



www.texasgearup.com

Topic: Community College: Stepping Stone to Your Future

Time: One hour

Audience: Students and parents – Grades 10 - 12

Objective(s): Students and parents will:

- 1.) view a video featuring current and former community college students who have benefited in different ways from their community college experiences;
- 2.) discuss questions related to community college;
- 3.) review the *College for All Texans* web site to compare college costs.

Materials and equipment:

Data projector and computer with internet access

Video: *Community College: Stepping Stone to Your Future* (available in English and Spanish)

Download the video or show directly from web site location.

<http://www.texasgearup.com/byot/preview/community-college-stepping-stone-to-your-future-english/>

Handout – Discuss the Video (attached, or use web site

<http://www.texasgearup.com/files/byotdocs/Beyond-High-School-PDFs/32-discussion-community-college.pdf>

Web site: College For All Texans web site for review of the various costs of community college, university and technical schools.

<http://collegeforalltexans.com/index.cfm?objectid=63188B97-0C47-0020-6DBBBAD96A7DFB83>

Procedure:

1. Introduce presenter and review the agenda and objectives
NOTE: Invite a local community college rep, if possible.

2. (15 minutes) Introduce the video *Community College: Stepping Stone to Your Future*

Say: 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.

Show video. If time does not permit using the entire video, select segments that are appropriate to the audience.

3. (15 minutes) Discuss the video with participants. Review the discussion questions (attached) or use the version on the web site. Allow students and parents to respond and ask questions. Divide the group into small table groups and ask them to generate questions that might be answered by a local community college rep (if someone is available to attend).
<http://www.texasgearup.com/files/byotdocs/Beyond-High-School-PDFs/32-discussion-community-college.pdf>
4. (5 minutes) Closure: If time allows, show the participants the *College for All Texans* web site and review the various costs of community college, university and technical schools.
<http://collegeforalltexans.com/index.cfm?objectid=63188B97-0C47-0020-6DBBBAD96A7DFB83>

Extending the lesson:

Spend time with students reviewing the College for All Texans web site and comparing college costs.

Review college admissions requirements for community colleges in the area.



Discuss the Video

Community College: Stepping Stone to Your Future

- 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?