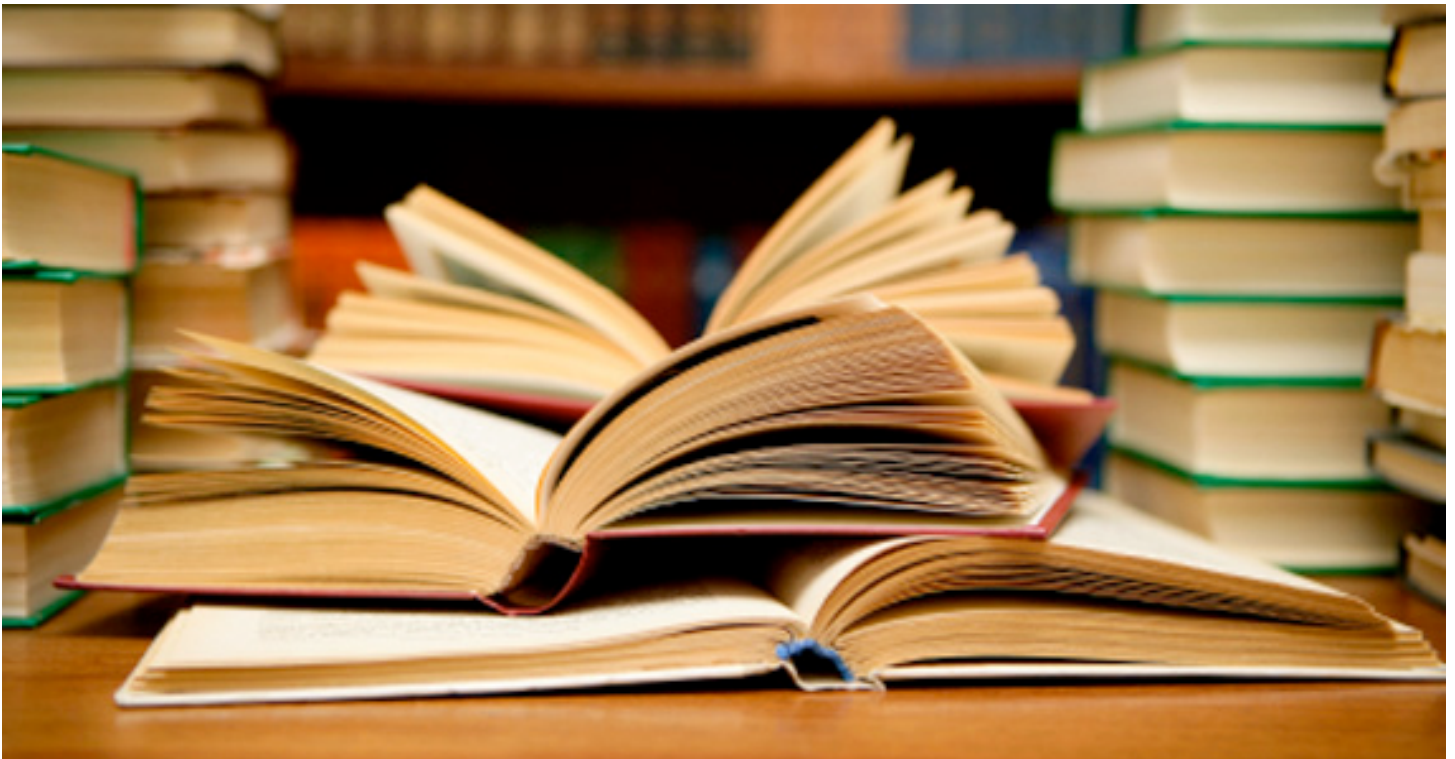

COLLEGE BOUND

*CHARACTER DRIVEN, COMMUNITY FOCUSED, CHALLENGE READY, COLLEGE BOUND
COMMITTED TO A BETTER FUTURE*



Crossroads  for Kids

 *New
England*

Dear Compasses,

Welcome to the Road to College Tour 2010! This summer you will have many opportunities to learn and ask questions about going to college from current college students, and admissions officers. We've put together this tour packet as a quick guide, and brief introduction, to many of the schools we will visit. Also included is our trip itinerary and information about other college planning resources. Hold on to this packet; use it to jot down notes, contact information, and questions. It will come in handy for you both during the tour and as you start to think more about college. Seven days, and so many exciting schools to visit! See you on the "Road to College"!

