

Your High Schooler's Academic Success Begins with You

Parent and family involvement in student academic success, at every stage, can help open the door to opportunities for students and increase the options available to them in the future.

As your student begins high school, there should be an increased focus on them learning and refining the skills that will be necessary for success in college, other postsecondary program and ultimately the workforce. They will need to learn to think critically, work collaboratively, problem-solve and communicate effectively.

The following are a list of skills and information they will need to learn in order to be prepared for success in college and career.

Academic Skills

English/Language Arts

- Determine the central idea of specific sources such as journal articles or works of literature and provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas developed over the course of the text.
- Compare the point of view of two or more authors for how they treat the same or similar topics.
- Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone specific to the type of writing assigned.
- Develop a strong thesis statement/argument in an essay and write arguments to support claims using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. Develop research skills by finding and synthesizing online sources.
- Develop and organize complex ideas by selecting the most significant and relevant facts and information appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
- Determine the meaning of words (including root words) and phrases as they are used in a text.

Math

- Interpret algebraic expressions in order to solve problems.
- Work with functions including linear, quadratic and exponential functions.
- Analyze real world situations using mathematics to understand the situation and problem-solve.
- Make inferences and draw conclusions from surveys, experiments and observational studies.
- Work with probability and use principles of probability in everyday situations.
- Know precise definitions of angle, circle, perpendicular line, parallel line and line segment.

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Ways to Create a High Expectations Culture in Your Home

- Make student academic success a family priority. That means school comes before extracurricular and social activities.
- Set completing college or other postsecondary program as the ultimate academic goal for your student.
- Commit to be actively engaged in your child's education at every stage – from birth through postsecondary – and take ownership for being a partner in your student's success.



Note: Every child develops at his/her own pace. These are recommended age specific guidelines for academic skill development.

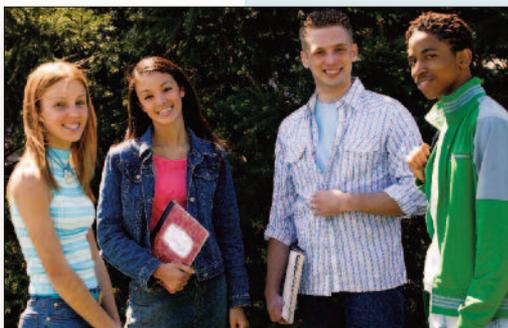
The above Academic Skills are based on the Common Core Standards. Please talk with your child's teacher to get more specific information about each of these skills. A full list of common core standards by grade level is available at www.azed.gov.



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Staying Engaged in Your Child's Education

As your children get older, it is critical to continue to stay engaged in their education. While you may not be able to help with specific homework assignments, you can stay engaged by asking questions and ensuring your student is completing his/her work on time. Here are some examples of questions to ask your older child:

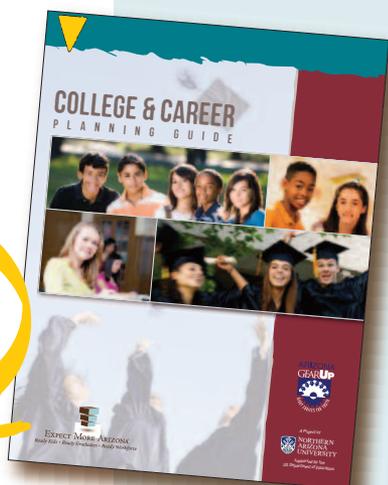


1. Tell me about your assignment.
2. When is it due?
3. How did you feel about this assignment? What are you finding most challenging?
4. Do you have the tools and resources you need to complete it?
5. What skills are you learning through this assignment that will help you be successful in the future?
6. Can I see your completed project?

Questions to Ask Your Child's Teacher/Counselor

1. Is my student attending class regularly and on-time?
2. Can I see examples of his/her work?
3. Is my student on track to complete this class successfully?
4. Does my student have an ECAP (Education and Career Action Plan)?
5. Is my student making sufficient progress toward his/her academic goals?
6. Is my student on track to graduate college and career ready?

Visit ExpectMoreArizona.org for an interactive College and Career Planning Guide and resources to help your student plan for postsecondary education.



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