HELP ENSURE THAT YOUR TEENAGER IS GOOD TO GO WITH THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1. Talk about the future. Start early and talk often about plans for college or a career. Help your child explore interests and skills by talking about what he or she wants to do in life. This will make choosing a path for college or career much easier.

2. Know your child’s class and Regents exam schedules. Find out which classes and Regents exams your child needs to prepare for college.

3. Meet with teachers. Meet regularly with your student’s teachers and guidance counselor. Make sure you know each teacher’s expectations and discuss your teenager’s academic progress and extracurricular activities. Watch out for parent-teacher nights once a semester.

4. Provide encouragement. Make sure your teen is doing homework every night. Provide a quiet workspace and routines that allow enough time for schoolwork. Attendance is important, too, so set limits on bedtime and help your student get out the door on time each morning.

5. Help with the college application process. Create a list of college choices together. Visit college campuses and fairs. Help your student organize admissions applications and other paperwork. Review relevant deadlines, and help your student keep ahead of them.

6. Assist with the financial aid process. Attend parent financial aid and college workshops at your teenager’s school or neighborhood organization. Have copies of your federal and state tax forms ready by the end of January of your student’s senior year. These tax forms are essential for the financial aid applications your teenager will need to complete in February. Help your student with the financial aid applications. The earlier they are filed, the more money your student is likely to receive.

HELP ENSURE THAT YOUR TEENAGER IS GOOD TO GO WITH THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1. Talk about the future. Start early and talk often about plans for college or a career. Help your child explore interests and skills by talking about what he or she wants to do in life. This will make choosing a path for college or career much easier.

2. Know your child’s class and Regents exam schedules. Find out which classes and Regents exams your child needs to prepare for college.

3. Meet with teachers. Meet regularly with your student’s teachers and guidance counselor. Make sure you know each teacher’s expectations and discuss your teenager’s academic progress and extracurricular activities. Watch out for parent-teacher nights once a semester.

4. Provide encouragement. Make sure your teen is doing homework every night. Provide a quiet workspace and routines that allow enough time for schoolwork. Attendance is important, too, so set limits on bedtime and help your student get out the door on time each morning.

5. Help with the college application process. Create a list of college choices together. Visit college campuses and fairs. Help your student organize admissions applications and other paperwork. Review relevant deadlines, and help your student keep ahead of them.

6. Assist with the financial aid process. Attend parent financial aid and college workshops at your teenager’s school or neighborhood organization. Have copies of your federal and state tax forms ready by the end of January of your student’s senior year. These tax forms are essential for the financial aid applications your teenager will need to complete in February. Help your student with the financial aid applications. The earlier they are filed, the more money your student is likely to receive.

HELP ENSURE THAT YOUR TEENAGER IS GOOD TO GO WITH THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1. Talk about the future. Start early and talk often about plans for college or a career. Help your child explore interests and skills by talking about what he or she wants to do in life. This will make choosing a path for college or career much easier.

2. Know your child’s class and Regents exam schedules. Find out which classes and Regents exams your child needs to prepare for college.

3. Meet with teachers. Meet regularly with your student’s teachers and guidance counselor. Make sure you know each teacher’s expectations and discuss your teenager’s academic progress and extracurricular activities. Watch out for parent-teacher nights once a semester.

4. Provide encouragement. Make sure your teen is doing homework every night. Provide a quiet workspace and routines that allow enough time for schoolwork. Attendance is important, too, so set limits on bedtime and help your student get out the door on time each morning.

5. Help with the college application process. Create a list of college choices together. Visit college campuses and fairs. Help your student organize admissions applications and other paperwork. Review relevant deadlines, and help your student keep ahead of them.

6. Assist with the financial aid process. Attend parent financial aid and college workshops at your teenager’s school or neighborhood organization. Have copies of your federal and state tax forms ready by the end of January of your student’s senior year. These tax forms are essential for the financial aid applications your teenager will need to complete in February. Help your student with the financial aid applications. The earlier they are filed, the more money your student is likely to receive.

HELP ENSURE THAT YOUR TEENAGER IS GOOD TO GO WITH THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1. Talk about the future. Start early and talk often about plans for college or a career. Help your child explore interests and skills by talking about what he or she wants to do in life. This will make choosing a path for college or career much easier.

2. Know your child’s class and Regents exam schedules. Find out which classes and Regents exams your child needs to prepare for college.

3. Meet with teachers. Meet regularly with your student’s teachers and guidance counselor. Make sure you know each teacher’s expectations and discuss your teenager’s academic progress and extracurricular activities. Watch out for parent-teacher nights once a semester.

4. Provide encouragement. Make sure your teen is doing homework every night. Provide a quiet workspace and routines that allow enough time for schoolwork. Attendance is important, too, so set limits on bedtime and help your student get out the door on time each morning.

5. Help with the college application process. Create a list of college choices together. Visit college campuses and fairs. Help your student organize admissions applications and other paperwork. Review relevant deadlines, and help your student keep ahead of them.

6. Assist with the financial aid process. Attend parent financial aid and college workshops at your teenager’s school or neighborhood organization. Have copies of your federal and state tax forms ready by the end of January of your student’s senior year. These tax forms are essential for the financial aid applications your teenager will need to complete in February. Help your student with the financial aid applications. The earlier they are filed, the more money your student is likely to receive.

HELP ENSURE THAT YOUR TEENAGER IS GOOD TO GO WITH THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1. Talk about the future. Start early and talk often about plans for college or a career. Help your child explore interests and skills by talking about what he or she wants to do in life. This will make choosing a path for college or career much easier.