Best,

Jamaal Barnes
Director

2010 ROAD TO COLLEGE SCHEDULE

OPENING DAY: WEDNESDAY, JULY 7TH

2 pm Pickup [Boston] at South Bay Center

2 pm Pickup [Brockton] at Key School

5 pm **College Tour Kick-Off!!!**

7 pm Dinner

8 pm Evening Program

9 pm College Tour Team Daily Breakdown, and College Tour Insight

DAY ONE: THURSDAY, JULY 8TH *Clark University Worcester, MA*

8 am Breakfast

9 am Departure for Clark University

10 am Information Session and Student Panel with rising Juniors and Tour

12 pm Lunch with Clark Dining Services

1 pm "Beyond the Typical Tour"

2 pm Tour of Downtown Worcester and Budget Dinner Introduction

5 pm Budget Dinner in Worcester

6 pm Travel back to Lapham

7 pm Chill Time

8 pm Presentation and Closing Ceremony Introduction

9 pm Evening Program: Scruples

9:45 pm College Tour Team Daily Breakdown and Insight

DAY TWO: FRIDAY, JULY 9TH Nichols College *Dudley, MA*

8 am Breakfast

9 am Depart for Nichols College

10 am Arrive at Nichols for Room and Key Assignments

12 pm Lunch in Dining Hall

12:45 pm Admissions Tour (Start at Davis Hall)

2 pm Meeting with Admissions and Financial Aid

2:40 pm Class Sessions

4 pm Games

5 pm Dinner

6-7:30 pm Open Gym Time

8 pm Auditorium for Movie

10 pm College Tour Team Daily Breakdown and Insight

DAY THREE: SATURDAY, JULY 10TH Camp Lapham *Ashby, MA*

7:30 am Breakfast (Diary Breakfast: Male Staff Member)

8-9 am Pack and Depart Nichols College for Lapham

10 am Journaling and Reflection Hike

2 pm Return to Lapham and Siesta

3:30 pm Presentation Preparation with Game Breaks (work one hour and 20 minute large game breaks)

6 pm Free Choice (Swimming, Fishing, Tony Ball, Four-Square, etc.)

7 pm Dinner

8 pm Evening Program

9:30 pm College Tour Team Daily Breakdown and Insight

DAY FOUR: SUNDAY, JULY 11TH *Camp Lapham Ashby, MA*

8 am Breakfast (Diary Breakfast: Female Staff Member)

9 am Staff Panel on College Types (Large Public Universities, Small Private Liberal Arts Colleges, Single-Sexed, Mid-Size)

10 am Social Awareness Program (Do What You Are--Personality Quiz on Naviance)

12 pm Flex Block

1 pm Lunch (Introduction to College Dinner)

2 pm Presentation Preparation

3 pm One-on-One Introduction

4 pm Break

4:30 to 7 pm Dorm Dinner Challenge

8 pm Evening Program: Choose Your Movie (Movies to be shown in College Lounge, Dining Hall, and Express)

10:30 pm College Tour Team Daily Breakdown and Insight

DAY FIVE: MONDAY, JULY 12TH *Union College Schenectady, NY*

6:30 am Depart for Union College

10:30 am Campus Tour (Start at Grant Hall)

11:30 am Information Session (Olin Auditorium 115)

12:15 pm Buffet Lunch (Upperclass Dining Hall)

1 pm Classroom Experience

1:45 pm Music and Electrical Engineering Interface Presentation

3 pm Depart Union for Lapham

7 pm Dinner

8 pm Chill Time: Lounge and Basketball Court

9 pm College Tour Team Daily Breakdown and Insight

DAY SIX: TUESDAY, JULY 13TH

University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Amherst College *Amherst, MA*

