

THE SIX STEPS OF COLLEGE PLANNING

“COLLEGE IS A MATCH TO BE MADE, NOT A PRIZE TO BE WON”

Selecting a college is among the most important decisions of your life. This decision can affect your college success, career direction and college costs. A well-designed college plan will include the “Six Steps....”, which will help give you and your family the confidence to find your “best fit” college. The six steps are interrelated and sequential.

- 1. SELF-AWARENESS.** Discovering how your personality traits relate to specific careers.
- 2. CAREER EXPLORATION.** Identifying “good fit” careers, given your personality traits, interests, strengths, limitations, values and skills.
- 3. COLLEGE EXPLORATION.** Identifying those colleges which appear to best fit your current career choices as well as your credentials and overall expectations.
- 4. COLLEGE ADMISSION.** From your list of identified colleges, deciding which ones to visit and apply to. Then, selecting your “best fit” college from those you are admitted to.
- 5. SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID.** Identifying scholarships you qualify for, and learning how to successfully navigate the often complex, but usually rewarding, financial aid process.
- 6. HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE TRANSITION.** Planning for orientation and for coping with freshman adjustment issues. Important for your immediate and long-term success in college.

SEQUENTIAL PROGRESSION OF “THE SIX STEPS...” BY GRADE LEVEL

	Fresh.	Sophs.	Juniors	Seniors	Adults
Self Awareness	x	x	x	x	x
Career Exploration		x	x	x	x
College Exploration			x	x	x
College Admission				x	x
Scholarships and Financial Aid				x	x
High School to College Transition				x	x

-OTHER COLLEGE PLANNING SERVICES-

7. Accelerated College Planning for High School Seniors (4-6 Weeks).
8. Planning for Graduate and Professional School (MEDICINE, DENTISTRY, LAW).
9. Transferring from One College to Another (if advisable).
10. Preliminary College Planning for Pre-High School Students.
11. Guidance for Prospective College Athletes, Performers, Musicians and Artists.

FRANK BERNIER, Ph.D.

College Planning Advisor

501 Marshall Street 2107 Riverwood Drive
Lansing, Mi 48912 Okemos, Mi 48864
517/267-2111 fbernier@hotmail.com 517/349-6899

www.lansingcatholic.org/parents/careercollegeplacement.aspx