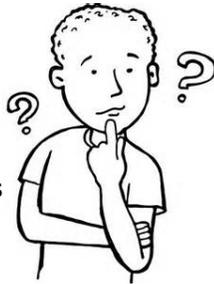


TULARE COUNTY LAGS BEHIND

TAKE A LOOK AROUND: In Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern counties, we have:

- 8 community colleges
- 2 California State Universities
- **6 Community Correctional Facilities**
- **9 State Prisons**



FACT: Students are surrounded by more prisons than colleges.

The **PROOF** is in the **STATISTICS:**

- **42 percent versus 34 percent.** Only 34% of students in Tulare County graduated A-G eligible, compared to 42% of California students.
- **Degrees? Only 21% of Tulare County residents** have an Associate degree or higher, compared to **40% of Californians.**

FACT: Financial aid awareness and knowledge is a barrier for students and counselors.

The **TRUTH** is students **DO NOT KNOW WHO** or **WHAT TO ASK:**

- 73% of Tulare County students surveyed mentioned paying for college as their biggest fear, but only 23% talk to anyone in their life about the cost of college.
- All of the counselors surveyed stated in-depth financial aid training would be extremely or somewhat helpful in support their students.

Did you **KNOW?**

- March 2nd is the California Financial Aid deadline.
 - By March, less than 40% of Alpaugh, 58% of Strathmore, and 52% of Tulare Western students had submitted their FAFSA by the deadline date.
 - More than 100,000 Pell Grant eligible California seniors did not complete a FAFSA in 2014, equaling \$4 million in federal funding which was not utilized.



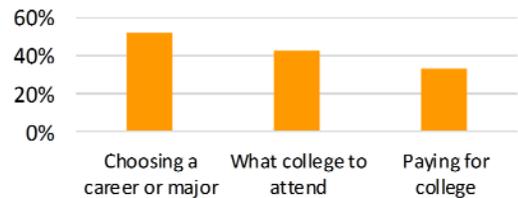
Find the complete report at:

WWW.UNITEDWAY.TC.ORG

When students talk about going to college, 57% of the discussions are focused on choosing a career or major, or about what college to attend. Only 23% of the discussions about college focus on how to pay for it.



What Tulare Western seniors discuss



What do the **COUNSELORS WANT?**

- Counselors desire more professional development to better support their students.
- The professional development topics they want include college admissions, career and college major advising, financial aid, transfer process, college fit, creating a college-going culture, and working with undocumented students.

CollegeACCESS INITIATIVE



UNITED WAY of TULARE COUNTY