

Encouragement

*noun*

1. the action of giving someone support, confidence, or hope.

It matters to this one...

Making a difference everyday...

One step towards changing the world...

## Clarksville College Mentoring Program

The Clarksville HS Guidance Office believes all students can succeed with the goals and dreams they set while in high school. We believe that mentoring is the key to improving the educational attainment and future of today's youth. Because of this, we have partnered with volunteer alumni who are currently in college or college-educated whose job is to help walk a student into college and mentor them throughout their 1st year of college and beyond. These mentoring relationships will provide students not only with a positive role model and consistent source of support outside of their families, but also help prepare students to navigate college and professional environments as they matriculate into college and career. The ultimate goal is to achieve post-secondary success. Our hope is for continued friendships with our younger generation.

**Mission:** The Clarksville High School College Mentor Program aspires to cultivate a culture of ambition, resilience, and achievement among our high school students. By leveraging the wisdom and experiences of our esteemed college student alumni, we aim to bridge the gap between high school and higher education, fostering a supportive community that propels every student towards success.

### Program goals:

- Mentorship for Empowerment:
  - Empower high school students through one-on-one mentorship relationships with college student alumni.
  - Provide guidance, encouragement, and insights to navigate the challenges and opportunities of the college application and transition process.
  - Facilitate a smooth transition for new students into college life.
- Community Engagement:
  - Strengthen the bonds within our community by fostering connections between current high school students and successful college alumni.
  - Promote a collaborative environment where shared experiences inspire growth and resilience.
- College Access Advocacy:
  - Advocate for increased college accessibility and awareness within the Clarksville community.
  - Facilitate workshops, events, and resources to demystify the college application process and financial aid options.
- Celebrating Diversity and Inclusion:
  - Embrace and celebrate the diversity of our community, ensuring that every student feels represented, supported, and encouraged in their pursuit of higher education. Increase the amount of diversity in higher education.

**Vision:** Through the Clarksville High School College Mentor Program, we envision a future where every student is equipped with the knowledge, confidence, and support network to reach their full academic potential. By harnessing the strength of our college alumni community, we strive to inspire, guide, and elevate the aspirations of our high school students, paving the way for a brighter, more educated tomorrow.

### Program Structure:

**Year 1:** Freshman Year - Foundation Building

- Objectives:
  - Academic Transition:
    - Foster study skills and time management.
- Social Integration:
  - Introduce mentorship for peer connections.
- Activities:
  - Orientation sessions.
  - Group workshops on study skills.
  - Regular mentor-mentee check-ins.
  - Social events.

**Year 2:** Sophomore Year - Exploring Interests and Goals

- Objectives:

- Academic Exploration:
  - Guide in exploring career paths and interests.
- Leadership Development:
  - Encourage participation in extracurriculars.
- Activities:
  - Career exploration workshops.
  - College and career planning sessions.
  - Leadership development seminars.

**Year 3: Junior Year - College Readiness Preparation**

- Objectives:
  - College Preparation:
    - Introducing the college application process.
  - Skill Development:
    - Emphasize critical thinking skills.
  - Activities:
    - College application workshops.
    - SAT/ACT preparation sessions.
    - Mock interviews and resume-building.

**Year 4: Senior Year - Transition to Higher Education**

- Objectives:
  - College Application Support:
    - Provide assistance with applications.
  - Transition Planning:
    - Prepare for college life adjustments.
    - Who they will reach out to on their new campus.
- Activities:
  - College application support clinics.
  - Financial aid workshops.
  - Transition readiness seminars.

**Engagement Components:**

- Regular Check-ins:
  - Scheduled one-on-one meetings between mentors and mentees.
  - Group activities and workshops.
- Workshops and Events:
  - Academic success strategies.
  - Personal development workshops.
  - Social events to build community.
- Parental Involvement:
  - Keep parents informed about program activities.
  - Provide resources for parental support.
- Feedback and Assessment:
  - Regular feedback sessions for mentors and mentees.
  - Assessment surveys to improve the program.
- Program Evaluation:
  - Assess effectiveness through regular feedback.
  - Adjust based on evolving student needs.
  - Support and Guidance (Familiarity is Key)
    - Meet and Greet
    - Coffee/Breakfast/Lunch Meet-Up
    - Texts/Phone Calls Check-Ups
    - Campus Field Trip

**Discussion Points:**

- Readiness
  - Field Trip (Rooms, Bookstore, Admissions, Bursar)
  - Major/Minor/Cognate--It's Okay to be Undecided
  - Scheduling (Current and Ongoing)
  - Advocate for Self (Meetings with Advisors, Professors, Deans, etc.)

- Graduation Requirements
- Navigating Financial Aid
  - FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
  - Loans
  - Scholarship Opportunities (College and Departmental)
- Jobs/Career Internships (On-Campus, Off-Campus)
  - College Job Fairs
  - Dress for Success
  - Professional Email Titles
- Getting Involved
  - Clubs (Departmental, Religious, Student Government, etc.)
  - Sports (Varsity, Intramural)
  - Welcome Week Activities
- Character
  - Social Media Ramifications
  - LinkedIn

### **Communication Channels:**

- LinkedIn:
- GroupMe:
- Instagram:
- Tiktok:

### **Workshop Ideas:**

- How/Who will present them?
- Make sure people go or watch them?
- How to study, why college workshops, why careers.

### **Plans for social media:**

- Mentors will post tours of areas of their choice on campus
- Mentors will post day-in-the-lives.
- Mentors will post tips/takeovers.
- Engaging materials can be posted
- Mentees can send questions
- Mentees can ask to see specific things.

### ***In partnership with:***

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