

# THE CREO GRUNCH



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"In education, a lot of it is about self-discovery, learning, and passion."



[PODCAST EPISODE 134 LINK](#)



## Apply to College

In January, students may still be applying to colleges for the Regular Decision cycle. Counselors can assist students by providing opportunities to check in and provide feedback on writing requirements and reviewing the student's deadlines. Seniors should be aware of who the adults on campus are that can support with this. Consider creating social media posts that showcases the campus Go Center/College and Career Center.

## College News

This school year's FAFSA has a delayed start and opened in late December with a soft launch. As Federal Student Aid iron's out issues with the application, consider hosting sessions where students create FSA IDs, complete the student section and receive a resource that reminds them what documents their parents should be prepared with.



## What should seniors be doing right now to be prepared to pay for college?

### COUNSELORS

While the topic of paying for college is a crucial conversation that should be happening at home, not all families are in a position where the topic of finances is an open discussion. So, how do we support high school seniors as they enter their Spring semester and anticipate award letters?

It's crucial to centralize information for high school seniors on platforms such as the school's website or Google Classroom. Within a "Paying for College" section, consider housing links to the FAFSA, TASFA, the CSS Profile and scholarship databases. Promote opportunities where students can visit the campus Go Center/College & Career Center to ask for assistance in completing scholarship applications.

Advocate for time in the classroom with seniors and deliver lessons where you explain the components of an award letter and how to determine financial gaps within the award.



### PARENTS

Now is the time to discuss how you can financially support your child through college. It is important that your child has a solid understanding of the realistic and practical dollar amount you can pay towards their tuition and/or living expenses.

Within this discussion, encourage your child to look at different housing and meal plan opportunities at the college they are hoping to attend. Most colleges will offer a range of living arrangements that vary in price. If the college allows freshmen to live off campus, research apartment complexes around the campus and compare the cost to the college dorm fees. If the college allows freshmen to select their own meal plan, discuss meals your child is comfortable preparing on their own and consider teaching them how to prepare other quick and inexpensive dishes.

Another important point of this discussion is personal expenses. Grab a sheet of paper and with your child create a list of their monthly personal expenses. Together, determine where they can cut cost and what items or outings they should consider cutting back on.



Visit these **RESOURCES**  
with your Senior.

[24-25 FAFSA Form](#)

[24-25 TASFA Form](#)

[CSS Profile](#)

[Scholarships.com](#)

[Financial Aid Data Spreadsheet](#)

[FAFSA Forecaster](#)

[College Board Net Price Calculator](#)