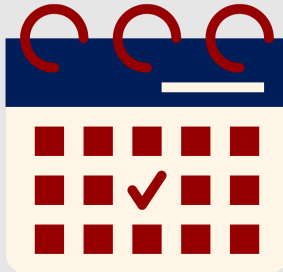


Important Dates

Friday, February 7
**SDP Professional
Development; Half Day for
Students**

Monday, February 17
**SDP Closed for
Presidents' Day**



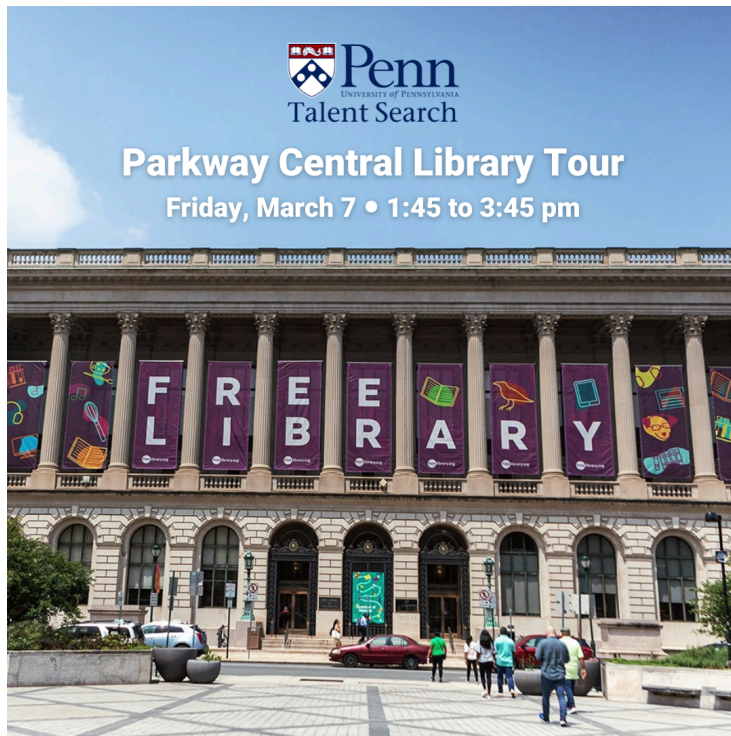
Greetings, Scholars and Families —

This Black History Month, Penn Talent Search will host our **Third Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Exhibition: "The Light of Creative Altruism."** Community and family members are invited to join us on Friday, Feb. 7 at 4:30 pm as a select group of young artists showcases their work honoring Dr. King and his legacy.

Read on for tips for setting SMART goals this semester, information on upcoming Talent Search events, and spring and summer opportunities for scholars!

Have questions or need assistance? Email us any time at vpse.talentsearch@upenn.edu.





Parkway Central Library Tour

Talent Search scholars in grades 6 through 12 are invited to join us for a special tour of the **Parkway Central Library** and **Field Teen Center** of the Free Library of Philadelphia on **Friday, March 7 from 1:45 to 3:45 pm**. (This is a half day of school for SDP students.)

Attendees will receive a library card, which gives you access to borrow books, DVDs, and video games; download e-books and audio books; stream videos and music; and much more!

[Click here to sign up no later than Sunday, February 16!](#)

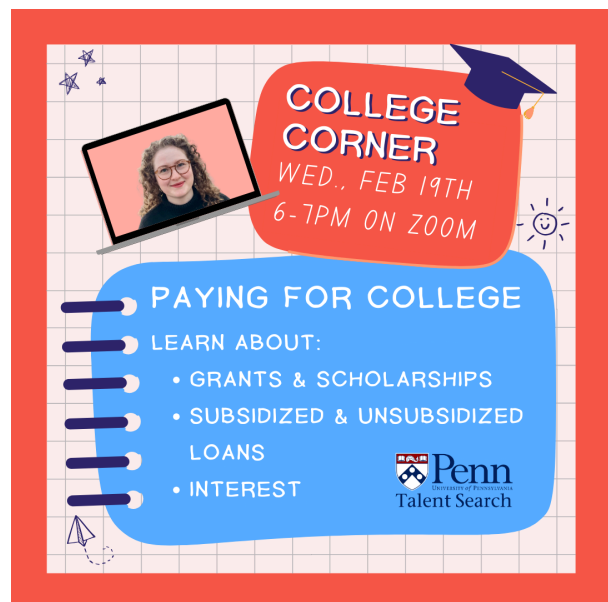
February College Corner: Paying for College

Scholars, parents and guardians, join Talent Search on **Wednesday, February 19 at 6:00 pm** for our this month's College Corner session on **Paying for College!** We'll go over grants and scholarships, subsidized and unsubsidized loans, interest, and more.