8:00 Breakfast

8:30 Depart for Amherst

Group 1 Schedule

10 am UMass Information Session

11 am UMass Tour

12:15 pm Travel on 31 Bus to Amherst College

12:30 pm Lunch

2:00 pm Amherst College Tour

3:00 pm Amherst College Information Session

Group 2 Schedule

10 am Amherst College Tour

11 am Amherst College Information Session

12 pm Take 31 Bus to UMass

12:30 pm UMass Information Session

1:30 pm Lunch

2:30 pm UMass Tour

4:30 pm Meet at Amherst Center, Travel to Lapham

7 pm Dinner

8 pm Finalizing and Rehearsing Presentation

CLOSING DAY: WEDNESDAY, JULY 14TH Harvard University *Cambridge, MA*

Tour of Harvard College

2:30 pm Setup and Quick Rehearsal

3-5 pm Road to College Closing Ceremony [Askwith Hall, Longfellow Hall, Graduate School of Education]

CLARK UNIVERSITY



Founded in 1887 as the first all-graduate institution in the United States, Clark is a private, liberal arts and research university committed to scholarship that addresses social imperatives in a global context. Centrally located in Worcester, Massachusetts, Clark enrolls approximately 2,200 undergraduate and 900 graduate students.

Undergraduates are offered a broad and deep liberal arts curriculum that enables them to address the complex scientific, social and business challenges facing our world through hands-on research, in-depth exploration and practical problem solving. Clark's focused areas of research excellence are backed by strong Ph.D. and master's degree programs that engage graduate students from around the world in relevant, challenging and innovative research that transforms communities.

NICHOLS COLLEGE

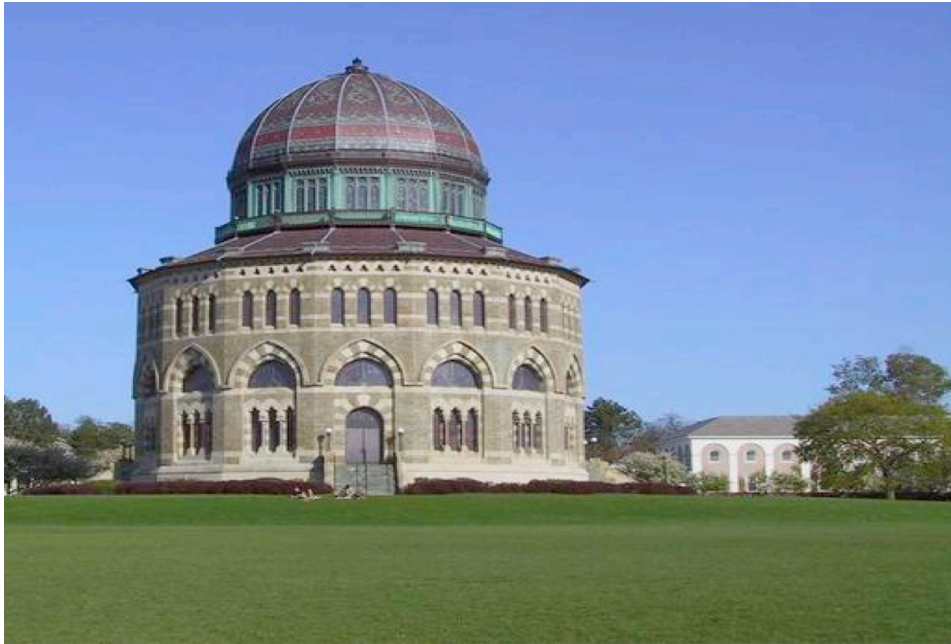


Nichols College is a private, co-educational, four-year institution of higher learning that is located in Dudley, Massachusetts. The lively Nichols campus has top of the line technology and facilities across campus. Every classroom has a built-in computer and a projector to make those classroom presentations exceptional. Every residence hall is wired for internet access with cable-like speed. There are hot spots across the campus and the state-of-the-art athletic facilities provide ample opportunities for students to work out, play a game of squash, racquetball, basketball, or hit the rock climbing wall. Students have opportunities to participate in a variety of club sports or Division III athletics teams.

