

Delta Alpha Boulé, Northern IL
Boule Scholars Club

High School Program Overview Modules 5 – 8

Module 5: Toolbox Review and Reminders

- I. Review and Reinforce use of the “Toolbox”
 - a. Re-focus mentees on “ALS” and lessons from modules 1 - 4
 - b. Introduce discussion about “_____while Black” and interactions with law enforcement officers
 - i. De-escalating skills (STAR)
 - ii. Bring in law enforcement guest speaker
 - iii. Bring in lawyer/Judge guest speaker
 - c. Introduce Life’s Timeline
 - d. Define and explain “Wealth, and Building Wealth”
 - e. Discuss sources of wealth and money

Module 6: Getting Ready for College

- II. College Prep Program
 - a. Career Interest self-assessment
 - i. Self-evaluate reading and math skills
 - 1. Illustrate how good reading and math skills are the fundamentals of any successful career.
 - ii. What are your strengths and weaknesses?
 - iii. Do you challenge yourself with stretch goals, doing things that are not easy, and learning new things and information?
 - iv. Do you like to collaborate with others or work alone?
 - v. Do you seek help when needed?
 - vi. What do you like to do?
 - vii. What are you good at?
 - viii. Do you have a role model or know someone who does what you would like to do?
 - ix. What courses can you take or study in High school to begin developing the base knowledge needed for your career interest?
 - b. Career Models
 - i. Guest speakers
 - ii. Field trips
 - iii. Internships
 - c. ACT & SAT Exams
 - i. Prep courses
 - 1. Cost – If cost is an issue, how can it be overcome?
 - 2. Where are the courses held?
 - 3. How long are the courses?
 - 4. What dates are the courses available?

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- ii. Exams
 - 1. What's on the exams?
 - 2. When should a student take the exams?
 - a. Typically the exam is taken your sophomore year
 - 3. How many times can a student take the exam?
 - 4. Cost – If cost is an issue, how can it be overcome?
 - 5. Where are the exams held?
 - 6. How much time does a student have to complete the exam?
 - 7. What dates are the courses available?

- d. Criteria for choosing a College
 - i. Academic area of interest
 - ii. Ability to meet or exceed the school's academic requirements for admittance
 - iii. Cost
 - iv. Availability of scholarships/financial aide
 - v. In state vs. out of state
 - vi. Public or private
 - vii. Large or small
 - viii. HBCU or Ethnic majority
 - ix. All male or female schools
 - x. Likelihood of being admitted

- e. College Alumni Role Models
 - i. Guest speakers - Graduates of schools mentees have an interest in attending.
 - ii. Lead discussion about college life and what to expect
 - 1. Discuss the blessing and curse of freedom (personal responsibility)
 - iii. Tours to schools mentees have an interest in attending.
 - iv. HBCU college tour programs
 - v. Tour to Maquette

- f. A Basic College Application Process Checklist
 - i. List of schools you're applying to
 - ii. Submission deadlines
 - iii. High school transcript
 - iv. ACT and/or SAT scores
 - v. Personal application essay prompt / guidelines
 - vi. Personal app essay
 - vii. Recommendation letters
 - viii. Other documentation to submit along with the application
 - ix. Details of where and how to submit
 - x. List of questions to ask if you cannot find the information on the college website

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Module 7: College Application Process

III. College application process

- a. How many and what schools should you apply to?
 - i. It is recommended that students apply to between five and eight colleges.
 - ii. The list should include choices ranging from your:
 1. Dream schools - colleges you know will be a challenge to get into.
 2. Safety schools - colleges that you know are likely to accepted.
 3. Possible schools - colleges you have a good chance of getting into.
 - iii. Applying to colleges in each of these categories will improve the chances that you are accepted into more than one, and give you options as to which you choose to attend.
 - iv. College Websites – Explore the schools website which will usually have answers to most of the questions you may have.
 - v. Application deadlines
 1. Note the application due date and make sure it is submitted well in advance.
 - vi. Early Decision and Early Action
 1. Options that allow you to apply to a college early and receive the admissions department's decision in advance of traditional applicants.
 2. Early admission programs present significant advantages
 - a. applicants can receive increased consideration since colleges tend to admit a higher percentage of early applicants than they do normal applicants.
 - b. Colleges get the benefit of enrolling students who really want to go to their school and meeting enrollment their goals early.
 - vii. Early Decisions are binding – If accepted for Early Decision to a college, you are obligated attend that college. You will also not be able to apply for more financial aid after this point.
 - viii. Early action is not binding. If accepted, have until the following spring to decide if you want to attend.
- b. Completing the Application
 - i. The Common Application
 1. The common application is an application that is accepted by more than 900 colleges and universities.
 2. It is a convenient option that allows you to complete a single application to send to several schools.
 3. Keep back-up copies of all documents submitted to the school

