College Planning Night for Juniors Class of 2024
How are you feeling right now about the post-high school planning process?
Where do I start?
If you could be anything in the entire world, what would you be?
Work backwards

1. Why is this your dream?
2. Is this dream yours?
3. Keeping this dream in mind, brainstorm your skills, interests, talents, etc.
4. Based on #3, is this dream realistic?
   If yes, skip to #6
5. If no, reflect on why you chose this dream, as well as on your identified skills, interests, talents, etc. Is there something realistic in a similar realm as your dream?
6. Now, create a CLEAR vision. What does your life look like when you achieve this dream?
7. Take a few steps back, what do you need to be doing post-high school before this dream is achieved? Consider college types, majors, internships, programs, apprenticeships, jobs, relationships, mentors, life choices, etc.
8. Take a few more steps back, what do you need to be doing right now to prepare for achieving this dream? Consider, CEs, jobs, academic success, rigor of courses, types of courses, extracurricular activities, relationships, life choices, etc.
9. Make a plan for how to do the things you listed in #9
10. Do them!
Life After New Vista

What are your plans?

- College/University
- “Gap” Year
- Vocational or Technical College
- Military
- Job/Career
- No clue?!
Gap Year

- Taking a break from formal education to travel, volunteer, intern, or work
- Leading US colleges and universities, and notably Harvard University, openly support a gap year for admitted freshman.
  - For more info from Harvard go HERE
- Consider pros and cons FOR YOU
- Be productive
- Can you take college classes? Check with the college.
- Consider applying to college anyway!

**Deferment:** Different colleges have different rules but most allow this. Check rules around earning college credit during your gap year.

**Scholarship Deferment:** Not likely 😞. But you should always ask.
STEP 1: SELF EXPLORATION

Consider the following:

• Values
• Strengths
• Weaknesses
• Ability
• Personality
• Experience
• Passions
• Interests

• What makes you happy?
• Who do you admire?
• When do you feel your best?
• What is a challenge you have overcome?
• What are your favorite subjects?
• What is one thing you value most?
• What did you want to be when you were little?
Use your community and resources

- Interview people in colleges, majors, carers or programs that interest you
- Talk with your advisor, teachers, counselors, school staff
- Use free interest and personality inventories
  - Myers Briggs, Naviance surveys/assessments, Truity
- Take advantage of CE’s
- Look at CTE (Boulder Tec)
- Look into apprenticeships
- Get a job
Why is self-exploration and figuring out what you want so important?

- 6 out of 10 students who start college will not have a degree after six years.
- Almost half (47%) of bachelor's students finished their degree in four years.
- About 80% of students in college end up changing their major at least once.
- 65% of employees are satisfied with their job
- 20% of employees are passionate about their job
- 82% of adults are happy with the state of their personal lives
- 38% of adults say they're very happy overall
IMPORTANT Clarification

You DO NOT need to have an answer when someone asks “What do you want to be when you grow up?”

The hope is you have a passion, a dream, and ideas for a path that is filled with the things that will make you the most happy.
you are the writer of your own story
Let’s Talk College
First a pledge :)
How Admissions Has Changed

More Competitive admissions
- Common Application
- Digital Marketing/Social Media
- Value/need for higher education
- COVID (a helpful video) - Peter Van Buskirk

What can we do?
- Think outside of the box
  - Over 7000 colleges in US
  - Look beyond the brand names
  - Use high school to build your appeal
  - Be happy you go to NV
New Vista and College
What benefits do you think students have when applying to college because they attend New Vista?
Non-traditional = Awesome

• CE’s and Independent studies
• Inter/intra personal skills/Relationship based learning
• Mixed aged classrooms
• College Before Graduation Opportunities

New Vista Website HERE

• Strong relationships with adults
• Transcripts are unique
• Topic based classes
• Leadership opportunities (co-teaching, teaching workshops, etc.)
• Culminating Project
Recommended High School Curriculum at Stanford University

“Our admission process allows—and indeed encourages—the flexibility of a high school to design the most appropriate curricular offerings and opportunities for its students. For some schools, this curriculum includes Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or A-Level classes, while other high schools choose to offer equally demanding courses that neither carry a particular designation nor lead to an exam. We hope a school’s curriculum offers students the opportunity to contribute to the learning process and to pursue questions and ideas with energy and curiosity. We look for thoughtful and highly engaged students who will make a difference at Stanford and in the world beyond. We expect that these students have taken high school course loads of reasonable and appropriate challenge in the context of their schools.