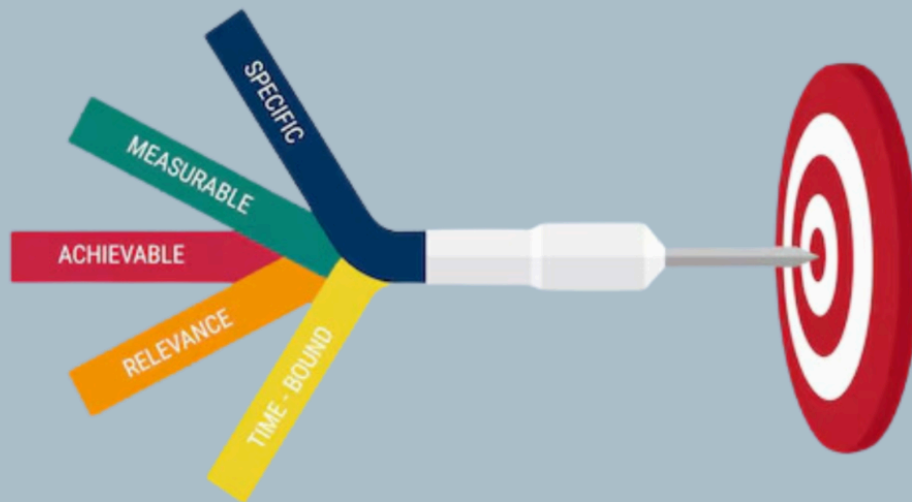
Hosted by Talent Search counselor Ms. Sofia, College Corner is a free, virtual webinar series covering all things college. Although College Corner is especially helpful for high school seniors, all Talent Search scholars (and parent/guardians!) are welcome to attend.

Zoom Link:

[https://upenn.zoom.us/j/98004055663?](https://upenn.zoom.us/j/98004055663?pwd=JM4SCmbQPF6BWdOn3na187AcqKcJyb.1)
[pwd=JM4SCmbQPF6BWdOn3na187AcqKcJyb.1](#)



SMART Goal-Setting for the New Semester



SPECIFIC

Define your goal clearly. Instead of "get good grades," aim for "earn an A in math this semester."

MEASURABLE

Know how you will determine whether you have achieved your goal. For example, "drink 8 glasses of water daily" instead of "be healthier."

ACHIEVABLE

Keep it realistic. Break big goals into smaller steps, like "run 1 mile" before aiming for a marathon.

RELEVANCE

Focus on what matters to you. Prioritize goals that align with your personal values and needs.

TIME-BOUND

Set a date or time frame and hold yourself accountable. Example: "I'll finish my biology readings by Friday" instead of "study more."

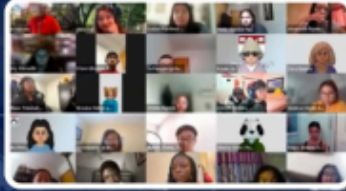
It's the start of a new term for School District of Philadelphia students! When setting goals for yourself this semester, **make sure all of your goals are SMART: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-Bound**).

Try setting at least one new goal for yourself using the SMART system! Need some help in your quest for success? Email the Penn Talent Search team at vpse.talentsearch@upenn.edu.



RISING SCHOLAR SUCCESS ACADEMY

(PennRSSA)



SUMMER PROGRAM

FREE HYBRID COLLEGE PREP + FINANCIAL LITERACY + CAREER EXPLORATION AT PENN
 OPEN TO ALL PHILLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
 NO MINIMUM GPA REQUIRED TO ENROLL!

WHAT WE OFFER:

INTENSIVE 7-WEEK PROGRAM

JUNE 16TH - JULY 30TH 2025

HYBRID LEARNING

A MIX OF IN-PERSON (MON, TUES, FRI 10 AM - 2 PM) +
 VIRTUAL SESSIONS (W & THURS) + EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES!

LEARN FROM THE BEST

BE A PART OF A COHORT LED BY UPENN UNDERGRADUATE,
 GRADUATE, AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS

REWARDS:

1. ONE ELECTIVE CREDIT* (SDP STUDENTS ONLY)
2. A PENNRSSA CERTIFICATE
3. ACT 158 PATHWAY 5 COMPLETION EVIDENCE

FILL OUT THE INTEREST FORM TODAY!
 Deadline: February 28th, 2025



THE FORMAL APPLICATIONS WILL OPEN IN APRIL/MAY. SEATS ARE LIMITED.

