

One of the secrets to successful college planning is starting early. As soon as you enter high school, begin exploring different college options, researching potential majors, and setting goals for yourself. By setting goals, you'll have a clear vision of what you want to achieve academically and extracurricularly, which will help guide your decision-making throughout the process.



Secrets to College Planning for High School

Students by Dawn Lucan (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Print length	: 6 pages
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2. Take Challenging Courses

Colleges look for students who have challenged themselves academically. Take advanced courses, such as honors or AP classes, whenever possible. Push yourself outside of your comfort zone and strive for academic excellence. Not only will this demonstrate your ability to handle college-level work, but it will also increase your chances of receiving scholarships and admission into your dream school.

3. Get Involved in Extracurricular Activities

Colleges also value well-rounded students who are actively involved in extracurricular activities. Join clubs, participate in sports, and get involved in

community service projects. These experiences not only help you develop valuable skills and interests but also make you more interesting and appealing to college admissions officers.

4. Seek Guidance from Counselors and Mentors

Don't be afraid to seek guidance from your high school counselors and mentors. They have tremendous knowledge and expertise in the college planning process and can provide you with valuable insights and advice. Schedule regular meetings with them to discuss your academic and career goals, college options, and any concerns you may have.

5. Research College Options and Visit Campuses

Research different college options that align with your interests and goals. Look into factors such as location, size, majors offered, financial aid packages, and campus culture. Make a list of potential colleges that you would like to visit. Visiting campuses will give you a firsthand experience of the college environment and help you determine if it's the right fit for you.



6. Take Standardized Tests Seriously

Standardized tests like the SAT and ACT play a significant role in college admissions. Prepare for these exams by taking practice tests and enrolling in test prep courses if necessary. Familiarize yourself with the format and content of the exams to maximize your performance. Your scores can impact your eligibility for scholarships and admission, so strive to achieve your best results.

7. Build Strong Relationships for Recommendations

Recommendation letters from teachers or mentors can have a powerful impact on your college applications. Cultivate strong relationships with your teachers and mentors throughout high school. Actively participate in class, ask questions, and seek opportunities to work closely with them. By doing so, they will be able to

provide personalized and compelling recommendations that reflect your strengths and potential.

8. Prioritize Financial Aid and Scholarships

College can be expensive, but with proper financial planning, you can ensure that it is within your reach. Research different financial aid options, including scholarships, grants, and loans. Start applying for scholarships early, and explore all available opportunities. Don't underestimate the power of financial aid; it can make a significant difference in affording the college of your dreams.

9. Craft Compelling College Essays

Your college essays provide an opportunity to showcase your personality, accomplishments, and aspirations. Spend time brainstorming and crafting compelling essays that reflect your unique voice. Seek feedback from teachers, mentors, and peers to ensure that your essays are well-written and impactful. A strong essay can set you apart from other applicants and increase your chances of acceptance.

10. Stay Organized and Meet Deadlines

Lastly, staying organized and meeting deadlines is crucial in the college planning process. Keep track of application requirements, deadlines, and any additional materials needed. Create a timeline for completing applications and allocate time for essay writing and obtaining recommendation letters. Meeting deadlines shows responsibility and dedication, qualities that colleges value in their applicants.

, college planning can be an exciting but challenging journey for high school students. By following these secrets and approaching the process with determination and focus, you can set yourself up for success in college and beyond.



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If you are thinking about attending college after high school, what things should you look out for during the college application process? Where are good websites for finding college scholarships? Are high school activities a good idea? This book is good for both high school freshmen and seniors along with anything in between. It includes website resources to help you through this. Dawn Lucan is an experienced educator with 18 years of experience.



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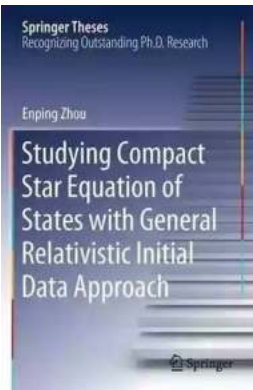
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