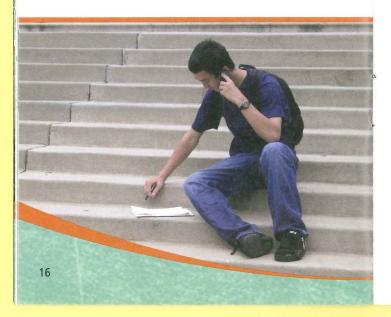
Summer Before 12th Grade

Students

To Do:

Narrow down the list of colleges you are considering attending. If you can, visit the schools that interest you.
Contact colleges to request information and applications for admission. Ask about financial aid, admission requirements, and deadlines.
Decide whether you are going to apply under a particular college's early decision or early action program. Be sure to learn about the program deadlines and requirements.
Use the FAFSA4caster financial aid estimator one last time at www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov, and compare the results to the actual costs at the colleges to which you will apply. To supplement any aid FAFSA4caster estimates you might receive, be sure to apply for scholarships. Your goal is to minimize the amount of loan funds you borrow.



	To Ex	xplore:
		Find out what government financial aid you can apply for, and how, in <i>Do You Need Money for College</i> at www.studentaid.ed.gov/needmoney.
		Be careful when searching for scholarships: Read "Don't Get Scammed on Your Way to College!" at www.studentaid.ed.gov/pubs.
Parents		
To Do:		
		Review your financial situation and make sure your child is looking into or already has applied for scholarships.
		Ask your employer whether scholarships are available for employees' children.
		Find out whether your child has added any schools to his or her college wish list since the last time you visited colleges, and visit additional campuses if possible.
To Explore:		
		Take a closer look at www.studentaid.ed.gov/funding to ensure you understand the federal aid programs and upcoming application process.