

Chapter 4

Overview

We covered a lot of concrete information in the last chapter, but I bet you found yourself thinking, “But what about this kind of student?” or “What about students with these needs?” Don’t worry; Chapter Four includes four lessons devoted to looking at the needs of four different groups of students who require some specialized support when it comes to preparing for college and careers.

The four lessons in this chapter are:

1. Preparing Students With Special Needs for CCR
2. Support First-in-Family College Attendees
3. Can I Go to College if I am Undocumented?
4. Helping Youth in Foster Care Prepare for College and Careers

Now, just because a student has a special circumstance doesn’t mean their basic college and career readiness criteria are going to change. They still need support and preparation in all Four Keys: Think, Know, Act, and Go. But it does mean their individual plans may need some extra attention, or that helping them overcome their circumstances will require some specialized knowledge. That’s what Chapter Four is all about — helping you think in depth about what these students face and giving you the tools to help them make plans to overcome these barriers and put their futures on course.

I’m sure you’ve probably encountered students who fit in each of the four categories we’re going to talk about today, so you can relate to the fact that these young people really want what we may all want — the opportunity to pursue our dreams. Hopefully, what you are about to learn in these lessons can help you move more students toward this goal.