



# LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT REFERENCE GUIDE

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**TITLE:** College Awareness Experiences for Elementary Students in Grades Pre-K Through 5/6 During the Annual LA Unified College Month in October

**NUMBER:** REF-3971.8

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**ROUTING**  
Local District Superintendents  
Administrators of Instruction  
Community of Schools  
Administrators  
Directors  
Operations Administrators  
Counseling Coordinators  
College Counseling  
Coordinators  
Elementary School Principal  
Assistant Principals  
APEIS  
Coordinators  
Teachers

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this reference guide is to provide information about college awareness experiences during the Los Angeles Unified’s annual College Awareness Month in October. The following recommended activities are designed to be completed from October throughout the school year. To support a year-long focus on college and career readiness, faculty may access lessons in the Schoology group “College and Career Readiness Lessons” (N9VZB-GQFRR).

LA Unified students come from a wide variety of cultural, economic, ethnic, linguistic, racial, and socio-economic backgrounds. It is essential that all elementary schools prepare our diverse students for postsecondary careers and college opportunities, beginning in pre-kindergarten. To support this goal, each school has been asked to develop and enhance a strong college-going culture. This reference guide aligns to the aspiration that all students will graduate ready for college and a career, meet LA Unified’s minimum graduation requirement for successful completion of the A-G course sequence for the Class of 2020-2023, and meet the districtwide goal of 100% attendance.

**MAJOR CHANGES:** This reference guide replaces REF-3971.7, *College Awareness Experiences for Elementary Students in Grades Pre-K Through 5/6 During the Annual LAUSD College Month in October*, September 30, 2019. Instructional materials have been updated and all college and career readiness lessons will now be housed in the Schoology group “College and Career Readiness Lessons” (N9VZB-GQFRR) to ensure that educators have access to the most current instructional resources.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** LA Unified is committed to providing all students (pre-kindergarten–12<sup>th</sup> grade) with a rigorous academic program that prepares them for college and a career. This includes students enrolled in special education, English Learner (EL) and Standard English Learner (SEL) programs. The promotion of a districtwide college-going culture will support students to be aware and ready to enter their choice of postsecondary options for college and a career.



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Therefore, LA Unified is encouraging all students to participate in appropriate college and career awareness activities and experiences, designed for each grade level.

### I. COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE

- A. A college-going culture provides the environment, attitudes, and practices in schools that create access to postsecondary education. Even more important is helping students believe they have great opportunities and paths available to them that lead to a successful adult life. In partnership with the University of California, Los Angeles, LA Unified identified the following principles of a college-going culture.

A college-going culture exists when the following elements are present on all school campuses, in classrooms and school offices:

1. College Talk – clear communication about what it takes to get to college
2. Clear Expectations – the explicit goals of preparing students for a full range of post-secondary options is clearly defined
3. Information and Resources – students have access to information and resources related to college
4. Curriculum – school makes a commitment to provide the resources necessary for every student to be prepared to meet grade level standards, every year in every classroom
5. Faculty Involvement – faculty integrates college information into regular classroom activities
6. Family Involvement – family members must have the opportunities to gain knowledge about the college planning process
7. College Partnerships – college-related activities and academic enrichment programs raise awareness of and aspirations toward college

### II. COLLEGE AND CAREER ACTIVITIES

- A. Every elementary school will plan college and career awareness experiences to be integrated into the academic program within the school day for all students. To facilitate school planning, the Division of Instruction is providing sample activities appropriate for elementary students. Grade level college and career awareness activities have been developed to allow students opportunities for self-discovery and postsecondary planning found in the Schoology group “College and Career Readiness Lessons” (N9VZB-GQFRR).

**ASSISTANCE:** For assistance and more information, contact your Local District Counseling Coordinator or the Office of Academic and Counseling Services at (213) 241-7510.