

45-item College Planning Behaviors Scale

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Directions: Please answer YES or NO about whether you have done each listed activity. For example, if the activity was “I have taken Algebra 1”, you will choose YES if you have already taken this course (or are currently taking it) and you will respond NO if you have not already taken this course. ONLY RESPOND YES IF YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE THIS LISTED ACTIVITY, NOT WHETHER YOU PLAN TO DO THE LISTED ACTIVITY IN THE FUTURE. **Remember that college means any education after high school.**

BEHAVIOR	YES	NO
1. I have taken the ACT and/or SAT		
2. I have applied to college		
3. I have a plan to pay for college		
4. I have sent my ACT and/or SAT scores to colleges where I plan to apply		
5. I have researched the education or training required for my careers of interest		
6. I have researched colleges that provide training for my career of interest		
7. I have reviewed college admissions requirements		
8. I have researched how to apply for college		
9. I have requested that my transcript be sent to the colleges where I have applying		
10. I have talked with my family about how to pay for college		
11. I have completed the FAFSA		
12. I have researched how to apply for financial aid		

BEHAVIOR	YES	NO
13. I have found someone who can answer my questions about college		
14. I have found out how much it would cost to attend college		
15. I study hard to try to do well in school		
16. I have taken the PSAT		
17. I have taken math beyond Algebra II		
18. I have identified steps to reach my educational goals		
19. I have talked with my family about what I want to do after high school		
20. I have identified someone who can write a recommendation letter for me		
21. I have completed a college tour		
22. I have visited a college campus		
23. I have explored colleges on the computer		
24. I have researched what programs of study are available in college		
25. I have attended a financial aid workshop or scholarship night		
26. I have learned the difference between grants and loans		
27. I have enrolled in a college prep curriculum at my high school		
28. I have started exploring careers		
29. I have researched information about a career		
30. I have figured out my career interests and abilities		
31. I have taken/am currently taking classes related to my career interests		

BEHAVIOR	YES	NO
32. I have identified the steps I need to get the career I want		
33. I complete my homework regularly		
34. I have made a list of college application deadlines		
35. I have gathered applications for the colleges I am considering		
36. Someone has reviewed my college application materials for errors		
37. I/my family have started saving for college		
38. I have searched for scholarships		
39. I have compared the costs of different colleges		
40. I have talked with a college representative or admissions counselor		
41. I have participated/currently participate in an extracurricular club or sport		
42. I have talked with friends about what they want to do after high school		
43. I have (or do now) volunteered or participate in community service		
44. I have talked with my parents or other adults about their jobs		
45. I have run for a leadership position in a club or sport		

Scoring: You can score by subscale or simply review the overall responses to better understand the actual college-planning behaviors enacted by your students.

Exploration: exploratory activities to inform postsecondary plans; Items: 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 18, 19, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 38, 39, 40, 42

Concrete Activities: specific preparatory actions; Items: 1, 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 17, 20, 25, 34, 35, 36

Supplemental Activities: behaviors not necessary for college admission, but helpful for competitiveness; Items: 13, 15, 21, 22, 33, 37, 41, 43, 44, 45