Your Family Can Afford College

3 tips on how to plan ahead and be ready

The mission of the College Crusade Family Engagement team is to engage, empower, and educate all College Crusade parents. That includes financial empowerment! This year we are offering Crusade families many practical, hands-on workshops that will help you and your child prepare financially for the challenges associated with paying for college. To be ready, it’s important to remember three things:

☑ Help your child participate as much as possible in College Crusade programs.

If your Crusader is in grades 6-10 this year, he or she qualifies for our tiered scholarship program. What does this mean? It means that the more your child participates in our great college-readiness programs, the more he or she can earn in College Crusade scholarship support. Make sure your child participates in our programs as much as possible. Your family will benefit in more ways than one. Your child will earn more in Crusade scholarships – and the experience your child will have as an engaged Crusader will prepare him or her for the challenges of postsecondary education.

☑ Learn more about your child’s options for financial aid.

What is financial aid? How does it work? How do you apply for it? Our Family Engagement staff will help you gain a complete understanding of all the financial aid options that are available to your child. At our financial aid workshops, you will learn more about scholarships, grants, loans, work-study, and other types of financial aid. You will also learn why the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is so important to your child’s ability to afford postsecondary education. Speakers from RISLA (Rhode Island Student Loan Authority) and the College Planning Center of RI will offer important tips about how you can be prepared for the cost of college. Check our Family Engagement calendar regularly for upcoming workshops on financial aid (www.thecollegecrusade.org/familyworkshops).

☑ Attend our financial literacy workshops for families.

Get equipped! Our financial literacy workshops for families will help you get your personal finances under control as you learn new ways of managing your resources. Topics include goal setting, budgeting, best practices for building good credit, and actions steps to help manage debt.

At right, Rhode Island General Treasurer Gina Raimondo gathered with College Crusade families at a financial literacy workshop run by the Capital Good Fund in September.
Dear Crusaders,

Welcome to the new school year! We hope you have started school with fresh energy and the determination to keep up with all your academic responsibilities. This is a good time to develop strong work habits and to be disciplined about your school-year routine. Always be on time for class. Complete all your assignments and do your best on them. Remember these three words: STAY WITH IT. If you feel yourself falling behind in any of your subjects, ask for help right away. Don’t be afraid to go to your teachers with questions.

The practice of “staying with it” will help you now and for the rest of your life. It means that you make an effort to succeed at what you choose to do. Another important idea is “follow through.” When you follow through on a plan or a goal, it means that you complete what you started. And when you complete what you start, it means you keep a promise to yourself. You learn the value of making commitments.

Dedicate yourself to following through. If you need help, ask for it. Talk with your Crusade Advisor, who is always ready to help. If you haven’t met your Advisor yet, do it today!

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
President & CEO

Digital Newsbytes
Get the latest Crusader news on CruBlog by visiting www.thecollegecrusade.org/blog.
And like www.facebook.com/SaturdayCruClub to see what’s up!
High school: Summer learners

Congratulations to these dedicated high school Crusaders for completing their summer programs with the highest levels of participation!

Creative College Essay Writing

Monica Almonte
Jason Bourdier
Luis Carrillo
Alanis Concepcion
Ezequiel Dorvilus
Doris Lopez

Francy Lora
Marvin Ramos-Suero
Jacqueline Sequen
Valentin Velasquez
Zia Xiong

Crusade Summer Experience

Mecca Abdul-Hasib
Ernest Ahwireng
Aldo Aldana
Kevin Almonte
Tue Banto
Erin Batista
Vianka Brito
Dallas Bullard
Luis Carrillo
Genesis Castaneda
Yoselin Chajal
Rene Colato
Andy Cruz
Margareth Cruz
Mercy Cruz
Djovan Davega
Arianna Davey
Anthony DeJesus
Keren DeLaCruz
Giselle DeLaNuez
Kaylee DeLeon
Cindy Estrada
Keila Estrada
Dennys Fernandez
Roxanna Francisco
Tiffany Funes
David Garcia
Jazmine Garcia
Kayla Garcia
Rute Giday
Jerry Guzman
Kendal Hall
Kasandra Henriques
Gerald Jean-Louis
Franklin Jette
Naya Jenkins
Richard Keach
Zar-Tashiya Khan

Aprielle Kinard
Alexa Lopez
Doris Lopez
Isayra Marines
Ezequiel Martinez
Jeffrey Martinez
Erica Matos
Jessica McMaugh
Gina Mendoza
Alvaro Morales
Briana Morel
Jenny Navas
Esther Olugbusi
Katherine Pena
Passion Pereira
Cristoffer Perez
David Pierre
Damienni Plessinger
Daniel Ramirez
Kassielle Ramos
Christian Recinos
Arabelis Reyes
Antonio Rocha
Miguel Rodriguez
Jeffrey Rosario-Arriaga
Cynthia Ruiz
Varsana Schobel
Darelle Speaks
Tempestt Spivey
Amado Tate
Jose Torres
Tatiana Torres
Rosina Turner
Brianna Vega
Brian Villafuerte
Sebastian Zuleta

Camp College New England

Christian Acarapi
Tue Banto
Marydijina Barnionnette
Francellly Brito
Melvin Caraballo
Lyset Gonzalez
Charina Herrera
Alicia Holloway

Leslie Nunez
Katherine Penca
Parrys Perez
Claribel Serrano
Raphael Serrano
Glendy Valle
Brianna Vega

High School Transition Program

Amaury Almonte
Jack Arrieta
Marvin Benitez
Nancy Benitez
Waldo Aldana
Roberto Cabrera
Rodney Capellan
Charlie Chaca
Alix Corno
Tiara DeBrito
Dasmia Feliz
Luis Florentino
Luis Flores
Christopher Garcia
Brian Guzman

Brandon Hernandez
Enshell Koilor
Brandon Lindo
Evelyn Lopez
Reyna Mercado
Helena Miranda
Jennifer Ortega
Jeripher Pascual
Carlos Pena
Albert Pujols
Gerardo Rodriguez
Elaine Rosario
Chant Smith
Gisselle Torres

Roger Williams Summer Intensive

Mathew Bedoya
Estefania Clavijo
Rolando Clavijo
Jennifer Figueroa
Alexi Flores
Christian Hernandez
Richard Keach
Jonathan Loaiza
Melissa Morales
Casandra Nieves

Nicaury Nunez
Passion Pereira
Argenis Placencia
Ciara Santana
Etebom Samuel
Belinda Sloan
Brian Suggs
Jissaura Taveras
Andrew Terrero
Stephen Young

At Roger Williams Summer Intensive, we had to go to classes. We had teachers and projects and homework, and I really liked that. The focus of our class was on how a business works. I worked hard on my project and used the library for research. I stayed in the dorm in a shared suite. We got to experience what college students experience!”

– Rolando Clavijo, senior,
Shea High School

I loved Camp College! I got so much from it and felt like it could have been longer than three days. It was pretty cool to have an opportunity to get to know different admissions officers and tell them what I am looking for in a college. I made a lot of great connections with the counselors who were there. All the workshops were good, especially the one on the Common App. I already had a draft of my application essay done, but now I have ideas for changes that will make it better. And the experience of living on campus was something I really enjoyed. It gave me a taste of what it will be like when I am living away from home and learning how to do things for myself. Camp College was very valuable for me, and I’m glad I was able to be part of it.”

– Francellly Brito, senior,
The Met
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.