

CARPE

college
access
network

COLLEGE
PATHWAYS
COURSE

WHAT IS CARPE?

Our school is a part of the CARPE College Access Network. CARPE seeks to increase the number of students who are Black, Latinx, Indigenous, or from low-income backgrounds who apply, enroll, and ultimately go to colleges they are most likely to graduate from.

WHAT CHALLENGES DOES PATHWAYS ADDRESS? OUR 3 KEY COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGES FOR 2021

ONE

How can we efficiently and effectively provide critical information to all students about the college process?

TWO

How can we maximize the time counselors spend directly supporting students in navigating the college process?

THREE

How can we get real-time data about where students are in the college application process so we can provide support to those who need it most?

WHAT IS PATHWAYS & WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

In an effort to ensure that all seniors obtain personalized information about the college process in our virtual environment, CARPE has designed an online course, Pathways, consisting of six 20-30 minute modules. The modules provide relevant information in an asynchronous format to help students complete the college process, allowing counselors to focus more energy on direct support to students.

HOW IT WORKS:

Students interact with the modules online. In each module students answer questions that feed into our Airtable tracker. This allows counselors to provide targeted support to students who need it most. Your school and counseling team can track progress toward college milestones in real-time, assess collective impact, and engage in more data-informed action. the college process, allowing counselors to focus more energy on direct support to students.

HOW TO USE:

Before students go to each Pathways episode URL, the Pathways team suggests providing a two minute introduction to each episode. What follows are sample introductions that you can share with students to help them understand and find value in each Pathways episode. Please feel empowered to review the episodes yourself and tweak/modify these introductions to resonate with your students.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Sharing the following information with your students will help them become well equipped with the information they need to successfully navigate the college process using the CARPE course. Thank you for being a partner in your students' college process.

EPISODE 1 - WHY COLLEGE?

You are now a high school junior, which means that you are also considering what you will be doing once you graduate. Regardless of your post secondary education plans, applying to college keeps your options open. As you know, the college process is exciting and it can also be overwhelming. Please engage with the six episodes that make up the CARPE Pathways experience. You will know that you have finished an episode once you click the button that says click here to finish the episode. An experienced college advisor and current college freshmen and sophomores will walk you through this journey step-by-step. Once you finish Pathways, you will be in a great position to decide where you will continue your journey after high school!

BELOW ARE THE MODULES YOU WILL COMPLETE:

- 1) Why College?
- 2) Building My Balanced College List
- 3) Making College Affordable
- 4) Submitting My College Applications
- 5) Understanding My Financial Aid
- 6) Transitioning to College

EPISODE 2 - BUILDING MY BALANCED COLLEGE LIST

In this two part episode we will explore colleges together! You will start the process by identifying the colleges you're interested in. Check your school email after you submit the first part of the episode, as we will send important information to consider about each college you identified. In the second part of the episode, we will figure out which colleges are the best fit for you based on estimated cost, graduation rates, and your preferences, among other factors. Once you complete this episode, you'll be able to start your applications to those schools.

EPISODE 3 - MAKING COLLEGE AFFORDABLE

The cost of attending college is often a concern for many students. In this episode, you will learn how college can be an affordable option by completing the right financial aid form. We will explain the documents and information you will need to start the FAFSA/Dream Act. You will also receive detailed guides on how to complete a financial aid form.

EPISODE 4 - SUBMITTING MY COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

In this episode, we will help guide you through the college application process. Tell us where you are applying and then use our detailed guides where we will walk you through each step of completing a UC, CSU, Common App, and California Community College application.

EPISODE 5 - UNDERSTANDING MY FINANCIAL AID

We know financing college can be a stressful topic for students and financial aid packages are often difficult to understand. In this episode, we will explain the financial aid process and help you choose a college that is affordable for you and your family. This episode will help you interpret your award letter and make a wise decision about which college to attend.

EPISODE 6 - TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

Congratulations! Your hard work paid off and you have been accepted to college. Now that you know which institution you will attend this fall, we will discuss how to successfully transition to college. You will learn from current college students about what worked for them and plan what you will do to make your first year in college a success!