Students may elect to live on campus or commute. The campus is located on 200 acres rolling in the quaint, safe, New England town of Dudley, Massachusetts. Nichols is located just 20 minutes south of Worcester and is centrally located within an hour of four other major New England cities.

Nichols College athletics compete in the NCAA at the Division III level. Their teams are known as the Bison and Lady Bison. All of Nichols College athletic fields are located on campus in Dudley Hill.

UNION COLLEGE



Union College is a private, non-denominational liberal arts college located in Schenectady, New York, United States. Founded in the wake of the American Revolution, it was the first institution of higher learning chartered by the New York State Board of Regents. After 175 years as a traditional all-male institution, Union College began enrolling women in 1970.

The college offers a liberal arts curriculum across some 21 academic departments, as well as opportunities for interdepartmental majors and self-designed organizing theme majors. In common with only a few other liberal arts colleges, Union also offers ABET-accredited undergraduate degrees in computer engineering, electrical engineering, and mechanical engineering. Approximately 25% of students major in the social sciences; 9% in history; 10% in psychology; 11% in engineering; 10% in biology; 10% in the liberal arts; while some 5% design their own majors. By the time they graduate, about 60% of Union students will have engaged in some form of international study or study abroad.

U-MASS AMHERST

The **University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMass/UMass Amherst/Massachusetts)** is a public research and land-grant university in Amherst, Massachusetts and the flagship of the University of Massachusetts system. With more than 1,370 faculty members and more than 26,000 students, UMass Amherst is the largest public university in New England.

The university offers bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, and doctoral degrees in over 90 undergraduate and 65 graduate areas of study, through 9 schools and colleges. The main campus is situated north of downtown Amherst, Massachusetts

UMass Amherst is notable for a number of characteristics. Its faculty members are top performers in terms of the numbers of awards and recognitions they receive, and their supported research activities total more than \$140 million per year. The campus facilities have undergone extensive renovations in recent years. New and newly renovated facilities include student apartment complexes, Berkshire Dining Commons, library Learning Commons, School of Management, Integrated Science Building, Nursing Building, Studio Arts Building, Heating Plant, track facility, and Recreation Center. In 2010 UMass Amherst broke ground on a new laboratory science building and a new home for the Minuteman Marching Band. Its current student body is the most high-achieving in UMass Amherst history (in terms of admissions test scores and grades) and the university was named a top producer of Fulbright Award winners in the 2008-2009 academic year.

UMass Amherst sports teams are called the Minutemen and Minutewomen, the colors being maroon and white; the school mascot is Sam the Minuteman. All teams participate in the NCAA's Division I. The university is a member of the Atlantic Ten Conference, while playing ice hockey in the Hockey East. For football, UMass competes in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA).



AMHERST COLLEGE

Founded in 1821 as a nonsectarian institution for “the education of indigent young men of piety and talents,” Amherst College is now widely regarded as one of the premier liberal arts colleges in the nation, enrolling a diverse group of approximately 1,700 young men and women.

Renowned for its talented students, committed faculty, and rigorous academic life, Amherst offers the B.A. degree in 35 fields of study. With a faculty-student ratio of 1 to 8, Amherst’s classes are characterized by spirited interchange among students and acclaimed faculty skilled at asking challenging questions. Students participate in sophisticated research, making use of state-of-the-art equipment and facilities. And Amherst’s open curriculum allows each student – with the help of faculty advisers – to chart an individual course through the more than 800 courses offered at the college; there are no distribution requirements. Honors work is encouraged and in recent years has been undertaken by nearly half of the graduating class.

Amherst is a member of the Five Colleges, a consortium with nearby Smith, Mount Holyoke and Hampshire Colleges and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Students may take courses at any of the colleges, and the schools’ proximity adds to Amherst’s rich social and extracurricular life.