We do not have a preference for any particular curriculum.”

“Our hope is that your curriculum will inspire you to develop your intellectual interests, not suffer from unnecessary stress. The students who thrive at Stanford are those who are genuinely excited about learning, not necessarily those who take every single AP or IB, Honors or Accelerated class just because it has that designation.”
New Vista High School Profile

★ This doc is shared with colleges when we send transcripts and letters of recommendation.
★ All high schools have a School Profile, but none are like ours!

View [HERE](#)
What about NV & highly selective colleges?

- Colorado College
- Columbia
- Carnegie-Mellon
- Mount Holyoke
- Parsons School of Design
- Stanford University
- Purdue
- Reed
- MIT
- Berklee College of Music
- Dartmouth College
- NYU
- Carleton College
Out of the Box Colleges

Hampshire, Sierra Nevada, College of the Atlantic, Prescott, Eugene Lang, Bennington, Harvey Mudd, Evergreen, Amherst, Bard, Sarah Lawrence College, Antioch College, Quest University: Canada, Global College, Kenyon, Kalamazoo, Knox, New College in Florida, Naropa, Colorado College, Burlington College, Goddard College, Green Mountain College, Grinnell College, Portland State, Kalamazoo College, Manhattanville College, Marlboro, Oberlin, Prescott, Shimer College, Soka University of America, Sterling College, Unity College, University of Redlands, University of Rochester, Warren Wilson, Western Washington University: Fairhaven, and many more!
Public Liberal Arts Colleges
The Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges or COPLAC is a consortium of 26 public colleges and universities in 24 states and one Canadian province.

**Northeast**
- Eastern Connecticut State University
- Keene State College - New Hampshire
- Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
- St. Mary's College of Maryland
- Ramapo College of New Jersey - New Jersey
- State University of New York at Geneseo
- University of Maine at Farmington- Maine

**South**
- Shepherd University- West Virginia
- Georgia College & State University - Georgia
- Henderson State University - Arkansas
- New College of Florida- Florida
- University of Mary Washington - Virginia
- University of Montevallo - Alabama
- University of North Carolina at Asheville
- University of Virginia's College at Wise
- College of Charleston - South Carolina

**Midwest**
- University of Minnesota Morris - Minnesota
- Truman State University - Missouri
- University of Wisconsin–Superior - Wisconsin
- University of Illinois at Springfield - Illinois

**Southwest**
- Fort Lewis College - Colorado
- Midwestern State University - Texas
- University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma

**Northwest**
- The Evergreen State College - Washington
- Sonoma State University- California
- Southern Oregon University - Oregon

**Canada**
- University of Alberta, Augustana Campus
YOU CHOOSE THEM... JUST AS MUCH AS THEY CHOOSE YOU!
STEP 2: Research - Look at ALL the criteria

- degrees offered
- majors/minors
- location (rural or urban setting)/distance from home
- weather
- size of the student population (from small at 1,000 to large at 35,000+)
- Type: public, private, 2 year, 4 year, specialized
- costs (tuition, room and board, etc.)
- financial assistance packages
- graduation rate/attrition rate/retention rate
- campus resources (labs, libraries, computer access, etc.)
- placement success
- internship and co-op programs
- Class size vs. student/faculty ratio
- faculty contact (office hours)
- teacher assistants or full-time qualified faculty
- quality/reputation/ranking
- degree of pressure to excel
- relationship between school and community
• safety (campus, community)
• student body (diversity, gender, socioeconomics, etc.)
• social life (Greek organizations, sports, clubs, etc., “suitcase school”)
• religious affiliation
• aesthetics
• housing options (dorms, apartments, living at home)
• realistic entry expectations
• clubs/athletics
• study abroad programs
• disability services
• school calendar (semester, trimester, 4-1-4, year round)
• Support services: advising, career, counseling, health
• ability to transfer to a 4 year university
Use Your Resources to Make Educated Choices

