

Project Discovery

Alexandria

Project Discovery:

- Provides weekly life-skills & college readiness workshops
- Offers engaging team building activities
- Hosts professional guest speakers
- Exposes students to a variety of college and career opportunities
- Sponsors free college tours for enrolled students
- Offers after school snacks

Mission:

To increase access to and prepare middle through high school students for success in post-secondary education.

Vision:

Every student will have a pathway to accessing higher educational opportunities.



Department of Community
and Human Services

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*The key to **Project Discovery's** success is the active involvement of individuals such as administrators, parents, local businesses, and institutions working together to provide enriching experiences for the program and its participants.*



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alexandriava.gov/ProjectDiscovery

What is Project Discovery?

Project Discovery is a free after school program that helps middle/high school students and their families begin planning for college.

Since 1985, Project Discovery Alexandria has supported more than 2,000 students in becoming the first member of their family to attend college, university or technical school. Project Discovery prepares students for their transition to higher learning through workshops, college tours, scholarships and other enriching experiences. Project Discovery students learn to set and achieve educational goals, select colleges, time management & study skills. They also receive support with applying for financial aid and scholarships.



Workshops

Workshops are held on a weekly basis and address a variety of topics. Participants are exposed to many issues which pertain to their acceptance, success and completion of college. Emphasis is also placed on self-esteem, relationships with peers, the surrounding community and setting and achieving goals. Workshop topics include:

- Goal Setting
- How to Choose a College
- Financial Aid & College Admissions
- SAT preparation
- Money Management
- The Credit Card Trap
- Self-Esteem
- Public Speaking
- Conflict Resolution
- Job Readiness
- Cover Letters & Resumes
- Study Skills & Test Taking
- Hygiene
- Nutrition
- Etiquette, Decision Making & Peer Pressure
- An Introduction to College Awareness

College Visits

To augment the Project Discovery weekly curriculum, a number of visits to college campuses in and out of Virginia are conducted. These visits are coordinated with the appropriate workshops topics on issues regarding college admission requirements, selecting a course of study, and financial aid.

Field Trips

A vital component of the program involves exposing participants to other aspects of culture and society. Field trips are conducted throughout the program year and include visits to museums, attendance of plays and movies, and other intellectually and engaging activities.

Meetings

Our meetings are held weekly on Tuesdays, at the T.C Williams High School auditorium. Participants are highly encourage to attend the meetings.

Eligibility

To be eligible for enrollment, participants must meet one of the following:

- Family income within 200 percent of the poverty guidelines
- Receive free or reduced cost lunch
- Be a first generation college student

To assist other students who may have related needs and interest, 10 percent of the participants involved may not fall in the previously mentioned categories.