CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 8-14 ▲ POSTSECONDARY ADMISSIONS

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Students will describe the College Admission Distribution Requirements for admission to a Washington State four-year college or university.
* Students will identify a Washington State four-year college to research.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* Postsecondary Info Worksheet
* **Family Handouts:**
* Postsecondary Admission Standards
* **PowerPoint Presentation: “Postsecondary Admissions”**
* **Computer, projector and screen** for teacher to show “Postsecondary Admissions” PowerPoint
* **Computer and internet access for students**

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Introduce the concept of college admission requirements.** Ask for a show of hands: How many students want to go to the UW? What about WSU? What about Western, Eastern, Central, or Evergreen? What about your local community college? Explain to students that Washington State has six public four-year colleges and universities, as well as 34 community and technical colleges. If students want to attend one of the four-year colleges, they will need to meet certain minimum admission standards.
2. **Show the *Postsecondary Admissions* presentation.** Share the “Postsecondary Admissions”Power Point with students, focusing on the work they need to do during high school (particularly in taking required courses) so that they will be eligible to apply for admission to a public four-year college or university. Note that although these standards are not required for community and technical colleges, they are recommended, meaning that ALL students should try to meet these standards. Also remind students that these are just the **minimum** requirements. Students will be more competitive for admission if they do **more** than the minimum.
3. **Research colleges.** Give each student or group a copy of the *Postsecondary Info Worksheet*and have each group visit the web site for their assigned college and answer the questions on the worksheet. Help students who are having trouble finding information. After about 15 minutes, call the whole group back together and ask for volunteers to share what they learned.
4. **Tell students that it is a good idea to start visiting colleges** (either on the Internet or in person) before their senior year of high school. If they would like to attend a two-year or a four-year college, they should start preparing so that they can apply during the fall of senior year.

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *Postsecondary Info Worksheet***

 **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* **ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY**

**Reflect on the presentation.** Ask each student to pick one public college to research (you can let students choose – which may mean you get a lot of UW and WSU students – or you can assign students randomly to four-year colleges or community and technical colleges). Divide students into small groups by college. Then give the small groups about five minutes to discuss what they would need to do during high school to be admitted to that college.

Ask each group to share some of their ideas. Remind them of the minimum college admission requirements that were covered in the presentation, and discuss why it is better for students to do more than the minimum.

* **EXPLORATION OPPORTUNITIES**

**Provide postsecondary course counseling*.*** Students should understand by now that ALL the courses they take during high school are important. If possible, have a high school counselor meet with your students and help them set postsecondary goals and map out a four-year course plan based on those goals.

Students should understand that they need to plan ahead to meet the College Academic Distribution Requirements (required for admission to a public, four-year college and recommended for a community or technical college) and that if they want to attend a more highly selective college they will need to do even more.

**Organize a Pathways to Postsecondary Night for families.** If you wish, you might want to welcome families to your school or to the high school for an evening to discuss how to start thinking about the pathway to postsecondary education.

You can introduce the minimum College Admission Distribution Requirements for Washington’s four-year public colleges, share information about Washington State’s two-year and four-year colleges, and give parents tips on helping their students prepare to apply to and succeed in a postsecondary program.

* **Check out a College**

<http://www.sbctc.edu/>
Career and college information from Washington’s community and technical colleges

* **University of Washington**

[www.washington.edu](http://www.washington.edu)

* **Washington State University**

[www.wsu.edu](http://www.wsu.edu)

* **Western Washington University**

[www.wwu.edu](http://www.wwu.edu)

* **The Evergreen State College**

[www.evergreen.edu](http://www.evergreen.edu)

* **Eastern Washington University**

[www.ewu.edu](http://www.ewu.edu)

* **Central Washington University**

[www.cwu.edu](http://www.cwu.edu)

* **Washington Student Achievement Council**

[www.wsac.wa.gov](http://www.wsac.wa.gov)

Information about colleges, admission requirements, financial aid

* **The WashBoard.org**

[www.thewashboard.org](http://www.thewashboard.org)

Scholarship match

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LESSON 8-14 STUDENT HANDOUT

 POSTSECONDARY INFO WORKSHEET

Name:

What do you want to do after high school graduation? You might want to attend one of Washington State’s public four-year colleges and universities or your local community or technical college. Choose one of the colleges below. Visit that college’s web site and find the answers to the questions below.

**Choose a college to research:**

* University of Washington [www.washington.edu](http://www.washington.edu)
* Washington State University [www.wsu.edu](http://www.wsu.edu)
* Western Washington University [www.wwu.edu](http://www.wwu.edu)
* The Evergreen State College [www.evergreen.edu](http://www.evergreen.edu)
* Eastern Washington University [www.ewu.edu](http://www.ewu.edu)
* Central Washington University [www.cwu.edu](http://www.cwu.edu)
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ <http://www.sbctc.edu/> (local community/technical college)

Where is the college located?
*Note: Some of these colleges have more than one campus. Write down the location of at least one campus:*

What can you study at this college?

*Find one academic department or major that sounds interesting to you and write it down.*

Click on the links to apply to this college as an incoming freshman, as if you are a senior in high school and would like to attend this college. Does this college have a paper application, an online application, or both?

🞏 Paper application 🞏 Online application 🞏 Both

What can you learn about this college? List at least three things you learned about this college by visiting the web site (sports teams, mascot, types of classes, special projects, college trivia, etc.):

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LESSON 8-14 FAMILY HANDOUT

 POSTSECONDARY ADMISSIONS STANDARDS

**IT’S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL!**

High school is an important time: your student has four years to prepare for postsecondary education! Washington State has 34 community and technical (two-year) colleges. In addition, we have six public four-year colleges and universities: University of Washington, Washington State University, Western Washington University, The Evergreen State College, Eastern Washington University, and Central Washington University.

**FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Students who would like to attend a public college must meet certain minimum standards. These are required for four-year college and recommended for two-year community or technical college:

* **College Academic Distribution Requirements,** which include specific courses students must take during high school (see below). Year-long courses in high school results in one annualized credit. To graduate from high school, students must earn a certain number of credits by taking approximately six courses per year.
* **2.0 Minimum Grade Point Average (GPA)** during high school, out of a 4.0 scale.
* **Official SAT/ACT scores.** Students must take an official college entrance exam, such as the SAT or ACT, and have their scores sent directly to the college.

**COLLEGE ACADEMIC DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS**

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| --- | --- |
| **SUBJECT** | **REQUIREMENTS (Note that requirements may change)** |
| **ENGLISH4 credits** | Including 3 credits of college prep composition or literature |
| **MATH3 credits** | Algebra I & II + Geometry or Integrated Math I, II, IIIAND Must take a math-based quantitative course during senior year |
| **SCIENCE2 credits** | One credit must be in an algebra-based science courseOne credit must be in biology, chemistry, or physics |
| **SOCIAL STUDIES3 credits** | History or other social science |
| **WORLD LANGUAGE2 credits** | Two credits must be earned in the same languageOne credit may be earned during middle school |
| **ARTS1 credit** | Fine, visual, or performing arts |

Learn more about Minimum College Admission Requirements at [www.hecb.wa.gov/research/issues/documents/RevisedMCASOverviewParents-April2011.pdf](http://www.hecb.wa.gov/research/issues/documents/RevisedMCASOverviewParents-April2011.pdf).