



Spring Quarterly Update

For 2018-2019 Seniors

Making School Count

- **Washington State's High School and Beyond Plan** is a tool for students, parents and teachers to guide students through high school and think about their future plans. It is also a graduation requirement for every student. If you have not yet completed your plan, go to the Career Center ASAP to get this done.

Finding Colleges for You

- **Dealing with the college waitlist.** More and more colleges are using waitlists to manage enrollment. First things first: if you elect to remain on the wait list, make sure you let the college know! Most colleges will not keep you on the list if you do not respond. Here's more about what to do [when a favorite college waitlists you](#).
- **Dealing with college rejections.** Most students are rejected by one or more colleges. Whether dealing with rejection as a college applicant, or as the parent or friend of a college applicant, here are several articles with useful perspectives on [how to handle college admissions decisions](#).
- **Plan college visits.** We mentioned this last quarter, but it is worth repeating: if you have not yet visited colleges that accept you and that you favor, make sure you've set aside time before May 1 to make those visits. [The college campus visit](#) will provide information critical to knowing whether you will be happy with your decision! Here are [six questions admitted students should ask](#) when visiting a college.
- **May 1 is National College Decision Day.** If you are accepted by more than one college, you have a choice to make. Are you struggling with the decision? Fastweb lists [15 mistakes to avoid when selecting a college](#), Forbes tells the story of [how one senior made her college decision](#) using a simple spreadsheet to capture the criteria important to her, and this blog offers [5 steps to making a final college decision](#). If you are interested in developing your own spreadsheet for choosing among colleges, MyCoalition offers this [Custom College Ranking Tool](#), by tailoring an excel spread sheet to reflect your personal criteria and college options.

Applying to College

- **Decoding the financial award letter.** College acceptance letters will include a financial award statement describing what level of scholarship, work study, grants, and loans you are approved for at the college to which you've been admitted. Learn [how to decode your college financial aid award letter](#), including when and how to appeal the award and compare school costs.

Careers & Majors

- **Choosing a college major.** The major you select will define much of your college experience as well as shaping your career. The College Board offers this [ultimate guide to choosing a college major](#), and the NY Times reviews [6 myths about choosing a college major](#).
- **Changing your college major.** Not surprisingly, about 80% of college students nationwide change their major at least once before graduating. As you make your final college decision and look ahead to enrolling, be prepared to recognize when and how you might rethink your major. If you do consider a change, here are [5 steps to take before changing your college major](#).

Paying for College

- **It's not too late to apply for scholarships!** If you haven't yet started your scholarship search, click here to find a [useful review of scholarship search sites](#). [Hanford's Career Center](#) includes a list of local and regional scholarships and deadlines.

Mark Your Calendar!

- **April 8, 2019 – Start of 4th Quarter.** Spring break marked the end of 3rd quarter and the beginning of the final quarter for the 2018-19 academic year. Now is a good time to make any mid-course corrections needed to reach your GPA target.
- **May 1 – National College Decision Day.** Search for “National College Decision Day,” and you will find all kinds of advice about how to manage the college decision!
- **May 6 -17, 2019 – AP Testing.** Learn more about AP tests and testing schedule [here](#).
- **May 7, 2019, 10:25am – National Letter of Intent Signing Day.** Hanford will celebrate seniors who have signed to play sports in college or another post-secondary institution.
- **May 22, 2019, 7pm – Scholarship Night.** HHS recognizes seniors who have been awarded academic honors and scholarships. Meet in the HHS auditorium.
- **June 7, 2019, 7:30pm – Graduation** at the Toyota Center.