

FREE ACT, SAT & GRE Test Prep!

One of the most exciting aspects of I Have A Plan Iowa™ for high school juniors and seniors is the free college entrance exam preparation program. Through this adaptable, personalized resource, students can prepare for exams with a study plan tailored to fit their needs and test-taking timeline.

College Planning → *Test Prep*

TEST PREP TOOLS

Practice Sessions

- Adapt to each student's ability level, so the difficulty of the questions match each student's ability.

Test-Taking Tips

- Provide strategies for time and stress management.
- Include an interactive game to help with guessing strategies.

Account Management

- Students enter anticipated test date to personalize preparation program and timeline.
- Allows students to select a "coach" who will receive information on the student's progress.

Vocabulary Builder

- Adapts to each student's ability, giving students with advanced verbal skills more difficult words.
- Stores mastered words so students don't forget the words they've learned.
- Features Word of the Day to help students expand their word power!

Timed Sample Tests

- Students identify their strengths and weaknesses, enabling them to design their own effective study programs.
- Designed to mimic actual entrance exams; should be taken at the end of the prep program.



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IOWA

Beyond the Guideways!

A Guide for Educators & Professional Users



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Iowa College Aid

About Iowa College Aid

Iowa College Aid is a state agency with over 40 years of experience connecting students and families with the essential resources and services they need to plan, prepare and pay for college. For more information, visit our website at:

www.IowaCollegeAid.gov

www.IHaveAPlanIowa.gov



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Going Beyond!

I Have A Plan Iowa™ is Iowa's designated college and career planning system. Each year, thousands of Iowa students log in to I Have A Plan Iowa™ to complete or update their four-year plan using the Iowa Guideways.

However, I Have A Plan Iowa™ offers lots of amazing tools and features beyond those included in the Guideways. This guide will show you ways to take I Have A Plan Iowa™ beyond the Guideways!

Helpful Tools

1. Student Loans Over Projected Earnings (SLOPE) Calculator

A valuable tool when planning how to finance a college education, this calculator allows students to determine the amount of student loan debt they could successfully repay if employed in their potential career choice.

Financial Aid Planning → Financial Aid Calculators → SLOPE Calculator

2. Get Recruited!

By using the College Recruiter function, students can submit their contact information to any Iowa college or university that has I Have A Plan Iowa™ recruiter access and express their interest in learning more about that institution.

College Planning → Applications → Get Recruited

3. College Planning Timeline

This timeline features a comprehensive checklist of steps students should complete in grades 7-12 and their first year of college to ensure a successful college transition. The timeline also includes links to additional information regarding college savings, financial aid, study skills, and academic readiness.

College Planning → Quick Links → College Planning Timeline

4. Job Interview Practice

Practice makes perfect, and this tool gives students the opportunity to practice answering a wide variety of interview questions. Students are given 10 questions in each practice session and can take up to 30 minutes to enter their responses.

Career Planning → Get a Job → Job Interview Practice

5. Thank-You Letter Builder

Sending a thank-you letter after an interview is an important step when seeking a job. Through this tool, students can complete and print a thank-you letter that will remind the interviewer about the student and their qualifications.

Career Planning → Get a Job → Thank-You Letter Builder

Hidden Gems

1. The Profile

You are probably aware that a student's profile contains their basic demographic information. However, you may not know that students can add lots of information to their profile as they begin to picture their future. Profile tools encourage students to record their goals and how they're putting their goals into action. In their profile, students can also chronicle how they see themselves and track their experiences, awards, activities and more!

Your Portfolio → Your Profile

2. Financial Fitness

Through this collection of activities and reflections, students learn more about managing their money, a life skill that everyone needs. Topics covered include tracking spending and income, establishing financial goals, budgeting and saving, just to name a few.

Financial Aid Planning → Financial Fitness

3. Homework Helpers

This collection of helpful websites is designed to direct students to valuable resources that can help with school assignments and preparing for college. Sites include the Virtual Frog Dissection Kit, Secrets of the SAT, Surfing with the Bard, as well as numerous links to library resources and academic websites.

High School Planning → Succeeding in High School

4. How To...

This collection of articles on topics ranging from effective speaking and improving critical thinking skills to using math and science to solve problems provides students with valuable advice on conquering many of the challenges they'll face while trying to succeed in high school.

High School Planning → Succeeding in High School

5. The Buzz

Students can learn about the latest trends and opportunities in the world of work through this collection of hundreds of articles about emerging trends. Articles are categorized by career cluster so students can easily find articles related to their areas of interest.

Career Planning → Explore Careers → The Buzz

