

# EducationQuest Foundation

# College Planning Bulletin

*A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students*

May 2019

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## Seniors ... borrow wisely for college!

Review these tips before you decide how much to borrow in student loans:

- Borrow only what you need, even if it's less than the amount offered in your award letter.
- Try to use your student loan money *only* for tuition, room and board, books, and fees. Get a part-time job during college to pay other expenses.
- Apply for financial aid each year you attend college by completing the [FAFSA](#).
- Continue to look for scholarships while you're in college.
- Keep track of your student loan debt throughout college at [nslds.ed.gov](https://nslds.ed.gov).

To learn more, read the EducationQuest Blog article: "[Student Loan Refresher](#)" and see the "[Paying for College](#)" section at [EducationQuest.org](https://EducationQuest.org).

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## How to prepare for your freshman year of college

Visit the [College Students](#) section at [EducationQuest.org](https://EducationQuest.org) for tips to help you prepare for your freshman year of college. You'll find these topics:

- Achieving academic success
- How to manage your money
- How to select a major
- What to expect your freshman year of college

You'll also find helpful articles in the [Blog section](#). They include:

[So long, high school...hello, college!](#)

[What "stuff" will you need for your dorm room?](#)

[Study tips for college students](#)

[Should you take a car to campus?](#)

[How to build relationships with your college professors](#)

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## Juniors... here's your summer to-do list

**Narrow your college choices** to three or four by the time school starts. If you haven't already, [schedule campus visits](#) to your top contenders.

**Become familiar with the [FAFSA](#)** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). You and your parents can complete this form to apply for college financial aid on or after October 1.

**Update your [Activities Resume](#)** at [EducationQuest.org](https://EducationQuest.org). Include extracurricular activities, honors, awards, and part-time jobs.

**Look for scholarships.** Check out [ScholarshipQuest](#) at [EducationQuest.org](#) for Nebraska-based scholarships, and pay attention to scholarships current seniors have received.

**Find a summer job to help pay for college expenses.** Ask prospective employers if they offer education assistance programs.

## May “To Do” List

### Seniors

- Apply for student loans, if necessary.
- Register for new-student orientation at your college.
- Start a list of dorm room essentials.
- Get a summer job to help pay college expenses.

### Juniors

- [Register](#) by May 3 for June 8 ACT.
  - [Register](#) by May 3 for June 1 SAT.
  - Continue campus visits.
  - Get a summer job and save for college.
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**For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:**

<b>Omaha</b>	<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>Kearney</b>	<b>Scottsbluff</b>
402-391-4033	402-475-5222	308-234-6310	800-303-3745 ext. 6654
888-357-6300	800-303-3745	800-666-3721	

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