

Activities for younger students and families

7th-Grade, 8th-Grade, Freshmen and Sophomore Students:

Provide an overview of the requirements of the PROMISE Scholarship: Because students' grades begin to count toward their overall high school GPA the moment they step foot in high school (9th grade), students should understand the academic requirements of PROMISE early.

Related resources: Financial Aid 101; the PROMISE scholarship page of CFWV.com

Review the Financial Aid 101 Guide: Students should be aware of federal and state grants and scholarships so that they can make informed decisions as they work toward graduation.

Related resources: Financial Aid 101; the "Cash for College" section of CFWV.com; the Financial Aid Planning section of CFWV.com

Encourage students and parents to utilize cfwv.com: If possible, guide them through the site on a computer. CFWV.com offers career- and high-school planning resources to help students stay on track in preparing for college. Resources that are particularly relevant to this age group are:

- **The career exploration section:** Students can take quizzes to determine the career fields that best match their interests and skills. They can then explore career profiles to learn more about specific jobs, salary projections, and the education required.
- **The high school planning timeline:** The planning timeline offers step-by-step checklists for each year of high school. Students can complete these steps to ensure they are adequately preparing for college and getting the most out of their high school education. Parents who create an account can link it to their student's account to track their child's progress.
- **The scholarship finder:** Though students typically can't apply for federal and state programs earlier than their senior year, many private scholarships are open to younger applicants. Students can find thousands of scholarships from all across the nation and begin applying for money for college now.
- **The college profile section:** Students can learn more about all of West Virginia's colleges and universities—and schools nationwide—by viewing profiles for each college within the college planning section. *Related resources: "What is CFWV.com" one-page guide*

Encourage families to connect with CFWV on Facebook and Twitter: CFWV staff members post daily information about scholarships and grants, along with vital college-planning info

Related resources: CFWV Facebook page: www.facebook.com/collegefoundationofwv; CFWV Twitter feed: www.twitter.com/cfwv

Junior Students:

Junior students can benefit from all of the activities listed above, and...

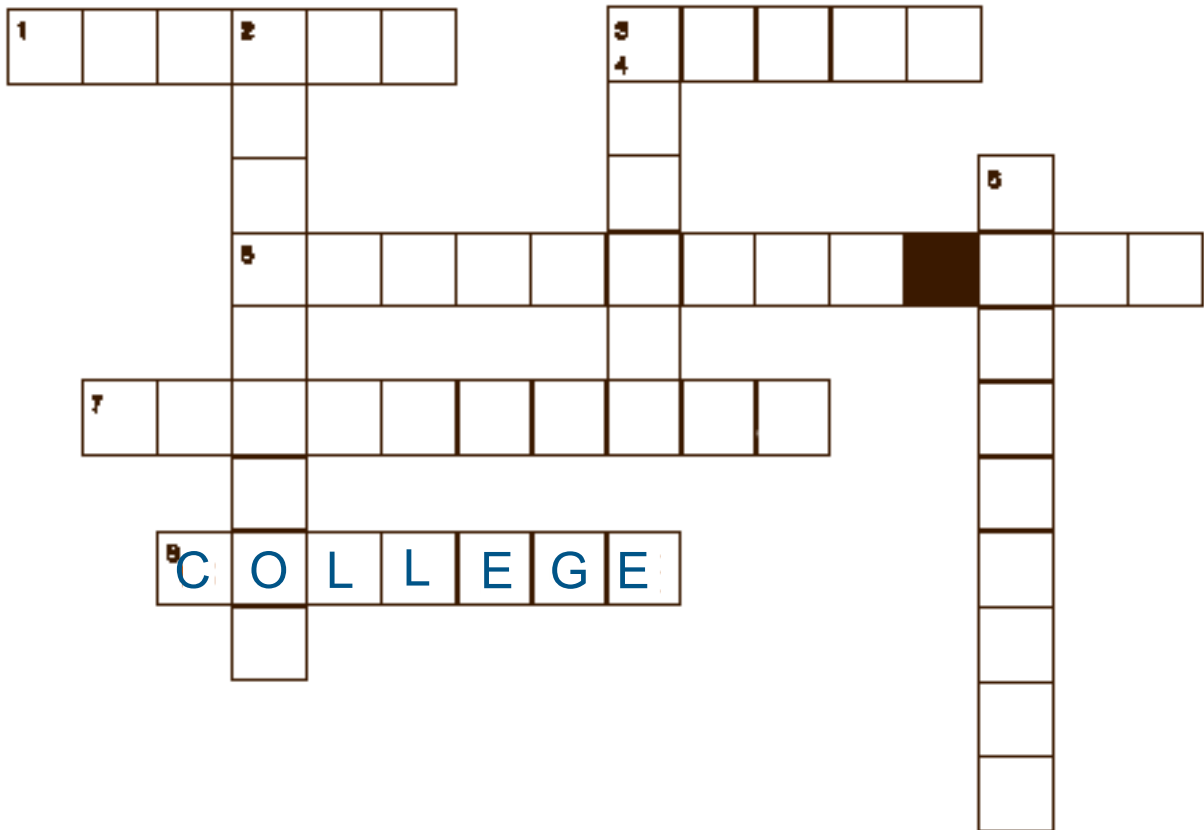
FAFSA 4-Caster: It may be useful to assist juniors and their families in completing the U.S. Dept. of Education's FAFSA 4-Caster. The 4-Caster gives families an indicator of the aid they might receive as seniors, and helps them learn more about their options for paying for college. Be sure to explain to students that this is only an estimate. *Related resources: The FAFSA 4-Caster link on the homepage of FAFSA.ed.gov.*

Net Price Calculators: Colleges and universities are required to feature "net price calculators" on their websites. Students can use these calculators to tally an estimated cost of college at any given institution. Many of these calculators also factor in available financial aid. *Related resources: The FAFSA 4-Caster link on the homepage of FAFSA.ed.gov.*

College Cross Word

Use the clues to fill in the blanks!

