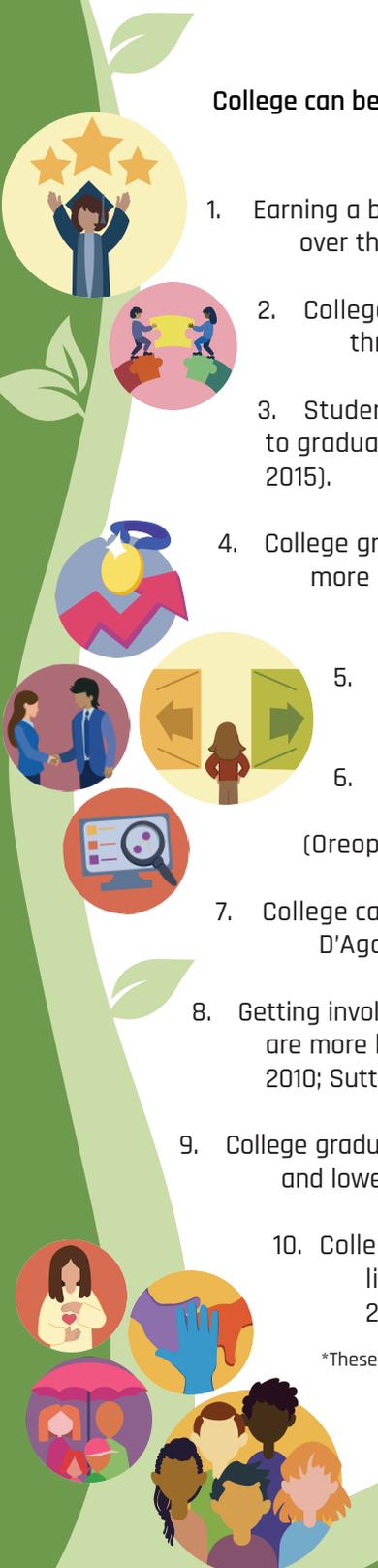


College Benefits Top 10*

College can be a life-altering experience for students, and not only academically. Here are just a few of the ways in which college can change your students' lives for the better:

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1. Earning a bachelor's degree allows students to earn, on average, \$1 million more than high school graduates over the course of their careers (Starrett et al., 2022; Abel & Deitz, 2014).
 2. College offers students an opportunity to build relationships with mentors and peers benefit them throughout their careers (Campbell et al., 2012; D'Agostino, 2022).
 3. Students who attend a college that "matches" their high school GPA and test scores are more likely to graduate from that college within six years and go on to find a great job (Cook, 2022; Howell & Pender, 2015).
 4. College graduates tend to have more job satisfaction, jobs that offer a greater sense of accomplishment, more independence and opportunities for creativity, and more social interaction in their jobs than non college graduates (Oreopoulos & Petronijevic, 2013; Sutton, 2017; Wolniak & Engberg, 2019).
 5. As of 2022, the unemployment rate for college graduates has been approximately half that of high school graduates (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022).
 6. College helps students develop skills that prepare them for careers in the tech-driven economy, including nonroutine, abstract skills that aid in problem solving, multitasking, and creativity (Oreopoulos & Petronijevic, 2013; St. Louis et al., 2021; Hutson et al., 2023).
 7. College can broaden students' understanding of the world and international perspectives (Sutton, 2017; D'Agostino, 2022).
 8. Getting involved as a college student can lead to greater civic involvement over a lifetime. College graduates are more likely to vote, run for political office, and volunteer in their communities (Perrin & Gillis, 2019; Brand, 2010; Sutton, 2017; Ishitani & McKittrick, 2013).
 9. College graduates experience health benefits like longer life expectancy, lower obesity, lower likelihood to smoke, and lower instances of mental illness (Harper et al. 2021; Baum et al. 2013; Oreopoulos & Petronijevic, 2013).
 10. College graduates tend to carry more benefits forward into their family lives, including a lower likelihood of divorce and higher-achieving children (Oreopoulos & Petronijevic, 2013; Reynolds, 2021).

*These benefits generally compare the average student with a bachelor's degree to the average student with a high school diploma.

Student-Friendly Language:

1. Earn \$1M more over your lifetime.
2. Be happier in your job.
3. Connect with peers and mentors.
4. Make a difference in your community (volunteer, vote, run for office).
5. Develop your creativity and problem-solving skills.
6. Feel a sense of accomplishment.
7. Grow your career independence.
8. Prepare for success in a technology-driven world.
9. Live longer and healthier.
10. Have a more satisfying family life.

In summary, college is "life-altering"!