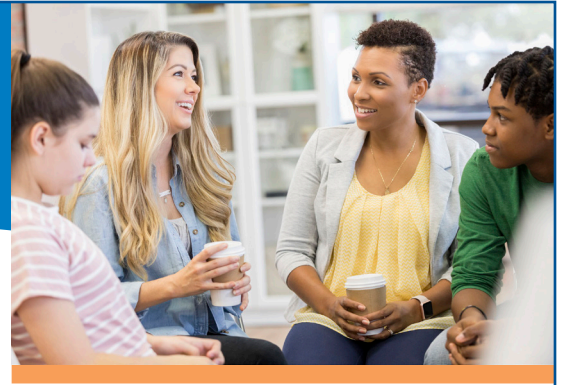


# SP<sup>3</sup> - Student Planning Pointers for Parents



## Conversation Starters

### Reading Financial Aid Offers – 12th Grade

You know your student the best, so the following talking points are simply a guideline to use in starting a conversation with your 12th grader about the important information financial aid offers contain regarding the cost of college.

- ▶ Your financial aid offers from colleges help us determine if a college is affordable for you to attend for the length of your program. Here are some tools we can use to figure out what each college will cost us.
- ▶ We need to consider that loans need to be repaid in the near future and minimize the amount we borrow.
- ▶ We also have to pay attention to grants or scholarships that are received only for one year and plan accordingly for future years.
- ▶ The key is to project what the entire degree will cost us and make sure it is an amount we can afford.
- ▶ We can only afford to pay \$\_\_\_\_\_ between our savings, earnings and borrowing capacity. You should not borrow any more than your expected starting salary, which could mean that some colleges are unaffordable for us.
- ▶ One option to consider is beginning at a more affordable college and then transferring later in your college career.
- ▶ Let's consider setting up an appointment with ICAN to help us.



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