



## HIGH SCHOOL & BEYOND PLAN

# START A CONVERSATION WITH YOUR STUDENTS ABOUT THEIR FUTURES!

**Talking with students about their interests and strengths during middle school can spark their thinking about possible career pathways and launch them into high school with a sense of direction for their future.**

## FIVE KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK MIDDLE SCHOOLERS:

- 1** What do you like to do outside of school?  
What are your hobbies?
- 2** What do you think you are good at?  
What have others told you you're good at?
- 3** What problems do you like to solve? Why?
- 4** If you could spend a day with any adult at their job, who would that be and what would you want to see or do?
- 5** Is there anything getting in the way of your dreams, and if so, how can I help?

The choices that students make in middle school matter for their success in high school and beyond. Talking to students now about possible future careers that match their interests and skills will help them develop positive mindsets and habits to get the most out of their education.



## NEXT STEPS:

### MAKE CONNECTIONS

Use what you learn from conversations with students to connect them with relevant opportunities throughout your school and community. Think about other adults who could be a good connection for that student to make.

### CHECK IN

Encourage students to begin developing their High School and Beyond Plan – when they complete the Career Interest Inventory and determine possible careers of interest, you can use it to help them choose relevant freshman year classes and find activities that support their goals.

### ENCOURAGE

Share with students that high school will be different – they will have more opportunities to explore their interests. Encourage students to engage with their classes and ask for help when needed.

## RESOURCES

### READY WA

[readywa.org](http://readywa.org)

### HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND PLAN

[bit.ly/ospHSP](http://bit.ly/ospHSP)

### COLLEGE ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID WORKBOOK

<http://bit.ly/StuWorkbook>

### COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE MATERIALS

[wcan.org/college-knowledge/](http://wcan.org/college-knowledge/)

### GEAR UP

[gearup.wa.gov/resources](http://gearup.wa.gov/resources)

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

[sbe.wa.gov/our-work/high-school-and-beyond-plan](http://sbe.wa.gov/our-work/high-school-and-beyond-plan)

### COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP

[wsac.wa.gov/college-bound](http://wsac.wa.gov/college-bound)

### MILITARY TRAINING

[todaysmilitary.com/training](http://todaysmilitary.com/training)

### APPRENTICESHIPS

[Ini.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/Programs/default.asp](http://Ini.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/Programs/default.asp)

### TECHNICAL COLLEGES

[sbctc.edu/our-colleges/explore-colleges/default.aspx](http://sbctc.edu/our-colleges/explore-colleges/default.aspx)