

# Lesson 4:

## The Application Marathon

Capturing a student's life story in an application can be difficult. Students often forget activities they've been involved with in the past or think that they're irrelevant. Remind your students that their extracurricular and volunteer activities are important to mention in a college application. Use this lesson plan as your guide, while offering live support from college representatives.

### Student Learning Objective: Conquering the college application (2 parts)

*Day before lesson:* Ask students to print out a college application from one of the listed colleges or universities on CollegeWeekLive. Explain that most applications may be found on the website.

1. Draw a timeline on the board and ask students how it is associated with the college application process.
2. Explain that a timeline encompasses everything that they've done leading up to post-secondary life, including academics, extracurricular activities, volunteer work, travel, etc.
3. Provide materials and allow students time to create their own personal timeline.
4. Ask students to take out the college applications they printed at home.
5. Review general application fields as a class and allow students to ask questions.
6. Have students log in to CollegeWeekLive.com and ask at least three colleges about their application deadlines and admission requirements.
  - a. Students can record deadlines and other key dates on the back of their timeline.

#### Part 2:

1. Select and review three essay questions that often come up on college applications.
2. Distribute Do's and Don'ts worksheet to class.
3. Play a keynote presentation on essay advice that can be found in High School Connect's resource tab or streamed live during a CollegeWeekLive event.
4. Have students complete Do's and Don'ts worksheet while watching the presentation.
5. After the video, pair students up to discuss different essay topics that they find interesting.

### Standards:

**Standard B:** Students will complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide range of post-secondary options, including college.

#### A:B1 Improve Learning

**A:B1.1** Demonstrate the motivation to achieve individual potential

**A:B1.2** Learn and apply critical-thinking skills

**A:B1.4** Seek information and support from faculty, staff, family, and peers

Source: American School Counselor Association. ASCA National Standards for Students. Alexandria, VA: Author.

Note: These standards were recommended by CollegeWeekLive and may or may not comply with state/school specific standards. Teachers and counselors are encouraged to explore the complete listing of ASCA National Standards for Students, as well as their school and state standards, to find additional opportunities to incorporate the CollegeWeekLive curriculum.

### Materials You'll Need:

1. Reserved computer lab
2. Do's and Don'ts worksheet
3. Timeline worksheet