

## College Bound Lesson Plan

### OBJECTIVES

- Students will be able to describe four essential steps toward being college bound
- Students will be able to identify different forms of financial aid, including the College Bound Scholarship
- Students, with support from their parents/guardians will be able to analyze the College Bound Scholarship, determine their eligibility, and return either the completed application (if eligible) or the information card (if not eligible).

### EALRs and GLEs (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Writing EALR 2:** The student writes in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes.

**GLE 2.3.1:** Uses a variety of forms/genres (Example: Application forms)

**Reading EALR 3:** The student reads different materials for a variety of purposes.

**GLE 3.2.2:** Apply understanding of complex information, including functional documents to perform a task (Example: read applications and use that information to perform everyday life functions.)

### MATERIALS

- Scholarship application for distribution and for use on document viewer
- Web resources (URLs identified in script)
- ‘Ways to Pay’ Homework Assignment
- Wristbands: I am College Bound! (See *notes*)

### PROCEDURES

1. Teacher/leader begins with a “hook” about dreams to get students engaged.

*Sample script: “I’d like you to take a few seconds to think about your dreams for the future. This is the answer to the question people are always asking you: What do you want to be when you grow up? A famous baseball player? A world traveler? A doctor? An inventor of a new video game that will make you rich?”*

2. Allow time for student reflection. Then ask students to share their dream with a neighbor.
3. Bring back to a whole class discussion and ask a several students to share their dreams.
4. Transition to a discussion of how one might attain one's dreams by sharing your own dreams.

***Sample script:** "You all have wonderful dreams. I would like to share briefly with you my dream and how I came to realize it. Now let's talk about some the things you need to do to become a... (use examples that students have mentioned)."*

5. Ask students to describe some of the steps they think are needed to attain their dreams—listen for answers that include finding scholarship or other resources to finance their dreams. If they do not include the requirement to attend college when the career choice requires it, prompt:

***Sample script:** "Many of your dreams will require getting more education after you graduate from high school. Example: If you are going to create video games, there are programs at technical colleges to help you learn to do that. If you want to become a veterinarian, you will need to go to a college that offers a veterinary degree. I want to share with you today four steps you can take to move from dreaming to doing."*

## **PROCEDURES (continued)**

6. Go through PowerPoint Presentation or KnowHow2Go brochure.

### **Step 1: Be a pain (in a good way)!**

***Sample script:** Planning for college isn't something you do by yourself—it is really a team effort. But it is up to you to put together your team. And that means talking to the adults in your life who can help—from your parents, guardian, or other family to your teachers, coaches, guidance counselor, or religious leader.*

### **Step 2: Push Yourself.**

***Sample script:** Working a little harder today will make getting into college even easier. Take the classes you will need to get into the type of college you want to attend. Of course, grades are important but you will want to challenge yourself too and take the tough classes!*

Resources: [www.gearup.wa.gov/middle-school](http://www.gearup.wa.gov/middle-school)

### **Step 3: Find the Right Fit.**

**Sample script:** Find out what kind of school is the best match for you and your career goals. Do not panic—you do not have to make any decisions yet but think about your hobbies, skills, and interests. Think about careers you would like to do and then find out what kind of college you will need to attend for training.

Resources: [www.hecb.wa.gov/links/colleges/collegesindex.asp](http://www.hecb.wa.gov/links/colleges/collegesindex.asp)

#### **Step 4: Put your Hands on Some Cash!**

**Sample script:** If you think you can't afford college, think again. There's lots of aid out there. There are resources available for every student planning to go to college regardless of income. Today, we are going to look at one scholarship that might be for you: the College Bound Scholarship. The College Bound Scholarship is just one program available to pay for college; there are many more state, federal, and college aid programs.

Resources: [www.hecb.wa.gov/Paying/index.asp](http://www.hecb.wa.gov/Paying/index.asp)

#### **PROCEDURES (continued)**

7. Pass out both the College Bound Scholarship application and the 'Ways to Pay' assignment.
8. Briefly go over the main requirements listed on the top half of the front page of the College Bound Scholarship.
9. Go through the six most commonly missed parts of the application and have students star these items.

##### Front page

- \*Full name—legible
- \*Date of Birth (not birthday)

##### Back page

- \*Income Standards: Check off any that apply
- \*Release of information: You and your family can get more information about going to college.
- \*Student signature and date
- \*Parent/guardian signature and date

8. For homework, have students take home the College Bound Scholarship application and the 'Ways to Pay' document. Ask students to review the application with their parents/guardians. If they determine they are eligible ask them to fill it out completely and return it to you the next day. If students find they are not eligible, have them sign the 'Ways to Pay' document and turn it in with the blank College Bound Scholarship application.

**After the presentation outline the class challenge/assignment:**

1) Go home and talk with parent/guardian about going to college

(KnowHow2Go <http://knowhow2gowashington.org/> step 1 'be a pain')

2) Discuss the "Ways to Pay" document, including the College Bound Scholarships with a parent/guardian.

3) Return the "Ways to Pay" document and/or the College Bound Scholarship application (if eligible) to participate in the class challenge and/or assignment