

Icebreaker Questions For 4-Year College Option



In order for postsecondary decisions to be successful, a good fit between the student and the college or university is critical. Many factors beyond grades and test scores impact finding this right fit— including the specific preferences, interests, personality, and long-term goals of the student. Counselors can be a vital conduit to helping students reflect on what they might want out of their college experience and matching that to postsecondary options.

In order to do this, counselors need to understand a student beyond their transcript. Given overwhelming counselor caseloads, hectic schedules, and many teenagers' natural hesitance to open up to adult authority figures, getting to know students on this deeper level can be challenging. Counselors can use the questions below to connect with students, encourage them to share more about themselves and their goals, and begin the process of exploration and reflection.

Getting to Know One Another and Building Relationships

- If you could have a superpower, what would it be? Why?
- If you could travel anywhere, where would you go? Why?
- Who is someone you admire? Why?
- If you could eliminate one thing from your daily routine, what would it be?
- What is your favorite book? Movie? Music?
- What is your favorite season? Why?

Exploring Interests and Passions

- If you could design a perfect day, what would it look like?
- When are you happiest? What are you doing and who are you with?
- What is your favorite thing to do by yourself?
- If you had more time in your schedule, what would you do with it?
- What do you look forward to at school? Outside of school?
- What is your favorite class?
- What do you like best about school? What do you find challenging?
- What's the most interesting thing you have ever learned about?

Thinking About the Future

- What is something you are proud of accomplishing?
- What would your ideal career be?
- What are some problems you see in your world that you want to help solve?
- What would you like to be known or remembered for?
- What are you most excited about when you think of going to college?
- Do you have any worries or concerns about going to college?