

RESOURCE FAIR

1:00-2:00

Registration & Exhibitors

Livak Fireplace Lounge

WELCOME

2:00-2:15

Opening Remarks

Silver Maple Ballroom

WORKSHOPS 1

2:25-3:10

The College Search: Finding the Right Fit

Silver Maple Ballroom

Navigating the College Search for Students Who Learn Differently

Mildred Livak Ballroom

Strategies for the SAT & ACT

Frank Livak Ballroom

Supporting Your Teen's Career Search

Sugar Maple Ballroom

WORKSHOPS 2

3:20-4:05

Apprenticeship Opportunities

Mildred Livak Ballroom

Financial Aid & Managing College Costs

Silver Maple Ballroom

I Wish I Knew That! Programs to Pursue Before You Graduate

Frank Livak Ballroom

Navigating the Admissions Process

Sugar Maple Ballroom

WORKSHOPS 3

4:15-5:00

MyFutureVT: Your Guide to Success After High School

Frank Livak Ballroom

Scholarships: Free Money!

Silver Maple Ballroom

Taking a Gap Year: Build an Intentional Path to Your Future

Mildred Livak Ballroom

Writing the Admissions Essay

Sugar Maple Ballroom

WORKSHOPS

The College Search: Finding the Right Fit

Presenter: Sara Vargo, VSAC GEAR UP Assistant Director

Audience: Best for 9th–11th grade students alone or with their parents/guardians (less appropriate for parents/guardians alone)

Want to continue your education after high school, but unsure how to choose a school or training program? This interactive workshop will help you consider what you want from your post-high school experience, and provide strategies and tools to start narrowing down the search to institutions that meet your needs.

Navigating the College Search for Students who Learn Differently

Presenter: Lori Harding, Director of LC Online Partnerships, Landmark College Audience: Best for 9th–12th grade students and their parents/guardians

This workshop will give neurodiverse students and their families the tools you need to determine fit and prepare for the transition to education after high school. We will discuss what to consider, the questions to ask, the legal landscape, and the wide range of accommodations, supports, and programs that exist in post-secondary education today.

Strategies for the SAT & ACT

Presenter: Matthew Shagam, Tutor

Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students

Want to make yourself a stronger candidate for college admissions and merit-based financial aid by earning a high score? Get "best practice" strategies and free test-prep resources from a professional test prep tutor.

Supporting Your Teen's Career Search

Presenter: Kathi Terami, Executive Director, Careers CLiC

Audience: Best for the parents/guardians of 9th–12th grade students

How can you help your child figure out what they want to do, without telling them what to do? This workshop will cover what your high schooler needs from you in their career search, and how to help them identify and explore their career interests.

Apprenticeship Opportunities

Presenters: Sarah Ballou, Program Manager, VTSU Electrical and Plumbing Apprenticeship Programs & Christopher Laflam, VT Dept. of Labor Apprenticeships

Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students and their parents/guardians

Enrolling in a registered apprenticeship program is a smart investment in your career. It provides hands-on training, mentorship, and a path to a rewarding career with long-term stability and growth opportunities. Come learn about the opportunities that exist in Vermont, and how to pursue a registered apprenticeship to take the first step toward your dream career.

Financial Aid & Managing College Costs

Presenter: Matt "Beagle" Bourgault, VSAC Talent Search Director

Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students and their parents/guardians

Find out how families cover college costs. We'll explain the types of financial aid available (grants, scholarships, loans); the basics of financial aid applications; and ways to compare college costs before you apply.

I Wish I Knew That! Programs to Pursue Before You Graduate

Presenter: Amy Dodge, Post-Secondary Programs Coordinator, VT Agency of Education Audience: Best for 9th–11th grade students and their parents/guardians

Participants will learn about the Flexible Pathways opportunities available to students and how participating in one or more of these programs in high school can help you get a jump-start on your future. Please note that presenter will be joining virtually.

Navigating the Admissions Process

Presenters: Anna Dechert, Senior Associate Director of Admissions, Dartmouth College & Elga Gruner, Assistant Director of Admissions, Vermont State University Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students and their parents/guardians

Overwhelmed by the college admissions process? Hear directly from college admissions counselors about the steps involved in applying, what they look for in students, and how they can support you through the process.

MyFutureVT: Your Guide to Success After High School

Presenter: Tom Cheney, Executive Director, Advance Vermont Audience: Best for 9th–12th grade students and their parents/guardians

Planning for life after high school can feel overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be! Come explore MyFutureVT, a free resource for career exploration, education options, and financial planning. Plus, learn about the Vermont Employment Pathfinder, a new tool that will help you connect the dots between your skills/interests and education/job opportunities. Gain the confidence and tools to confidently chart your path to success!

Scholarships: Free Money!

Presenter: Matt "Beagle" Bourgault, VSAC Talent Search Director Audience: Best for 11th grade students and their parents/guardians Learn how to find and apply for local, state, and national scholarships.

Taking a Gap Year: How to Build an Intentional Path to Your Future

Presenter: Julia Rogers, President Emeritus, Gap Year Association Audience: Best for 10th–12th grade students and their parents/guardians

Taking an intentional gap year offers a chance to build confidence, develop independence, and gain clarity about future goals. A well-planned year can help students thrive—socially, professionally and personally—no matter what post-secondary option comes next. Explore the range of opportunities, get tips on how to plan for college deferment or reapplication, strategize how to finance gap time and learn how to design a meaningful and fun gap year.

Writing the Admissions Essay

Presenter: Carrie Pratt, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions, University of Vermont Audience: Best for 10th & 11th grade students and their parents/guardians

The admissions essay brings your unique voice to your college applications - this session will provide you with strategies to approach this important piece of writing and a better understanding of how it will be reviewed.

College & Career Pathways is funded by VSAC; Vermont State GEAR UP, a federally funded program; and the J. Warren and Lois McClure Foundation.