

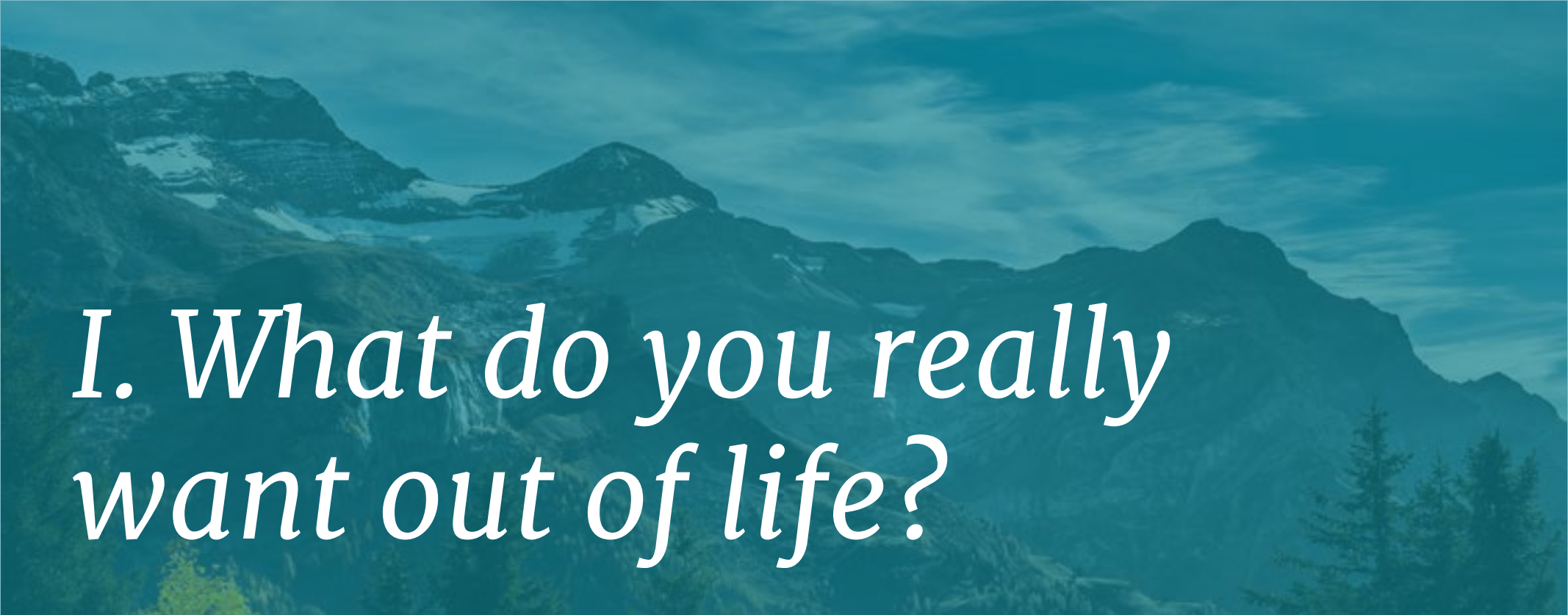
The CollegePlus

# Guidebook



Take control  
of your  
education.





# *I. What do you really want out of life?*

Steven wanted to make movies. His parents wanted him to go to school, get a degree, and become a success. He tried to compromise by attending the University of Southern California, one of the top-rated film schools in the country. He was rejected. Twice.

After a temporary enrollment at a different university, **Steven eventually set college aside to pursue his passion.**

By the time he was 26, Steven's name was known in the film industry and producers praised his ground-breaking work. Eventually, in 1973, he was commissioned to make an exciting new action/horror thriller about a man-eating great white shark.

Sound familiar?

*Jaws* went on to break every box office record, grossing over \$7 million its first weekend and forever immortalizing its director, Steven **Spielberg**, in movie history.

Spielberg went on to produce countless record-breaking hits and redefine his genre. He made millions of dollars, entertained billions of viewers, and even co-founded his own film company.

However, 3 Oscars, 2 Emmys, and 34 years after his first college rejection, Spielberg decided to go back.

The director who had already been awarded several honorary doctorate degrees from highly respected colleges regretted never earning his bachelor's. So he went back, studied hard, and at age 55, he walked across the stage to the theme of *Indiana Jones*.

You also have goals and dreams burning inside you, just waiting to be realized. The good news is, you've got it better than Steven did. **College doesn't have to get in your way.**

Despite what you may have heard, higher education is now more accessible and affordable than ever. **You don't have to choose between completing your degree and pursuing your passion—you can do them both at the same time.**

Ready to learn how?



