

It's College Fair season

During September and October, EducationQuest will sponsor seven College Fairs featuring representatives from as many as 200 colleges. Mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend!

Sunday, September 12, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Norfolk Area– Northeast Nebraska College Fair. Northeast Community College.

Sunday, September 19, 1:00-3:30 p.m. – Grand Island Area– South Central Nebraska College Fair. Conestoga Mall.

Sunday, September 26, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Columbus Area– East Central Nebraska College Fair. Central Community College.

Sunday, October 3, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Peru Area– Southeast Nebraska College Fair, Peru State College.

Sunday, October 10, 1:00-4:00 p.m. – Tri-State College Fair, Marina Inn, South Sioux City

Sunday, October 24, 1:00-3:30 p.m. – Lincoln Area College Fair. Southeast Community College, Lincoln.

Sunday, October 31, 12:30-4:00 p.m. – Omaha Area College Fair. University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Follow these tips to make the most of the College Fairs:

Before you attend, prepare a list of questions for school representatives. Ask about application deadlines and scholarships.

Determine what you want from a school. This helps you rule out some colleges and look more closely at others. Take notes to keep track of schools that interest you.

Prepare pre-printed labels with your name and address to stick on information cards at college booths where you want additional information. This saves the redundancy of filling out cards.

If you decide a college isn't right for you, contact that college and ask them to take you off their mailing list. This helps them, and saves you from receiving unnecessary mail.

EducationQuest is celebrating scholarships in September! **Scholarships are out there – but you need to apply!**

During September, EducationQuest is promoting scholarships for Nebraska students. They want to make sure you know that thousands of scholarships are available through local, state and national organizations. Start looking for scholarships your junior year and continue throughout your senior year. Your guidance office is a great place to start looking. Here are additional resources:

The college you plan to attend

Colleges award many large renewable scholarships. Contact your top schools and ask about scholarship criteria, application deadlines and application procedures.

Large national foundations

These organizations award big-dollar scholarships and usually receive over 1,000 applications each year. If you apply, you need to make your application stand out. Find large national awards on free sites such as www.fastweb.com and www.fastaid.com.

State and local organizations

Don't ignore scholarships from state and local organizations just because the amounts are smaller. These awards are typically easier to earn because fewer students apply. Find state and local awards using *ScholarshipQuest* at www.educationquest.org.

Beware of scams!

Throughout high school, you'll receive solicitations for scholarship and financial aid services. Don't *ever* pay for these services! EducationQuest will help you complete and submit financial aid forms and look for scholarships – and it's all free! For more information, call EducationQuest at 800-656-3721.
