



# How to Support your Student on their College Journey

Watching your student prepare for college is exciting—but it can also feel overwhelming. Here's how you can guide them through the process while empowering them to take the lead.

## STEP 1

### Foster Independence

- **Teach essential life skills:** Budgeting, time management, laundry, and basic cooking go a long way!
- **Encourage problem solving:** Remind them to reach out for academic or emotional support when needed.

## STEP 2

### Start the Conversation Early

- **Set the Stage:** Begin talking about college as early as freshman year of high school.
- **Explore interests:** Ask about their passions, career aspirations, and how college fits into their future.
- **Check in:** What are they excited about? What worries them? Keep the dialogue open.

## STEP 3

### Help Research Colleges

- **Create a list:** Help your student identify schools that align with their academic interests, location preferences, and extracurricular passions.
- **Plan campus visits:** Touring schools in person or virtually can help them get a feel for the right fit.
- **Explore programs:** Look into specific programs or majors and assess their strengths and reputation at different schools.

## STEP 4

### Understand Admission Requirements

- **Know the basics:** Research GPA expectations and whether SAT/ACT scores are required or optional.
- **Encourage involvement:** Extracurricular activities, leadership roles, and volunteer work help strengthen applications.
- **Think about recommendations:** Help them identify teachers or mentors who could write strong letters of recommendation. Colleges typically look for 1-3 letters of recommendation.

## STEP 5

### Support Their Essays and Test Prep

- **Highlight the importance of essays:** College essays showcase their personality, growth, and resilience—encourage authenticity! (Moravian doesn't require an essay, but we enjoy reading them—so we encourage you to submit one!)
- **Prepare for tests:** Research SAT/ACT dates and help them create a study plan or enroll in prep courses if needed. (Moravian doesn't require SAT/ACT scores.)
- **Discuss retakes:** If necessary, consider whether retaking a test could improve their application.

## STEP 6

### Keep Them on Track with Applications

- **Mark deadlines together:** Track application, scholarship, and financial aid due dates.
- **Encourage early drafts:** Essays take time—encourage them to start early and get feedback from teachers or counselors.
- **Prepare materials:** Gather transcripts, recommendation letters, and other required documents ahead of deadlines to avoid last-minute stress.

## STEP 7

### Talk Finances Early

- **Budget together:** Discuss tuition, housing, travel, and other expenses.
- **Explore financial aid:** Research scholarships, grants, and federal student aid (FAFSA) options to maximize opportunities.
- **Plan ahead:** Set clear financial expectations and consider long-term savings strategies.

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**Questions? Let's talk!**  
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(610) 861-1320

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## STEP 8

### Guide Their Final Decision

Use our [comparison sheets](#) as a guide to help you get started!

- **Revisit their choices:** Once acceptance letters arrive, discuss the pros and cons of each school.
- **Compare financial aid offers:** Review financial aid packages and long-term affordability.
- **Support their decision:** Whether it's Moravian or another great fit, help them feel confident in their choice.

## STEP 9

### Help Them Transition Smoothly

- **Encourage orientation participation:** Pre-orientation and orientation programs help them adjust to campus and meet new friends.
- **Know what to pack:** [Dorms provide](#) basics like a bed and a desk, but they'll need their own bedding, kitchen supplies, and personal touches.
- **Discuss staying connected:** Set expectations for how you'll keep in touch while giving them space to grow.

## STEP 10

### Celebrate Their Achievement

- **Acknowledge their hard work:** Take time to celebrate this huge milestone with a special dinner, a small trip, or by simply telling them how proud you are.
- **Stay involved (from a distance):** If they choose Moravian, find ways to support them from home while letting them embrace their new chapter.

¿Hablas Español?

Consulta nuestra [sección en español](#).

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