

Preparing for my Future!

Name: _____

Every junior is at a different point in planning for their future. Some don't know what career/major they want to pursue. Others know their career, but not what schools they want to apply to. And, yet, others know their major, know their schools, but don't know what it takes to get into those schools. Everyone is at a different place when trying to determine what will happen after high school. Any of these positions is fine to be in. Take a look at this form and determine where you fit. Again, what is important is not where you are in the preparation route, but that you know the importance of having a plan. Select one of the areas in bold that fits where you are in the process.

I don't know a career path to follow.



- Go to www.whatsnextillinois.org
- Click on Career Planning
- Click on Learn About Yourself
- Complete the career assessments that are most relevant to you. The more assessments you complete the more information you have to find a career that is the right fit for you.
- Write down a few careers that sound interesting to you and be prepared to discuss these options with your counselor.

- Once you have a potential career, move to the next section.

I know my career/major. I don't know what schools to apply to next year.

- Go to www.collegeboard.org.
- Locate and click on "Students" section.
- Then, click on "Find a College".
- You will notice, on the left hand side, different filters (Type of School, location, campus housing, Majors, etc.). Examine each of the filters, selecting those areas you find important to have in a college.
- After you have made all your selections, look at the upper right hand corner of the selected filter box and "close and See Results" .
- A list of colleges will appear. Click on the colleges that look interesting to you.
- Write down the 6 – 12 colleges that are possibilities for you to apply to next year.

- Turn the page and complete your research.

I know the schools I wish to enter in after high school.

- Go to www.collegeboard.org/get-started.
- Locate, down below the picture, "Looking for a specific college?" and enter the name of the school you are researching.

- A list of matching colleges will appear. Click on the college you want to learn about. Read through each information section (At a Glance, Deadlines, Majors, Applying, Paying)
- After reading the information, return to “At a Glance”. What are your feelings toward this school now that you have read some information? If you like what you read, find the school’s URL address, towards the top, and click on the schools internet address.
- While on the college’s website, find/search ADMISSIONS and ADMISSION’S REQUIREMENTS. Write down any information about ACT/SAT score needed, **classes required**, and any other pertinent information about the application (deadlines, etc). Sometimes you can find the application and view it. Does the application require you to write an essay? If so, write down the question you need to answer. Will you need letters of recommendation? If so, write the names of teachers you will ask to write on your behalf? Continue to take notes on any facts you find important. (Feel free to add pages to this research page.)
- Try www.cappex.com next. Type your college choice in “College Search” and select the school. Read the “Quick Facts, Admissions, Cost & Financial Aid, Programs & Majors, Deadlines, Around Town, etc.)

I want schools to find me!

- Go to www.cappex.com
- At Cappex, schools will find you. Select **See Which Colleges Want You** and create an account. Follow the directions and watch the emails start flooding in!