Make the most of **Collegebound Nebraska** Week.

Collegebound Nebraska Week is an opportunity to reinforce with students that a college education is within their grasp – and that it is a goal worth achieving. Here are some ideas to reinforce that message each day.

- Go to collegeboundnebraska.com for tips and videos featuring current NU students.
- Visit the Collegebound Nebraska channel on YouTube to hear from current NU students and former Husker athletes Prince Amukamara and Jordan Larson on why college is important (and affordable).
- Follow Collegebound Nebraska on Twitter, Facebook and Tumblr for regular updates on the college planning process, campus updates, financial aid advice and more.
- Go to educationquest.org for grade-specific information and tips.

**Monday – The million-dollar difference**

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, individuals with a bachelor’s degree earn an average of $1 million more over a lifetime than those with a high school diploma. In Nebraska, the average salary of a college graduate is double that of a high school dropout. Individuals with a college education also enjoy better health, are more likely to vote and volunteer, are less likely to receive public assistance, and are more likely to have their own children go on to college.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Annual Income - Nebraska 2010</th>
<th>$20,222</th>
<th>$25,392</th>
<th>$30,005</th>
<th>$40,820</th>
<th>$54,969</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than high school graduate</td>
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<td>High school graduate (includes equivalency)</td>
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<td>Some college or associate's degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree</td>
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<td>Graduate or professional degree</td>
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**Tuesday – Apply early for financial aid**

Students who qualify for a Pell Grant automatically qualify for Collegebound Nebraska. But, the earlier students apply, the better their chances of getting additional financial aid. And, they must meet the **April 1** deadline for filing the FAFSA to receive Collegebound Nebraska assistance. Go to FAFSA.ed.gov or studentaid.ed.gov for information on filing for financial aid.
**Wednesday – Get a (better) job**

According to the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, by 2018 63 percent of all jobs will require education beyond high school. The Center has also reported that virtually all of the jobs lost during the current recession have come from those with a high school diploma or less. Current unemployment in Nebraska tells the story (2011 Census data).

![Unemployment in Nebraska 2011 graph]

**Thursday – Take the right classes**

Be sure students know which classes are required for admission to the University of Nebraska. Taking advanced placement or dual enrollment classes can give students a head start on college, reducing costs and speeding time to graduation.

Admission requirements: 4 units of English, 3 units of Math (4 at UNL), 3 units of Social Sciences, 3 units of Natural Sciences, 2 units of Foreign Language. UNK and UNO require one additional unit in any of these areas to complete the 16-unit requirement. Students must also be in the upper ½ of their class, or have an ACT score of 20 or above or an SAT score of 950 or above.

**Friday – Do your homework**

How do you choose the college that’s right for you? Go. Visit. College. A campus visit is an important step in finding the right fit, understanding the total cost of college and your financial aid options, and learning about housing, student organizations, majors, honors programs and other opportunities unique to each campus. College fairs can also help you narrow your choices. Visit collegeboundnebraska.com/calendar for a list of upcoming visit days on NU campuses.

Specific information about each of the NU campuses is available at unl.edu, unomaha.edu, unk.edu and unmc.edu.