Diversity, defined in its broadest sense, is fundamental to Amherst’s mission. The college enrolls students from nearly every state and from more than 40 countries, and for the past several years more than 35 percent of Amherst’s students have been students of color. Since its founding, Amherst has remained one of the few truly need-blind colleges in the nation; students are admitted without regard to financial aid, and each admitted student is guaranteed financial aid equal to financial need. The college’s financial aid packages are consistently the most generous in the nation, and among its peer universities and colleges Amherst has the most economic diversity. By any measure of accessibility and quality Amherst is consistently ranked among the top schools in the country. Its outstanding resources, dedicated faculty and rigorous academic life allow the college to enroll students with an extraordinary range of talents, interests and commitments.

The crest of Harvard University, featuring a shield with an open book and the motto 'VE TAS' (Veritas), surrounded by a laurel wreath and the word 'HARVARD' on a ribbon below.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

The pursuit of excellence has long been a hallmark of Harvard. Since its founding in 1636, the College has assembled promising students and distinguished faculty and provided them with an environment and resources to develop their talents to the fullest. Harvard's tradition of excellence has put generations of students at the center of the search for new ways of thinking. Students come from all 50 states and from over 80 countries; from cities, suburbs, small towns and farms; from public, private and parochial schools; from every ethnic and religious background; and from across the economic spectrum. Based on longstanding tradition, Harvard is committed to making educational opportunity accessible to all.

Harvard offers extraordinary scope. Students arrive with a remarkable diversity of interests as well as a wide variety of personal and professional goals or perhaps no clearly defined goals at all. What they share are keen intellectual curiosity, energy and an eagerness to fulfill their considerable promise. They seek a university with the resources to enable them to pursue their interests vigorously, whether their chosen area is philosophy, photography or physics; literature or linguistics; engineering or environmental studies. They find fellow students and teachers with whom they can share their passions and discover new ones, while forging friendships that will last a lifetime.

From the very beginning, Harvard College has sought to establish a connection between living and learning. Originally patterned after the Colleges at Oxford and Cambridge, the House system reflects the founders' goals of a true residential college, a "collegiate way of living." Across all four centuries of Harvard's history, learning together has meant living together.

A special residential plan for freshmen followed by three years in the comprehensive House system for upperclassmen provides students more than simply a place to live. Harvard guarantees every student College housing for four years. By design, residential life that brings together students and faculty is an essential part of the Harvard experience. Nearly all students choose to live on campus for their full undergraduate careers.

For generations, Harvard has played a major role in educating future leaders for every endeavor – from academia to the arts, from private industry to public service. Harvard students are very well prepared for service to society and enjoy extraordinarily high rates of admission to Harvard's and other universities' graduate schools.

Looking Forward: *Preparing For College During Junior Year*

SEPTEMBER

- Meet with your guidance counselor to confirm your courses for your junior and senior years have the right balance of rigor and challenge to get into a competitive college.
- If you have not already done so, be sure to be registered for the October PSAT.
- Step up your involvement in one or two organizations. It's not the number of organizations you belong to, but that you have leadership experience that matters the most.
- Begin keeping track of your community service activities and hours.
- Start collecting materials for your portfolio and begin identifying accomplishments and achievements you will list on your resume.

OCTOBER

- Take the PSAT.
- Talk with teachers, family members, and other adults you respect about the colleges they attended.
- Begin the career exploration process with some assessment tests.

NOVEMBER

- Keep your focus on your grades. You'll want your grades for this entire junior year to be as strong as possible.
- Continue your research in potential colleges and careers.
- Continue gathering materials for your resume and portfolio.

DECEMBER

- Once you receive your PSAT scores, make plans for how to maximize the good and plan to improve the rest.
- Look ahead to the spring and summer and begin mapping out the dates for your other standardized tests: AP Placement Exams, ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests.
- Stay focused on grades.

JANUARY

- Continue your research on potential colleges and careers.
- Consider asking to job shadow one or more people you know to learn more about those careers firsthand.
- Stay focused on grades.

