

## **Top 7 Ways to Support Your Child in Applying to College**

### **Encourage your child to visit ScholarMatch**

- *849 Valencia St.*
- **College Coaching:** *M, W, F 5:30-7:30*
- **Drop-in:** *M-F 2:30-5:30*
- **Appointments:** 415-652-2766
- **Next workshop:** Financial Aid 101, Oct 19, 4:30-6 pm

### **Get to know resources at your child's school**

- Does your child have a college counselor? Encourage them to get to know them!
- Does your child's school offer SAT or ACT preparation classes? Sign them up!
- Does your child's school offer a financial aid workshop?

### **Talk with your child early and often about college**

- What careers are you interested in?
- What are you looking for in a college?
- What excites you about college?
- What are you concerned about?
- What do you think colleges should know about you?
- How can I support you in the process?

### **Visit schools**

Visiting college campuses is one of the best ways for your child to get a sense of the right school for them. Colleges offer tours in multiple languages. Sign up to tour colleges your child is interested in!

### **Keep them on track**

ScholarMatch's College Ready Milestones break down the steps of applying to college. Use them to help your child set deadlines and stay organized as they go through the application process.

[www.scholarmatch.org/students/milestones](http://www.scholarmatch.org/students/milestones)

### **Prepare your paperwork**

One of the most important ways you can help your child is by making sure you're ready to complete financial aid paperwork. You'll need:

- An email to complete financial aid applications
- Taxes from the past two years- File as early as possible!

If you need support in filing taxes MEDA, 2301 Mission Street or 1-800-273-6222 is a great resource

**College is a chance to envision the future**

The most important thing you can do for you student is support them in imagining college as an opportunity to launch a **career**, build a **network**, and pursue a **future** they are passionate about. There are many college options available for all types of students. Support your child in keeping an open mind as they explore different types of schools, majors, and career paths. Encourage them to dream big and research their options, using resources like ScholarMatch.