- Take “Planning for College Admissions” class
- Visit college websites
- Learn about admissions requirements
- Attend NV college visits
- Visit campuses if possible
- Visit Colorado campuses (even if you have no interest in staying in CO)
- Virtual Campus Tours (HERE)
- Attend local and virtual info sessions
- Read Counselor’s Corner
- Use Naviance/Big Future/CollegeExpress and other search engines
- Take notes/create a spreadsheet
- Set up a meeting with Diane HERE
### Look at College Entrance Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Vista Credits</th>
<th>CO Recommended Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIP</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Language</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Tech</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Path</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culminating Project</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** 2 credits = 1 year or 1 unit
# Examples of College Admissions Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pratt Institute</th>
<th>Harvard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 years of English</td>
<td>4 years of English, with extensive practice in writing;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 years of Math</td>
<td>4 years of math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year of Social Studies</td>
<td>4 years of science: biology, chemistry, physics, and an</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years of Science</td>
<td>advanced course in one of these subjects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No World Language</td>
<td>3 years of history, including American and European</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 years of one foreign language</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lewis and Clark</th>
<th>Western Washington</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 years of English</td>
<td>4 years of English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 years of mathematics</td>
<td>4 years of Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 years of history/social science</td>
<td>2 years of Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3 years of a foreign language</td>
<td>3 years of history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 years of lab science</td>
<td>2 years of world language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year of fine arts</td>
<td>1 semester of arts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Build Your List of Colleges

How many? There’s no perfect number, but some experts recommend the following:

2-3 ... you’re in
2-3... you’re qualified, but the competition’s fierce
2-3... you’re reaching, but who knows

TIPS
Create a spreadsheet to compare colleges side by side. (example)
Keep costs in mind – make sure you have affordable options w/o scholarships that you will be happy at!
Research and begin to create your college list over the summer
STEP 3: Find out what colleges are looking for

What are the main factors that impact college admissions?
What Are Colleges Looking For

- Grades
- Rigor of coursework
- Test Scores (SAT, ACT, Subject Tests)
- Application information
- Strong essays
- Leadership
- Strong letters of Recommendation

- Passion, and commitment to that passion
- Interviews
- Activities
- Authenticity
- Demonstrated Interest
- Growth
- Strong Junior Year/1st Semester Senior Year
Most Amazing Tool Ever! (Thanks College Essay Guy)

1. Google: “Common Data Set” + college name
2. Scroll Down to “C7”
3. Mind Blown
### Relative importance of each of the following academic and nonacademic factors in first-time, first-year, degree-seeking (freshman) admission decisions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Considered</th>
<th>Not Considered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rigor of secondary school record</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class rank</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic GPA</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standardized test scores</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Essay</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation(s)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nonacademic</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular activities</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talent/ability</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Character/personal qualities</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First generation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni/ae relation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographical residence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State residency</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious affiliation/commitment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racial/ethnic status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer work</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work experience</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of applicant’s interest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CU Boulder

### Academic
- Rigor of secondary school record
- Class rank
- Academic GPA
- Standardized test scores
- Application Essay
- Recommendation

### Nonacademic
- Interview
- Extracurricular activities
- Talent/ability
- Character/personal qualities
- First generation
- Alumni/ae relation
- Geographical residence
- State residency
- Religious affiliation/commitment
- Racial/ethnic status
- Volunteer work
- Work experience
- Level of applicant’s interest
# GPA and Test Score Ranges of Admitted First-Time Freshmen - Fall 2020 Data

Colorado Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities

The data below reflect the middle 50% ranges of students admitted at each institution - 25% had above and 25% had below these ranges. These are NOT requirements, but a guide to each institution's standards.