2. Know your child’s class and Regents exam schedules. Find out which classes and Regents exams your child needs to prepare for college.

3. Meet with teachers. Meet regularly with your student’s teachers and guidance counselor. Make sure you know each teacher’s expectations and discuss your teenager’s academic progress and extracurricular activities. Watch out for parent-teacher nights once a semester.

4. Provide encouragement. Make sure your teen is doing homework every night. Provide a quiet workspace and routines that allow enough time for schoolwork. Attendance is important, too, so set limits on bedtime and help your student get out the door on time each morning.

5. Help with the college application process. Create a list of college choices together. Visit college campuses and fairs. Help your student organize admissions applications and other paperwork. Review relevant deadlines, and help your student keep ahead of them.

6. Assist with the financial aid process. Attend parent financial aid and college workshops at your teenager’s school or neighborhood organization. Have copies of your federal and state tax forms ready by the end of January of your student’s senior year. These tax forms are essential for the financial aid applications your teenager will need to complete in February. Help your student with the financial aid applications. The earlier they are filed, the more money your student is likely to receive.

HELP ENSURE THAT YOUR TEENAGER IS GOOD TO GO WITH THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1. Talk about the future. Start early and talk often about plans for college or a career. Help your child explore interests and skills by talking about what he or she wants to do in life. This will make choosing a path for college or career much easier.

2. Know your child’s class and Regents exam schedules. Find out which classes and Regents exams your child needs to prepare for college.

3. Meet with teachers. Meet regularly with your student’s teachers and guidance counselor. Make sure you know each teacher’s expectations and discuss your teenager’s academic progress and extracurricular activities. Watch out for parent-teacher nights once a semester.

4. Provide encouragement. Make sure your teen is doing homework every night. Provide a quiet workspace and routines that allow enough time for schoolwork. Attendance is important, too, so set limits on bedtime and help your student get out the door on time each morning.

5. Help with the college application process. Create a list of college choices together. Visit college campuses and fairs. Help your student organize admissions applications and other paperwork. Review relevant deadlines, and help your student keep ahead of them.

6. Assist with the financial aid process. Attend parent financial aid and college workshops at your teenager’s school or neighborhood organization. Have copies of your federal and state tax forms ready by the end of January of your student’s senior year. These tax forms are essential for the financial aid applications your teenager will need to complete in February. Help your student with the financial aid applications. The earlier they are filed, the more money your student is likely to receive.

HELP ENSURE THAT YOUR TEENAGER IS GOOD TO GO WITH THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1. Talk about the future. Start early and talk often about plans for college or a career. Help your child explore interests and skills by talking about what he or she wants to do in life. This will make choosing a path for college or career much easier.

2. Know your child’s class and Regents exam schedules. Find out which classes and Regents exams your child needs to prepare for college.

3. Meet with teachers. Meet regularly with your student’s teachers and guidance counselor. Make sure you know each teacher’s expectations and discuss your teenager’s academic progress and extracurricular activities. Watch out for parent-teacher nights once a semester.

4. Provide encouragement. Make sure your teen is doing homework every night. Provide a quiet workspace and routines that allow enough time for schoolwork. Attendance is important, too, so set limits on bedtime and help your student get out the door on time each morning.

5. Help with the college application process. Create a list of college choices together. Visit college campuses and fairs. Help your student organize admissions applications and other paperwork. Review relevant deadlines, and help your student keep ahead of them.

6. Assist with the financial aid process. Attend parent financial aid and college workshops at your teenager’s school or neighborhood organization. Have copies of your federal and state tax forms ready by the end of January of your student’s senior year. These tax forms are essential for the financial aid applications your teenager will need to complete in February. Help your student with the financial aid applications. The earlier they are filed, the more money your student is likely to receive.
Once your child reaches high school, you might be tempted to think he or she is growing up and less in need of your support. Many high school students even try to talk their parents out of being involved. You might hear, “Don’t bother, I’m fine,” or, “I don’t need your help.” Don’t believe it. Your child needs you now more than ever.

It is important that you stay in the know to make sure your child is good to go to college and a career. Answers to some common questions that parents have during the high school years:

Q: Why college?
A: Four-year college grads earn an average of $25,000 more per year than those with only a high school education. Studies show that college grads stay healthier, live longer, have more self-confidence and are less likely to go without work.

Q: I’ve done OK without a college education, so why does my child need a college degree?
A: The world has changed. Job markets are no longer local, but global. Students now have to compete for jobs with college-educated peers in Europe, China and India. The fastest growing jobs in the United States all require a college education. Thanks to advances in technology, even most manufacturing jobs now require a two-year college degree.

Q: My child doesn’t have the grades to get scholarships, and I can’t afford to pay for college. So what now?
A: College isn’t just for wealthy, straight-A students. You can help your child find a college that offers financial aid that isn’t based on grades. Yes, college is expensive, but many resources are available to help cover the cost, including grants, scholarships and low-interest student loans.

Most students get some form of financial aid. Often, this makes going to college possible despite financial constraints.

And many colleges have programs to support students who need extra help academically. Students can enroll in a two-year college to strengthen their skills before transferring to a four-year institution. A high school guidance counselor can help figure out what’s best for your child.

Q: Is it normal to fear my child leaving for college, changing and never coming back?
A: This is a common and an understandable fear. Sure, some young people move away. But national studies indicate that a greater percentage of students who go to college ultimately live, work and raise their families in their home state.