

# FAMILY NIGHT HIGHLIGHTS

## What GEAR UP offers for our families:

- College campus visits
- College readiness family events
- Offers an exclusive Parent Leadership Academy
- Professional mentoring for students
- Provides Professional Development for whole school

Take some time with your student to take the Career Interest Survey. Explore the other areas of the website as well. It is a great tool for your college and career planning.

## Career Interest Survey

1. Go to [www.okcollegestart.org](http://www.okcollegestart.org)
2. Create an account or Login
3. Click on Career Planning TAB at the top



## Oklahoma 529 Plan

- The Oklahoma 529 College Savings Plan is a tax-advantaged savings plan for education expenses.
- Go to <https://www.ok4saving.org/> for more information on how you can start saving for your student's educational future with the benefit of a tax-advantaged savings plan.

## What are the benefits of continuing your education after high school graduation?

### Top 10 Reasons for Pursuing a Post-Secondary Education

- More in Lifetime Earnings
- Higher levels of Civic Engagement (vote, run for office, volunteer)
- Healthier Family Life (lower divorce rates, children achieve higher in school)
- Longer Life Expectancy
- Better Mental and Physical Health
- Professional Mentors and a Lifetime Network
- Sense of Accomplishment and Independence
- Higher Job Satisfaction
- Increased Creativity and Problem Solving
- Prepared for the Tech Economy

## Oklahoma's Promise

- Scholarship program for students who graduate from Oklahoma high schools
- Students may apply as early as the 8th grade; must apply before the end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade
- Families earning \$55,000 or less per year qualify for the scholarship
- The scholarship covers tuition for Oklahoma colleges
- Some colleges offer additional scholarships to the Oklahoma Promise students.
- Go to <https://www.okhighered.org/okpromise/> learn more and to apply for the scholarship.

## Median yearly earnings and typical time commitment per degree