Both ACT & SAT are accepted by Colorado public institutions. Please refer to the online College Admission Guidelines tool for more information on admission criteria: [coadmissiontool.org](http://coadmissiontool.org)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>High School GPA</th>
<th>ACT~</th>
<th>SAT~*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mid-50% GPA range of</td>
<td>Mid-50% ACT range of</td>
<td>Taken March 2016 &amp; After</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>admitted students</td>
<td>admitted students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(4.0 scale - includes</td>
<td>(composite scores)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>weighted GPAs)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams State University</td>
<td>2.88 - 3.78</td>
<td>17 - 23</td>
<td>910 - 1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Mesa University</td>
<td>3.28 - 3.92</td>
<td>20 - 26</td>
<td>1020 - 1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado School of Mines</td>
<td>3.78 - 4.00**</td>
<td>29 - 33</td>
<td>1320 - 1470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado State University Fort Collins</td>
<td>3.41 - 4.00</td>
<td>23 - 30</td>
<td>1090 - 1290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado State University Global</td>
<td>2.39 - 3.39</td>
<td>16 - 22</td>
<td>930 - 1150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado State University Pueblo</td>
<td>2.95 - 3.81</td>
<td>18 - 24</td>
<td>930 - 1110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Lewis College</td>
<td>2.97 - 3.80</td>
<td>17 - 23</td>
<td>970 - 1180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan State University of Denver</td>
<td>2.72 - 3.58</td>
<td>17 - 23</td>
<td>900 - 1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Colorado Boulder</td>
<td>3.52 - 4.00</td>
<td>26 - 32</td>
<td>1180 - 1380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Colorado Colorado Springs</td>
<td>3.16 - 3.92</td>
<td>21 - 27</td>
<td>1010 - 1210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Colorado Denver</td>
<td>3.27 - 3.99</td>
<td>21 - 28</td>
<td>1020 - 1240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Northern Colorado</td>
<td>3.18 - 3.94</td>
<td>20 - 27</td>
<td>1000 - 1190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Colorado University</td>
<td>3.12 - 3.93</td>
<td>20 - 27</td>
<td>1010 - 1200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
USE NAVIANCE

Access through Class Link
Welcome, Demo Jensen!

Search for Colleges

Type a college name

Search

No Welcome Message is available at this time.

Read more

My Favorites

COLLEGES
I'm thinking about

COLLEGES
I'm applying to

CAREERS AND CLUSTERS
I'm thinking about

Important To-Dos and Tasks

What's New
Use Super Match to find colleges that fit your criteria
Adding Colleges to Naviance

1. Can add through Super Match or search for a college
2. Once it comes up, click on the ❤️ to add to “Colleges I’m Thinking About”
3. Next year, you can add them to “Colleges I’m Applying To”
STEP 4: Prepare for college admissions tests

Prepare for and take the SAT at NV: April 2024 (DO NOT NEED TO REGISTER)

Look into test prep: Khan Academy, Lifelong learning, Kaplan, Princeton Review (NV partnership)

After April, if you want to, you can retake the SAT. www.collegeboard.org SUPER SCORE

Consider taking the ACT: www.actstudent.org

Students with disabilities talk with case managers/counselor to request testing accommodations ASAP

Don’t love tests?! FAIRTEST.ORG (currently 1760+ schools on this list!!)

From Wake Forest University (NC): “For the record, it’s not that we think standardized tests are evil. We just think that the measure of your intelligence and potential requires a deeper dive. It’s about life experience, aspiration, work ethic, engagement and all of what makes you who you are. Numbers rarely tell the whole story.”
A big change...

Test optional, test flexible, and test blind admissions

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- More competitive admissions
- More holistic admissions
- Experts suggest submitting test scores if yours fall in the top 25% of admissions data
- Some colleges still use test scores for scholarship consideration and admissions into honors programs so pay attention
STEP 5: Begin essay brainstorming

Why do colleges require essays?

