



Ambassador College Knowledge Badge Workshop

An At-Home Program

Ambassador College Knowledge Badge Workshop (At-home)



- In this College Knowledge Virtual Badge Workshop, girls will gain a better understanding of how the college system works so that they can continue with a greater sense of confidence!

Hello Girl Scouts and welcome to our Badge Workshop Virtual Series! In this video, we will be earning our College Knowledge badge for Ambassadors. To complete this workshop, you will need the following materials:

Program Outline:

Materials:

- **Coloring and Decorating Materials**
- **Access to the internet**
- **Another person (this part comes later!)**
- **A planner or paper calendar**
- **Paper**

The idea of college can be overwhelming. There are an array of different hoops to jump through in order to land an acceptance letter and that journey can be confusing at times, but it is completely doable! In this workshop, we will break down the process into a few different sections. We will: Explore the school options, take a look at the admissions process, set you up for success with the work load, and finally talk to a panel of college students who were once in your shoes and are now out there pursuing their dreams.

Step 1: Explore the Options

First, we are going to explore our options.

There are many different schools in the country and even more internationally and each one provides a different experience than the next. Our goal is to find a handful that best align with your wants and needs.

Maybe you have a few colleges in mind, maybe you are just starting this journey. None the less, I would like to introduce the first activity to you.

In this activity, I would like you to research at least 3 colleges you are interested in attending. On your paper, create a 3-column chart for each school. The first column will be designated for pros, the second for neutral interesting facts, and the second for cons. Spend time combing through each of the schools' websites and other affiliated information to put together as complete of a picture as you can. Make sure you include information such as tuition costs, University vs. Community College, In State vs. Out of State, majors that they support, etc.

Through this process, you will be able look past your initial impressions and be able to compare schools based on what you want out of your college experience.

Step 2: The Admissions Process

Now that we have looked at what colleges we might want to attend, let's look at the admissions process.

There are several steps to the application and again, each college requires different things. What you will need is your high school transcripts and to fill out the basic application form that can be found on the school's website.

Those are the base requirements, but some schools may ask you to write an essay and some also ask for interviews.

Colleges use essays and interviews to gain the same information from you, just in different formats. An interview has the benefit of giving you the chance to ask questions about the university to get a better idea if it is the right fit for YOU. Interviews are primarily used by highly selective or small private colleges.

Now, we are going to practice how an interview would go. Find your other person and have them ask you questions – the worksheet is below.

Tell me about yourself

Why are you interested in this college?

What are your academic strengths?

What are your academic weaknesses? Have you addressed them?

What would you change about your high school?

What do you want to major in? Why did you choose that major?

What do you plan to contribute to this school?

What do you expect to be doing 10 years from now?

Whom do you admire?

Why do you want to go to college?

What do you like to do for fun?

What is your favorite book?

What is an obstacle you have faced and how did you get through it?

What makes you unique?

Pause here while completing your activity

While you may not every have an in person interview, it is still a good skill to have in your back pocket. Essays also typically ask similar questions, just in written format.

Step 3: Set Up for Success

College is a different ball game than high school because you are your own advocate. You set your own schedule and no one is going to hold you to that except you.

In this activity, we are going to fill in our planner with our schedule for the week. Look online for an example of a course catalogue to help you schedule your classes. For now, we are going to schedule ourselves as though we are going to school full time with a 15 credit hour load. On the course catalogue, the school will have listed what time each class meets as well as how many credit hours it is worth.

When scheduling, make sure you leave enough time between your classes to make it from one building to the next. Don't stress yourself out by forcing yourself to run from one side of campus to the other in a 5 minute window. Also, include time for lunch during midday and block out some homework time in the afternoon.

Pause here while completing your activity

Now, let's build some healthy habits. College life can be stressful and we need ways to release and refocus. Take this time to make a list of things that you do now that help you calm down.

Pause here while completing your activity

Now, I would like to introduce you to a few current college students that all have experienced vastly different college career paths than each other. They will be answering questions in order to give you a better understanding of what it is like to be a college student and give advice based on their experiences.

Step 4: Meet the Students

Watch this video to meet several college students as they share some of their best advice with you!

Congratulations! You have completed your College Knowledge Badge! I hope this has helped you gain a better understanding of how the college system works and you can continue with a greater sense of confidence!

Thank you all for joining us! Happy Scouting!

Fill out this form when completed:

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/GirlScoutsOfCaliforniasCentralCoast2/GSCCCAmbassadorCollegeKnowledgeBadgeWorkshopAtHome>