education to come back to your school and share about their experiences.



2. Establish common expectations about the postsecondary exploration and application process

- Share common deadlines for application submission, including defining key terms such as early decision, rolling admissions, etc.
- Discuss the need and timing for completing admissions tests such as the ACT and SAT.
- Communicate early and often about the requirements for financial aid applications including the FAFSA.



3. Develop school- and district-wide initiatives to share norms and expectations

- Build application essay units into English class or another subject.
- Schedule school-wide admissions testing.
- Host postsecondary research and application weeks.
- Organize FAFSA information and completion days for families.