FEBRUARY

- Schedule meeting with your guidance counselor to discuss possible college choices.
- Begin to focus on the key 10 to 15 colleges that are a good fit (based on your academics and career choice).
- Stay focused on grades.

MARCH

- Develop (if you haven't already) a file for each of the schools on your list.
- Start learning about scholarships and grants.
- Brainstorm and research rewarding summer jobs, internships, or scholarship opportunities.
- Stay focused on grades.

APRIL

- Work with your guidance counselor to assure a challenging senior year of courses.
- Register for the May and/or June SAT tests.
- Consider visiting some of the colleges on your list.
- Begin identifying teachers who may be willing to write recommendations letters for you.
- Begin reviewing for SAT.

MAY

- Take AP Placement Exams if you have taken AP courses.
- Firm up your summer plans, including visits to other colleges on your list.
- Push yourself hard to end the year with solid grades.

JUNE

- Take the SAT and SAT Subject Tests.
- Continue contemplating various careers and colleges
- Be sure to get the most out of your summer vacation.
- Ask for summer reading lists.
- Visit colleges.

Wait There's More!!!

College.gov is a site run by the U.S. Department of Education with great information about preparing for college.

Ucan-network.org is a site where college and universities post statistics about the current school dynamics.

www.masshome.com/univ.html gives a complete list of all Massachusetts colleges and universities along with their websites!

www.massachusetts.edu is the main website for the UMass system. From here you can navigate to UMass Boston, UMass Dartmouth, and UMass Lowell.

Setting the Facts Straight About Common College Myths

- **My senior year doesn't count. Once a college accepts me, it's okay if my grades slip in the last semester.**

It counts against you if you don't stay on track. With more competition for college seats, some colleges are rejecting previously accepted students if their course loads and grades decline. Finish high school as strong as you can and start up college at your best!

- **The more famous the college, the better it is.**

It is your character such as persistence, humor and warmth, not the name of the college you attended, that will help you stand out in your community and in the job market.

- **Once you attend a college, you must complete your education there.**

If you realize that the college you have chosen is not the one for you, you can always transfer to another campus. One out of every five students who graduate from a four-year college actually began their education at a different college.

- **My family can't afford private college tuition, so I shouldn't apply.**

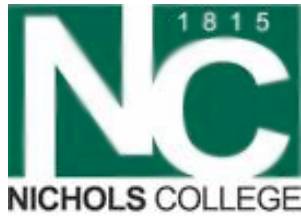
Students can sometimes get more financial aid if their college costs are higher. If you find a college that fits your needs, apply to it along with other lower cost colleges. You may be surprised by great differences not just in the fees but also in the financial aid offered to you by each school. Rule of thumb, if you really see yourself at a private school, apply!

- **You can get more scholarships by paying someone to search for you.**

You should never pay money to increase your chances for getting scholarships. Beware of scams which promise to find you a scholarship for a fee.

- **I'm not a straight "A" student, so I won't get financial aid.**

The vast majority of federal financial aid is based on financial need only.



The Role of Crossroads For Kids in Your Application Process

The staff at Crossroads for Kids are here to help guide you through your college selection/application process. We will be with you throughout Junior and Senior year to help you and your family navigate choosing a college, applying to colleges and finding a way to make college affordable. While we do not pay for college, we will help connect you to resources that will help you and your family find a way to pay for college.

Crossroads will:

- Send scholarship information to you
- Help read college application and scholarship essays
- Connect you to financial aid resources in your community
- Offer College Friday trips to local colleges during the school year
- Meet with you periodically to make sure you are on track for applying to college

We are excited for you as you begin to apply for college. Though it can be a confusing process, we are here to help you and your family. We ask for your help in this process.

Teens and families will:

- Stay in contact with Crossroads for Kids throughout their college/scholarship application process
- Ask questions when something unfamiliar arises
- Take part in financial aid workshops/meetings if needed

As always, please contact us with any questions.

Character Driven, Community Focused, Challenge Ready, College Bound, Committed to a Better Future

COLLEGE BOUND

C5, New England
Crossroads For Kids
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Ashby, MA 01431