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- c. Application Fees
 - i. Most college applications require you to pay a nonrefundable application fee which may range from \$45 to \$90.
 - ii. If you qualify, you may request an application-fee waiver through the college admissions office.
- d. Writing The College Essay
 - i. The college essay part of the application is critical to the process. A well written essay can help you stand out from all the other applicants.
 - ii. The college essay should be about you. In some cases, you may be asked to write about a particular topic. If that's the case, find a way to expand on the topic to relate it back to you.
- e. Personal Interview
 - i. If the school requires a personal interview, prepare and practice in advance.
 - 1. This will be your opportunity for them to get to know you as more than a name on an application. It can also be a chance for you to differentiate yourself from other applicants.
- f. Visit or tour the campus
 - i. If you can visit the campus, inform the admissions office in advance. They may be able to arrange a guide tour for you.
 - ii. It also lets them know you are serious about attending their school.
 - iii. If the school requires a personal interview, try to arrange it during your campus visit.
- g. Making your decision
 - i. Most colleges start notifying students of their admissions acceptance in early spring, either by email, traditional letter, or both.
 - ii. Upon receiving your notifications, you only have a few weeks to decide which school you will attend.
 - iii. Many colleges have May 1 as the deadline for committing to a school.
 - iv. No matter, if you have been accepted by all the colleges you applied to, or just a couple, you must decide which is the best fit for you. To make that decision do the following:
 - 1. Focus on your priorities and what's important to you
 - 2. Review the research you did on each school
 - 3. Ask yourself, which of these schools is the best fit for your academic, personal, and financial needs.

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- h. If you have not been accepted to any of the schools you applied to, you still have options.
 - i. You can make an appeal for reconsideration and verify that the information in your file is complete and accurate.
 - ii. You can apply to a two-year community or junior college and use it as an interim step to get you into a four-year school in the future by way of a transfer.
 - iii. If your ACT/SAT scores are the reason you were not accepted, consider sitting out the first semester and retaking the test for a higher score. Then reapply next semester subject to the schools' reapplication rules.

Module 8: How are you going to pay for college?

IV. Paying for College

- a. What are the typical costs associated with attending college?
 - i. Tuition & Fees
 - 1. This is the cost of your education and most often will be your largest college expense. These costs vary depending on the particular school and type of school you attend.
 - ii. Books & supplies
 - 1. These are the cost of course materials. They will vary from course to course.
 - iii. Room & board
 - 1. Room and board include housing, meals, utilities (electric, gas, phone, internet service) parking expenses and anything else included in your cost of living.
 - 2. Regardless of whether you decide to live on campus or off, your room and board will be a substantial expense.
 - iv. Travel and miscellaneous
 - 1. Travel expenses to and from home will vary depending upon if you're attending a college near or far from home.
 - 2. If you plan to live off campus and commute to school, factor in transportation costs between home and campus.
 - 3. Miscellaneous expenses can be anything from the cost of a haircut, a morning coffee or tea, late night pizza or going out on a date. These expenses will vary depending on your lifestyle.
- b. How will you pay for college?
 - i. Options include:
 - 1. Scholarships,
 - a. Scholarships are like grants in that you're not required to pay them back.
 - b. Scholarships can be given based on either need or merit,

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- c. Scholarships are often awarded for academic performance.
 - d. Organizations that offer scholarships include:
 - i. Colleges and universities
 - 1. You must apply for these scholarships to be considered
 - 2. Private industry
 - 3. Not-for-profit organizations like the Boulé'.
2. Financial aid
- a. Financial aid is money given to students to help you pay for college.
 - b. You can receive financial aid for merit or need.
 - c. Merit-based financial aid is awarded to students who are high performers. Students who are high achievers in the following areas:
 - i. Academics
 - ii. Athletics
 - iii. Talented musicians
 - iv. Other special skills.
 - d. Need-based financial aid is given to students who demonstrate they cannot afford to pay the full cost of college on their own.
 - e. Both kinds of financial aid can come from a variety of sources: the government, schools, charities, or businesses.
3. Loans - A loan is money you're expected to pay back beginning one year after graduation.
4. Work Study – Work study provides students with a job on campus to help pay their expenses.
5. The FAFSA Form
- a. FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form
 - b. The FAFSA form allows students to request federal grants, work-study, and loans, all in one application.
 - c. The FAFSA Process
 - i. Get Prepared – Gather the documents you'll need
 - ii. Complete FAFSA Form early to maximize the amount of your aid package
 - iii. Review Student Aid Report (SAR) and make any corrections that may be needed
 - iv. Respond to Aid Offer by accepting the aid you want
 - v. Receive the Aid you've accepted from your school.
 - vi. Reapply each year of your academic career

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Module 9: So you've made it to college. What do you do now?

- V. Program Module 9 (College Freshman – Senior year)
 - a. Communications
 - i. Mentees and mentors should maintain regular contact
 - 1. Email, text, phone (etc.)
 - b. Mentees as role models
 - i. Mentees will be asked to mentor high school students in the Boulé' Scholars Program.
 - ii. When mentees are home visiting (in the local community) they will be asked to be guest speakers for high school students in the Boulé' Scholars Program.
 - c. Scholarships
 - i. Mentees will provide documentation required to qualify for scholarship financial support each year.
 - d. Internships
 - i. Mentors (Boulé') will help secure and place mentees in internships relative to their major.
 - e. Career Placement
 - i. Mentors (Boulé') will help provide mentee with references for their job searches and where possible leads for employment opportunities.