Lesson Plan: College Search Tool

Objective: Students will evaluate results from the College Search Tool in order to identify five colleges/institutions that offer a program/major of their choice.

ASCA Standards	
B-LS 5.	Media and technology skills to enhance learning
B-LS 7.	Long- and short-term academic, career, and social/emotional goals
B-LS 9.	Decision-making informed by gathering evidence, getting others' perspectives, and recognizing personal bias
B-SMS 5.	Perseverance to achieve long- and short-term goals
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards	
W.CCR.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
AVID Standards	
9.OK.ACP.2.b)	Develop familiarity with college terminology
10.OK.ACP.2.b)	Explore college options and terminology
11.OK.ACP.5.a)	Engage in information gathering to determine match, reach, and safety schools in order to mitigate "summer melt" and undermatching during the selection process
12.OK.ACP.4	Plan a path for education and college aligned to personal goals

Lesson Duration

This lesson can be completed in one 45-60 minute class period or broken into several 20- or 30-minute smaller lessons.

Student Materials

- Chromebook/laptop
- Internet access
- College Search Tool Student Worksheet
    - Instructional tip: The student worksheet is designed to complement the lesson; it is a fillable PDF that can be used electronically or printed.
- How to Use the College Search Tool tutorial

Educator Materials

- View this tutorial for a step-by-step guide to see how your students will navigate CaliforniaColleges.edu in this lesson: How to Use the College Search Tool

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Educator Script/Introduction:

“As you consider the career(s) you might like to pursue, it's important to select a program/major that will prepare you for that career. You will also need to find a college that offers that program/major and that will be a good fit for you. Today you will explore the programs/majors offered by the colleges of your choosing.”

Warm-Up (10 minutes)

— Instruct students to sign in to **CaliforniaColleges.edu**, navigate to **My Plan** at the top of the page, click **My Career Plan**, and review their **Career List**.

— Direct students to click on the title of one **Career** of interest in order to see the **Career Summary**. Next, instruct students to scroll to **Education Level** and read the description of each **Program and Major** by hovering over the title. Direct students to fill in the chart in the College Search Tool Student Worksheet with their **Career** and the **Programs/Majors** that may enable them to pursue that career:

Career	**Program/Major**
	1. 2. 3.

- Instructional tip: Consider asking students to share, with a partner or in small groups, their career and program/major of choice. You might also ask volunteers to share out with the class.

— Next, instruct students to make a list of at least five colleges they have heard of and may be interested in attending in the **Student Worksheet**.

Colleges
1. 2. 3. 4. 5.

- Instructional tip: Consider asking students to share, with a partner or in small groups, their list of colleges. You might also “whip-around” the class and have every student share out one college on their list.

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College Search Tool (30 minutes)

- Play the following tutorial for students or provide the link to students so they can watch it independently: How to Use the College Search Tool.
    - Instructional tip: Watching this tutorial as a class enables you to pause as needed in order to ensure every student is on the same step before moving forward with the lesson.

- Instruct students to navigate to **College** at the top of the page and click **College Search Tool**.

- Direct students to **Search by name** for the colleges that they listed in their **Warm-Up**, one by one. For each of their five colleges, instruct students to click on the title of that college and check out the **Degrees & Majors** tab. Instruct students to review the **Degrees & Majors** in order to determine if that college has a **Program/Major** that aligns to their career of interest.
    - Instructional tip: Refer students back to the **Program/Major** part of their **Warm-Up** for this task.
    - Instructional tip: Remind students that earning a high school diploma allows them to pursue an Associate Degree or Bachelor's Degree. Students can confirm that the college they have selected offers **Associate Degrees** (AA/AS) or **Bachelor's Degrees** (BA/BS) for the **Program/Major** of their choice by reviewing the **Types of Degrees Offered** columns.
    - Instructional tip: Encourage students to look at all the degree options offered by each college; this helps students become conversant in the intricacies of how degrees and programs look at different colleges.
    - Instructional tip: Remind students to favorite (❤) any colleges of interest that do not already have a heart.

- Encourage students to use the **Filters** to sort their results.
    - Students can filter their results by **Location**; you might encourage students to explore **California Only** options.
    - Students may also choose to filter by **California College Type** in order to search specifically for a California Community College (CCC), California State University (CSU), or University of California (UC) campus.
    - Students can filter by **Level of College** in order to specify between 2-year and 4-year colleges.
    - Students may also be interested in filtering their results by **Type of Environment**, **Size**, or **Religions Affiliation**.

- Instruct students to fill in the chart in the **Student Worksheet** with the names of five colleges to which they might like to apply and the program/major they may pursue at each school:

College	Program/Major
1.	1.
2.	2.

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3. 4. 5.	3. 4. 5.

- Instructional tip: Consider asking students to share, with a partner or in small groups, their list of colleges. You might also “whip-around” the class and have every student share out one college on their list.

— Remind students that every college they favorite can be found in **My College Plan**. Encourage students to edit their **College List** in **My College Plan** if their interests have changed over time.

Reflection/Exit Ticket (5 minutes)

— Collect students’ completed worksheets.

Extension of Learning

— Encourage students to use the edit features in **My College Plan** to identify the **Degree Type** and **Major** they are interested in pursuing at each college.

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