- To show what makes you different from all the other qualified applicants
- To shed light on your values, contributions, opinions, and talents
- To see your voice and personality
- To fill the holes that the test scores, transcripts, and application did not show. (Essays should show new information)
- To see your writing ability and your command of the basics of good writing
Essay Resources and Tips

Meet Ethan Sawyer

Try these exercises before starting your essay
1) **Essence Objects Exercise:**
2) **Values Exercise:**
3) **Feelings and Needs Exercise:**

Additional Resource to help with Brainstorming:
1) 100 Brave and Interesting Questions
2) 12 Sample College Essays that have Worked:

A few more essay tips...
- Ask people what they think is special about you
- Read other essays
- Save work from classes
- Keep a journal
- Brainstorm topics with friends and family
- Check out [www.essayhell.com](http://www.essayhell.com) & [www.collegeessayguy.com](http://www.collegeessayguy.com)

Some of the best essays are about simple topics… hiking, shoes, cooking, work experience, passing a hard class, an admirable person, a good book, milk

GET INSPIRED.
STEP 6: Think about Letters of Recommendation

**It’s New Vista so you’ve hopefully done this already. If not, now is the time to continue cultivating relationships with your teachers.**

- Advisor = counselor
- Consider who can speak to different strengths and qualities
- NOT: Friend, relative, someone who can’t speak to your strengths
- Must follow 3 steps: request in person, this form, and on Naviance
- Teachers cap how many letters they will write
- Show gratitude

Tips: Ask early, ask in person, bring chocolate, & write thank you notes
STEP 7: Consider Cost and Financial Aid

- Attend NV Financial Aid Night in September 2023
- Familiarize yourself with the FAFSA & CSS Profile
  - CHANGE FOR NEXT YEAR: Dec 1st??
- Look at Federal Student Aid Estimator. Most colleges have these too.
- College Opportunity Fund
- WUE: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, ND, OR, SD, UT, WA, WY
- Create a well-rounded and balanced list that includes affordable college options that you will be happy at!
- Have hard, honest conversations
- Save money by applying on Free CO Application Days: October 17th-19th
Why Complete the FAFSA

Completing the FAFSA is essential for securing most types of financial aid for college. In addition to federal grants and loans, many colleges, states, and scholarship programs use the form to assess eligibility for their aid programs. Even higher income families should fill out the FAFSA.
BREATHE
Let’s Have Some…

FUN.
Your Role As Parents

- Take a collaborative approach (create a google doc)
- **Encourage** your student to explore college options
- Be in the "back seat" - and not the driver - of the college search process
- Support your student in exploring **ALL** options
- Be open to dialogue and responsive to questions especially about your expectations and financial capabilities
What you can do now to prepare to be the best applicant you can be

★ Take rigorous classes at New Vista
★ Take classes connected to your path
★ Take advantage of College Before Graduation program
★ Look at Admissions Standards for CO Public Colleges
★ Pursue CEs connected to your path
★ Prepare for admissions testing (SAT/ACT)
★ Build relationships with adults
★ Find your co-pilots and ask for their support on this journey
★ Get a job (get work credit for it)
★ Make productive summer plans ***
★ Continue your self exploration and college research
★ Plan ahead for college admissions deadlines (Early VS. Reg)
★ Create opportunities to show demonstrated interest
★ Create an awesome culminating project
★ Get a head start (essays, applications, etc.) (Start the Common Application this summer)
★ Practice self-care and take things one step at a time
STEP 8: Remember this...

“If a college is a match rather than a prize, then there is plenty of time to find the right fit. All too often, students and parents are romanced by a name rather than looking for the best matches. In the end, the best fit should be what the student determines, and there should be several fits, not just one. If we do our jobs as counselors and parents, we can trust students to make and assume ownership of their decisions. It then becomes our job to support their decisions and feel good about their accomplishments.”

-Fran Sachs, Educator
As we complete our time together, what best describes how you feel right now about moving forward into this journey?

- Terrified
- Confused
- OK
- Hopeful
- Confident
Magic is believing in yourself. If you can do that, you can make anything happen.