1. A group of buildings and outdoor spaces that make up a college.
2. The teacher or instructor of a college class.
3. The subject area a student chooses to pursue in college. This is often related to the career he or she wants.
4. An animal, person, or symbol that represents a college, in particular for sports.
5. Money provided to help pay for college. This can be in the form of scholarships, grants, loans, or work study.
6. The degree or diploma typically given for completing a four-year college program.
7. The degree or diploma typically given for completing a two-year college program.
8. Any form of education or training beyond high school, including a certificate program, a two-year degree program, or a four-year degree program.

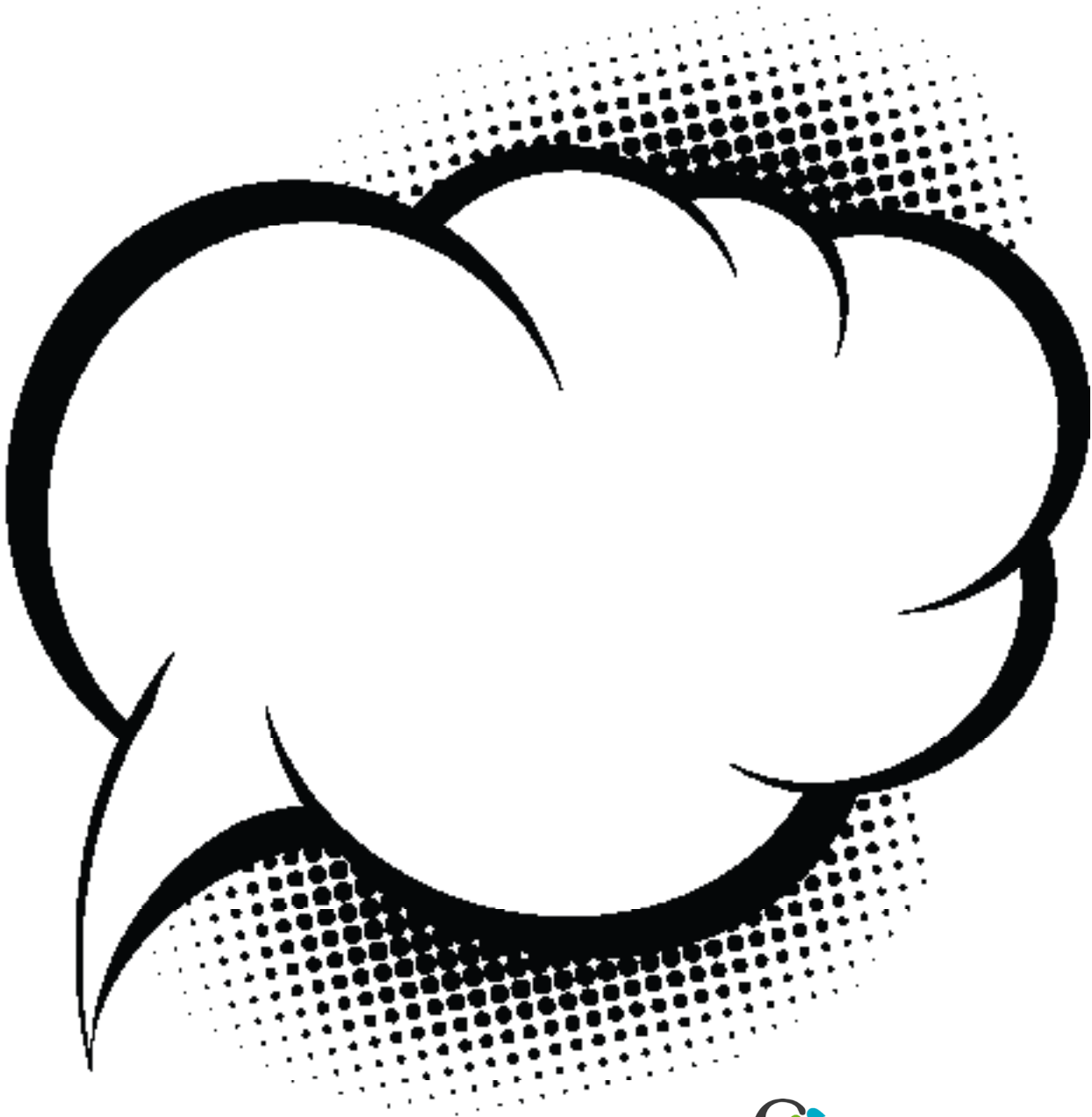


Picture Yourself...

Name: _____

Can you picture yourself in college? What does the college look like? What do you look like and what are you doing? What sort of career are you working toward?

Draw a picture in the bubble below to show your dreams for college.



COLLEGE ROAD MAP

To reach your dream of going to college, you need a plan!

Think about challenges you will face and how you will get past them.

And don't forget - your family, teachers and friends can help you along the way!

As you get older, you can create and keep track of your college plan at www.cfww.com.



How can college help you reach your dreams?



Can you name a challenge you might come across?

Can you think of 3 people who can help you keep going to meet your goal?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



LET'S GO!

What college do you want to attend?