Quick Tips for Families

Support your child on the path to college!

Our Family Engagement staff is here for you. You can reach us at (401) 854-5500 ext 103 or family@thecollegecrusade.org. Feel free to get in touch! In the meantime, check out these four important tips for families of Crusaders:

1. **How to Apply for Financial Aid**

   Is your child a senior in high school? Now is the time to talk about applying for college scholarships and financial aid for next year. You can do your research together online! A scholarship is free money to pay for college. A great place to start looking for scholarships is www.fastweb.org. Remember also that your child must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form, or FAFSA, as soon after January 1, 2013, as possible. Completing the FAFSA will qualify your child for federal and state grants, which is more free money to pay for college! To fill out the FAFSA online, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov after January 1.

2. **How to Help Your Child with Math**

   Does your child need more help with math? Sign up for Khan Academy to give your child more math practice for success in class. Khan Academy is a website that offers free math tutorial videos to anybody who wants to improve their math skills. And it’s even fun! The College Crusade holds Khan Academy workshops at our office every week. Our Family Engagement staff will help you register on the Khan Academy website and get your child started with math instruction. Workshops are Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. To sign up for a Khan Academy workshop, send an email to family@thecollegecrusade.org or call us at 854-5500 ext 103.

3. **How to Sign Up for Your Welcome Visit**

   Are you the family of a new Crusader? Our Family Engagement staff will be contacting you soon for a special one-on-one welcome visit. You will be invited to come to our office at a convenient time to learn more about your child’s opportunities and responsibilities as a Crusader. We will also help you define what you can do to support your child on the path to college. We look forward to talking with you!

4. **How to Get Our New Program Catalogue**

   Want to know everything about your child’s requirements as a Crusader? Just check The College Crusade’s new program catalogue. It describes all the great programs we offer that help your child prepare for higher education. You may have received a copy of our catalogue in the mail in the last few weeks. You can also find it on our website: www.thecollegecrusade.org/MScatalogue for middle school, and www.thecollegecrusade.org/HScatalogue for high school.

Also encourage your child to:

- **Participate as much as possible** in our programs. Crusaders in grades 6-9 qualify for our new scholarship program. The more your child participates, the more he or she can earn in scholarships!
- **Attend school every day**, and be on time to school every day. These good habits will help your child succeed as a student.
Middle school Newsbytes:

Middle school Crusaders are going to two Discovery Days at URI this fall, along with visits to Wentworth University and Nichols College. There’s also a big Career Day coming up in November at New England Tech’s East Greenwich campus. And many more opportunities to have fun and learn a lot!

A message from the President

Dear Crusaders,

As you begin a new school year, I urge you to spend time thinking about your dream of going to college. These aspirations of earning a college degree are within your grasp. However, you will need to work hard and make good choices about how you spend your time both in and out of school. Challenge yourself to achieve the highest grades possible in all your subjects. Think about how the material might relate to a career you would like to pursue or a college major you are considering.

Everyone can go to college if they apply themselves. What you do outside of school is important. Complete your homework every day. Do all your reading assignments, and read for pleasure whenever possible. It’s fun and interesting to pick an author and read an entire series.

Getting off to a good start with your new teachers is also a very big key to success this year. It’s good to let them know you really care about learning and doing well in class. Be sure to tell your teachers that you dream of going to college some day!

Sincerely yours,

President & CEO

Forensics is always a popular activity at Wheeler Summer Camp! Above, Omar Trejo, Ariel Yas Corado, and Michael Chaparro compare notes about clues at a crime scene. At right, Joslee Vicente (seated) and Nadine Alvarez share their findings with Middle School Advisor Harry Moore.

Middle school Crusaders meet the challenge!

Above, middle school Crusaders in 2012 Summer CAAP pose before taking on their next team challenge. At Wheeler Farm, clockwise from right, Coura Fall practices archery skills, Jenae Fernandez gets lowered from the treetops, and Yan Carlos Velasquez celebrates a ropes accomplishment. (Wheeler Farm photos by Kayleigh Lagasse)
High school: Summer studies

Congratulations to all the high school Crusaders who made the most of the summer by completing one of these great programs. We hope you have been able to start your new school year with the same good energy!

Roger Williams University Bridge to Success


Pine Manor College Leadership Conference


Brown Summer High School


Johnson & Wales University Career Explorations


Above, with Demian Yattaw and high school Mobile Advisor Nazeli Avagyan, are members of our Summer Writing Workshop: Denise Ortiz, Julia Lopez, Maria Caceres, Shanty Pineda, Walter Rodas, Carlos Romero, James Somdee, Stephen Young, Omogbolahan Oladosu, and Josue Malvoisin.

Crusade Summer Experience 2012: What You Said

"It was fun and the activities kept the program fresh and interesting." - Chris M.

"I loved it, and I hope to come back again." - Sebastian Z.

"This is the best Crusade program I have ever been to. They should make more like this." - Erin B.

"Had a great time with the Advisors and other students. I enjoyed playing games and working together as a team and the helpful advice on public speaking." - Imani M.

"Mad fun. I’m coming next year!" - Rafael R.

"Enjoyable, educational, competitive, fun, interesting." - Tue B.

"Not only were the activites fun, they were very competitive, pushing us to be our very best every time." - Calvin H.
Please keep us notified
Have you changed your address or phone number, or has your Crusader changed schools? Call (401) 854-5500 or write to info@thecollegecrusade.org.

High school Crusaders loaded this bus to the brim with their luggage and headed off to a weeklong residency on the campus of Roger Williams University in July.