



**Dear Parent or Family Member,**

A few months ago, we shared information with you about the exciting program that your student was selected to participate in, Kids2College. I am pleased to inform you that your student has successfully completed this program! During our time together, we learned about:

- Many different postsecondary career training options, including the different kinds of college degrees they can earn to prepare for their future career;
- Different careers they can pursue that fit their interests and skills;
- The classes they need to take in middle and high school to be college & career training ready;
- Ways they can get help with their schoolwork to make sure they are doing their best;
- The variety of resources available to help them pay for their college & career training education, including scholarships and grants;
- What life is like on a college campus; and, most importantly,
- How college IS possible!

After their participation in this program, your student has expressed interest in going to college or completing other training programs for their future. We encourage you to support your student as they pursue their goal. Completing the Kids2College course was the first step in preparing for a brighter future. While getting ready for college & career training is not easy, it is something every student is able to do with hard work and the right information. Your student collected information about education and career options, preparing for college, and financial aid in their *My Path to Success* handbook. Ask your student to share his or her Student Handbook with you so that you can see all the hard work that your student put into learning about college & career training options. This information also will be valuable to you as you help your student continue working towards his or her goal. We've also included a summary of the things they've learned during the course on the next page.

Together, you and your student can work to make their college & career dreams a reality and create the best future for your family.

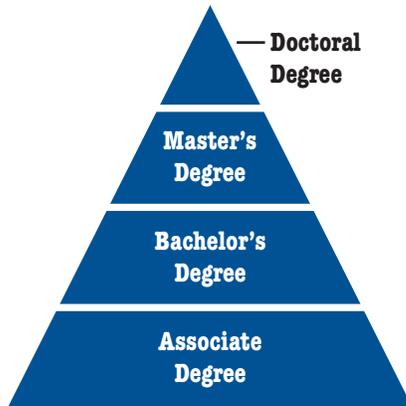
If you would like more information about college, careers, or financial aid, please feel free to get in touch with me. Thank you for supporting your students as they achieve their dream of a college education. Visit: <https://acpe.alaska.gov> & <https://alaska529plan.com> for more information on preparing and saving for college & career training.

Sincerely,

**The Kids2College Team**

# Reviewing What We've Learned: College Is Possible!

## Different Postsecondary Degrees Available after High School



In order to be considered for admittance into college, you need to have taken the following high school classes:

**English/Language Arts** — All four years

**Mathematics** — Three, preferably four years

**Science** — Three, preferably four years

**Social Studies** — Three, preferably four years

**Foreign Language** — Two, preferably three years

**P.E./Health** — At least one year, preferably more

**Challenging Electives** — Whenever possible

## Educational Opportunities After High School

- **Apprenticeships, and Vocational or Trade Schools** teach skills specific to a job.
- **Community College** is a two-year school. You can earn an associate degree at community college. You can also take classes that may transfer to a four-year college or university.
- A **Four-year College or University** is a school where students work towards earning a bachelor's degree. You also may earn a master's or doctoral degree from a four-year college or university.

**Every college-bound student must take the ACT or SAT during the second semester of their junior year of high school. These tests are required for college admission!**

## Four Types of Financial Aid To Be Aware Of

- **Grants** are financial aid awards that do not have to be repaid. Grants are usually given to the students who need the most money.
- **Scholarships** are also financial aid awards that do not have to be repaid. Scholarships are typically awarded to students based on their achievements.
- **Work-study** is a program that allows students to work to earn money for their tuition. Work-study students have jobs on campus; all work-study money is earned, so it does not have to be paid back after graduation.
- **Loans** are financial aid awards which must be repaid. Different organizations, including the federal government, lend qualified students or their parents money that they will pay back after they leave school.



To be eligible for grants, loans, work-study, and some scholarships, all students need to complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**.