

Community College: Stepping Stone to Your Future

Facilitator Discussion Guide

Overview of Video

Designed for middle and high school students and their families, this video features both current and former community college students who have benefited in different ways from their community college experiences. The video explains why community college is a good option for many students.

Introduce the Video

Community colleges are just that—colleges nearby, close to home, within the community. These colleges offer many options that make the transition from high school to college a smoother process for many students. The video features current and former community college students who tell their stories and give their reasons for choosing a community college as a stepping stone to the future.

Note to Presenters of Spanish Language Version

Please note that “community college” has been translated as *centro preuniversitario* in the Spanish language version of this video. Prior to screening the video for Spanish-speaking audiences, please explain that whenever *centro preuniversitario* is used it refers to community college.

As you view the video, consider these points:

- What are some of the reasons these students chose to start their education at a community college rather than at a four-year university?
- Aside from the relatively lower cost of community colleges, what are other benefits?

View the Video (15 minutes)

Discuss the Video

- What are the advantages of attending a community college? Have you considered this as an option? Why?
- How could a community college help students who are undecided about their career choices?
- Certification programs that lead to good job opportunities are available in a number of fields of study. For example, computer science, paramedic, accounting clerk, etc. Have you considered any of these? Which ones? Why did you choose this field?
- Where would you go to find more information about a community college near you?