



Beginning in elementary school, I Know I Can College Advisors and volunteers encourage students like you to dream big, work hard, and achieve your dream of going to college.

To help you reach your goal, I Know I Can will provide all the tools you need to make college a reality. From advice on preparing for college to information on applying and paying for it, we'll be right by your side throughout the journey.

Please visit **iknowican.org** and **columbus.k12.oh.us** for more information and resources.



DREAM BIG. WORK HARD. WE'LL HELP.™

The I Know I Can College Planning Checklist is designed to help you make the most of your time in school and to prepare you for college. It's never too soon to start planning your future!



7th Grade College Planning Checklist

- Attend Blueprint: College workshops with your family to learn more about getting ready for college after high school and how to make the most of your high school years.
- Go to school every day. Good attendance helps you get good grades.
- Commit to at least 30 minutes a day of reading outside of class assignments.
- Add different colleges and careers to your Naviance profile. Write down questions and facts about each. Talk to adults who have careers you are interested in.
- Improve your outlining and note-taking skills while you are in class and doing homework.
- Get organized with a planner and folders to keep track of assignments and class papers.
- Get involved in school activities that interest you or in your community. Ask a teacher or counselor for help.
- Use the computer to help with class assignments and projects.
- Participate in academic enrichment programs. Ask your counselor about these options.
- Review this year and last year's PAARC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) scores and set goals for how you can improve in the 8th grade.
- Find a mentor or caring adult with whom you can meet regularly. Talk to them about your goals and have them help you plan ways to reach them.
- Save money for college. Start collecting coins and putting them in a piggy bank, this will add up faster than you think.
- Make friends with classmates who also plan to go to college. Share your college goals with one another.
- Visit iknowican.org for more strategies and tips on how to complete this list.
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