

## Participating in College Experiences Activity

**Learning Target:** At the end of this activity, students will be able to identify experiences they can participate in during college.

**Pre-ETS Connection:** Counseling on Postsecondary Education

**Time Recommended:** 60 minutes

### TransitionTN Additional Resources for Instructors

- [College Readiness Checklist for Community Colleges and Colleges of Applied Technology](#)
- [College Readiness Checklist for Inclusive Higher Education Programs](#)
- [College Readiness Checklist for Traditional 4 Year Colleges and Universities](#)
- [Provider Course - Postsecondary Education Counseling](#)
- [Teacher Tips for Working with Students Attending Community Colleges, Colleges of Applied Technology, or Traditional 4-Year Schools](#)

### Other Resources for Instructors

- [Guidance and Career Counselors' Toolkit](#)
- [National Center for College Students With Disabilities](#)
- [Tennessee Department of Education – Preparing Students for Success](#)
- [Think College](#)

### Materials and Preparation

- Computers or tablets if completing activities with technology
- Printed resources as needed (fact sheet, activity sheet, recording form, etc.)

### Providing Accommodations

- Arrange accommodations for students who have fine motor skill needs such as using a computer mouse.
  - For example, instead of operating a computer mouse, have students point to the screen while someone else clicks the options for them

- Use a peer to help guide students through the activities
- Read the content out loud to students
- Allow students to use audio recordings
- Provide a scribe or someone to type in the answers for the student as they verbally answer the questions
- Download and print the form for students who do not have access to a computer
- If applicable, meet with the teacher to ensure any new vocabulary is entered into the students' Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices
- In the school-based activity, students can complete one, multiple, or all examples. Tailor the activity to best fit your student's needs.

### **Vocabulary Review**

- Review the suggested vocabulary using the online vocabulary review or print out [vocabulary flashcards](#).

### **Think About**

- Why should you participate in experiences outside of the college classroom?
- How do you think participating in college experiences will help you prepare for your career?
- What college experiences are you interested in exploring?
- What college experiences do not interest you? Why?

### **Play the Game**

- Instruct students to play the game found on the [Get Involved](#) page
- Students can play the game independently, work in small groups, or play as a class

### **School-Based Activity**

**Discuss:** Instruct students to read through the [fact sheet](#) independently, with a partner, or as a group. After reviewing the fact sheet, use the Think About questions to prompt discussion about how attending experiences can help students explore new interests, learn new skills, prepare for their careers, and have fun.

**Explain:** Emphasize that colleges have a lot of different experiences and opportunities for students outside the college classroom. Experiences can include taking elective courses, working or volunteering on campus, joining student clubs and organizations, and participating in recreational opportunities. These experiences can help students explore new interests, learn new skills, and prepare for a career. These experiences can also be fun and make college more enjoyable. Students can decide which experiences they would like to participate in.

In this activity, students will:

- Download or print the [A Guide to Selecting College Experiences](#) form
- Review the examples of college experiences listed
- Complete the chart to identify specific options, what they can learn from participating in these experiences, and circle their level of interest.

### **Community-Based Extension**

After students have completed the school-based activity, they can continue exploring the college experiences they are interested in by reaching out to someone who can share about their own college experience. Students could talk with a current student at a college, a staff member who works there, or someone who has attended or worked at a college in the past. Students will need to download the [College Experiences Interview Activity](#) form for this activity. Students will select one college experience and identify a person who can answer questions about that experience. Students will reach out to the person and ask them questions to learn more about the experience they chose. After they complete the form, the student will answer the reflection questions at the end of the document.