PARTNERSHIP WITH C2L-PHL

OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE WEEKLY STIPEND
 (FOR ELIGIBLE* STUDENTS)



@pennrssa



penn-rssa@upenn.edu



@PennRSSA

The Penn Rising Scholar Success Academy (PennRSSA) is a free, hybrid college preparatory and career exploration program for high school students across Philadelphia. This includes students from the School District of Philadelphia, public charter schools, and Archdiocese of Philadelphia schools. The program welcomes students from all backgrounds and accepts participants regardless of GPA.

When and Where:

- Program Duration: 7 weeks (June 16–July 30, 2025)

- In-Person Days: Mondays and Tuesdays on Penn's campus
- Virtual Days: Wednesdays and Thursdays on Zoom
- Fridays: Fun extracurricular activities (i.e., including museum visits and campus tours)

[Click here to submit the *required* interest form no later than Friday, February 28.](#)

VPSE STEM ACADEMY PRESENTS:

**JUNIOR
CEO
SUMMER PROGRAM**

INCOMING FALL 2025 PHILADELPHIA

6TH - 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

**Program Dates:
June 23rd - July 24th
Monday - Thursday
10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

FREE

Programs Include:

- Hands-on STEM activities and experiments
- Junior CEO Entrepreneurship Project
- STEM field trips

APPLY NOW
Please use the link below or QR code above:

<https://bit.ly/4h8ssv3>

 Penn
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

 VICE PROVOST for
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Are you a middle school student interested in STEM and entrepreneurship? The VPSE STEM Academy Summer Program: Junior CEO is now accepting applications!

This five-week program at the University of Pennsylvania offers hands-on STEM activities, business challenges, and exciting learning experiences. Students accepted into the program **will qualify to receive a stipend upon successful completion** of the program.

[Click here to apply no later than Friday, February 28.](#)

Opportunities for Talent Search Scholars

Provost's Summer Mentorship Program

The Provost's Summer Mentorship Program at Penn is an **immersive four-week summer program** curated by faculty and staff from the Perelman School of Medicine, the Nursing School, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Penn Carey School of Law, and the School of Dental Medicine.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Enrollment in a Philadelphia (public, catholic, private or charter) High School
- Resident of Philadelphia
- **Currently in 9th or 10th grade**
- Minimum GPA 3.0
- High School transcript with Fall 2024 grades
- Essay (500 words) describing yourself and your interest in the program
- Up-to-date vaccine record

[Click here to get more information and apply no later than February 14.](#)

I AM PHL Student Summit

Calling all **Philly high school students passionate about arts, music, and spoken word!** Join Philly Goes 2 College for the I AM PHL Student Summit on **Saturday, March 29** from 11 am to 3 pm.

This event is your chance to:

- Learn how to submit a standout entry to the **IAMPHL contest**
- Explore how to turn your talents into a career
- Network with top arts professionals shaping Philly's creative scene

The day will feature a live DJ, spoken word performances, panel discussions with industry

Teen Lounge at Fleisher Art Memorial

Teen Lounge is a free drop-in, after-school program for students ages 13 to 19. It's the perfect place to hang out, make art, learn something new, and meet other young artists.

With collaborative effort, projects explore media ranging from sewing, sketch-booking and digital art to animation, film-making, and even painting a mural!

Teen Lounge runs Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4 to 6 pm when Philadelphia schools are in session. Snacks, bus passes, and art materials are provided.

[Click here to get more information and attend an upcoming session.](#)

The Links, Incorporated Follow-Through Scholarship Program

The Penn Towne (PA) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated announces its Follow-Through Scholarship Program, offering financial support to deserving students throughout their four years of education at an accredited college or university.

Students must maintain full-time status at their institution and must maintain a 2.5 GPA each semester throughout the entirety of their college experience. Each student will receive an **annual award of \$6,000** (\$3,000 per semester pending review of an official transcript). This award spans four academic years and is not renewable.

Applicants must be U.S. Citizens currently in their senior year of high school.

leaders, free lunch catered by Wawa, and more! Admission is FREE, but space is limited.

[Click here to register now.](#)

[Click here to apply no later than April 15.](#)



Follow us on social media and visit us online at [https://vpse.upenn.edu/ets!](https://vpse.upenn.edu/ets)

Penn Talent Search | 3819-33 Chestnut Street Suite 110 | Philadelphia, PA 19104 US

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