-J.W. Van Goethe
RESOURCES ON OTHER PATHWAYS
Gap Year Resources

- **www.cityyear.org**: a branch of AmeriCorps, a youth-oriented, national, civic-service "action tank"-that’s like a think tank with feet.
- **http://greenvolunteers.com**: a self-proclaimed "world guide and information network to voluntary work in nature conservation."
- **http://www.dynamy.org/*: a not-for-profit experiential educational organization that offers an internship year mixing work, independent living, structure, and coaching.
- **www.transitionsabroad.com**: a resource for teen travelers, seekers of short-term international work, budget travel, language study, and expatriates.
- **TeenLife.com**: connects teens with summer programs, volunteer opportunities, gap year and study abroad
- A few affordable options: AmeriCorps(www.americorps.gov), Habitat for Humanity (www.habitat.org), WWOOF (www.wwoof.org); [http://www.workaway.info](http://www.workaway.info): a database of families, individuals or organizations in different countries who are looking for volunteer help in a huge range of fields.
Technical Institutes/Focused Colleges

- Course work focuses on skills for the workforce
- Typically award a certificate, diploma, or associate's degree.
- Offers internship experiences
- Usually offer job placement services
- Credits usually DO NOT transfer
- Includes a strong element of hands-on training

- May be part of community and junior colleges, and sometimes four-year colleges and universities
- Check for accreditation: Ensures that an institution has been evaluated and meets set standards of quality (http://www.chea.org/)
- Examples: computer technology, business administration, culinary arts, electronics, medical assisting, legal assisting, automotive technology, massage therapy, and cosmetology.
Need More info?

General info: http://www2.ed.gov/students/prep/college/consumerinfo/choosing.html

Search for accreditation: https://ope.ed.gov/dapip/#/home

Vocational Information Center: http://www.khake.com/

Colorado Private Trade Schools:
http://www.trade-school.org/directory/colorado

Certificate Programs and Career Training Schools:
http://www.campusexplorer.com/certificate-programs/
Military

- **Five branches:** Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard
- **2 types of duty:** active duty (full-time soldiers and sailors) and reserve & guard forces (usually work a civilian job, but can be called to full-time military duty)
- **Recruiting office:** 3055 Walnut St, Boulder, 303-442-1751
- **ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps):** Take classes in college to learn combat techniques, military tactics, and leadership training. Military pays for all or part of your education if you serve as an officer after graduation. (Freshman and sophomore can participate without obligation to join the Army.)
What are some benefits of joining the military?

- **Steady Income**: Paid twice a month, on the 1st & 15th, every month, based on your pay grade & service requirements.

- **Advancement**: Promoted based on job knowledge, performance, time in pay grade & service requirements.

- **Paid vacation**: Earn 2.5 days paid vacation per month for a total of 30 days each year.

- **Training**: Choose your career path based on aptitude, physical abilities, security clearance, motivation and determination.

- **Health Care**: While on active duty, receive complete medical and dental care at no cost.

- **Life Insurance**: While serving on active duty members can select inexpensive term life insurance.

- **Tax Advantage**: Only basic monthly pay is subject to Federal or State income tax.

- **GI Bill**: The Montgomery GI Bill will help pay for college education or vocational training.

- **Tuition Assistance**: While in the Reserves or Guard, you may continue your education, and may be helped in defraying the cost of college-accredited courses. Additionally, if you are in the National Guard some states offer substantial benefits such as free tuition to state colleges or universities.

- **Additional Benefits**: There are exchange and commissary privileges, temporary lodging expenses, travel, Veterans Administration home loans and more.
**Tips**
- Start looking now
- Network like crazy
- Create a resume and get feedback
- Do mock interviews
- Be professional and confident
- Dress appropriately
- Visit Workforce Boulder [www.wfbc.org](http://www.wfbc.org)

**Resources**
- [www.snagajob.com](http://www.snagajob.com)
- [www.coolworks.com](http://www.coolworks.com)
- [www.monster.com/](http://www.monster.com/)
- [https://www.colorado.gov/cdle](https://www.colorado.gov/cdle)
- [https://jobs.livecareer.com/](https://jobs.livecareer.com/)

**Apprenticeships and Internships**
- [www.doleta.gov/oa](http://www.doleta.gov/oa)
- [www.internweb.com/](http://www.internweb.com/)
- [http://www.goabroad.com/intern-abroad](http://www.goabroad.com/intern-abroad)
THANK YOU! = ?