# II. CollegePlus helps you with more than college.

## Step 1 - You Need a Plan

### Jeff's Story

Jeff started on his college journey planless and purposeless. He knew he wanted a degree, but he didn't know what degree he wanted to pursue, or even *why* he wanted it in the first place.

Jeff desired adventure, but he also feared the unknown. So instead of living the adventures he was excited about, he stayed home with a book, fervently reading about the adventures of others.

“Is this really where I need to be?” he often asked himself as he nervously began his college studies. But how could he answer that question unless he knew where he was trying to go?

**He needed more than just a goal. He needed to know *what* he wanted and *why*.**



# Enter CollegePlus

When Jeff started CollegePlus, he began Navigate—CollegePlus’s online life and degree planning application. Through the teachings and questions posed to him through this course, Jeff slowly began to work through what he really wanted and why. He unpacked his strengths, weaknesses, and desires. And once they were unpacked, he could put them to good use.

It was the push Jeff needed to break out of his “home-body” box and begin seeking new opportunities. He began to really live life and ended up catching a vision for education that was very different than the one he had before. With a clear purpose in mind, he now saw his education as more than just job training. To Jeff, education was an opportunity to deepen his understanding of the world and view his beliefs through the eyes of others.

## **And that self-discovery changed the trajectory of his life.**

Because he took the time to discover his passions and direct his studies accordingly, Jeff chose to major in English. With the dream in mind of someday becoming a professor, he was able to take the adventure of a lifetime: studying abroad at the University of Oxford in England.

Once a directionless, timid bookworm, the purpose Jeff uncovered through CollegePlus transformed him into the adventurer he always wanted to be. And now he continues to pursue a mission, finding deep fulfillment through working as a teacher, fostering in students his own deep passion for learning.

# Navigate

Jeff is just one example of *thousands* of CollegePlus students who have found direction through Navigate. You can't know you're moving in the right direction if you don't even know where you want to go.

We can help you with that.

Over 9 weeks, Navigate helps you both ask and answer the important questions:

- What do you want out of life?
- Who do you want to be in \_\_\_ years?
- What will it take to become the person you want to be?

Once you're finished with the Navigate course, not only will you have **made a plan for your life**, but just like Jeff, **you'll know why that plan is so important**. Then you can walk in confidence as you make big college decisions (like degree choice).

# Academic Consultation

Once you finish the Navigate program, answering the *why*, you can start working on the *how*.

**That's when we bring out the big guns of college planning: your Academic Advisor.**

Working one-on-one with an Academic Advisor, you will plan out your scholastic future. **With their guidance, you will design a custom degree plan that fits your interests, schedule, and budget.**

Most college advisors assign rigid parameters for you to follow that align with a standard, cookie-cutter degree. An Academic Advisor will help you lay out the degree that is the best choice for *you* and *your* future. They take into account cost, convenience, subjects and courses, graduate degrees, credentialing, and alternate pathways that may get you to your goal in a better way.

After your degree plan has been created, your Academic Advisor and the CollegePlus Research Team provide ongoing support, just in case college policies (or even your own preferences) change.

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## Step 2 - You Need a Coach

### Lauren's Story

After enduring the shame of a high school pregnancy, beginning and dropping out of college, a marriage, three more pregnancies, and starting her own home business, Lauren decided to go back to school *again*. And this time she would finish.

**But her renewed vigor for her studies began to dwindle as the weight of her many responsibilities dragged her down.**

She soon felt like she was drowning.

Lacking solid Christian input in her life, Lauren found herself barely able to get up each morning, just looking forward to flopping into bed 14 hours later. She was beginning to question if she really *could* handle her family, her business, and her education all at once. She was only one woman. But how could she let go of any responsibilities? What would happen to her life if a single task fell to the wayside?

**She needed a guide to assure that all her efforts were actually worth it.**

**She needed a coach.**





# Enter CollegePlus

As Lauren's to-do list became longer and longer and her patience grew shorter and shorter, her CollegePlus Coach began to play a more important role in her life. **Lauren's Coaching Calls became her lifeline to something beyond her struggles.**

"It surprised me how skilled Hannah was in organizing and taking in the whole picture [of my life]—not just school—but balancing my whole routine with ease. Even when I didn't get school done, I still got so much out of the call... She always brought me back to spiritual reality. I opened up to her and she was always there to listen."

**More than just an educational mentor, Hannah provided deeper support than Lauren had imagined possible.**

When Lauren felt she couldn't juggle her roles, Hannah was there to hold her steady. When she was too tired to study after a full day, Hannah understood, helping her prioritize her other activities. Now, as she continues to find the right balance in life, Lauren sees Hannah as much more than her educational mentor. Her Coach is a guiding light as she fights through the storms of life.

**Your Academic Coach is your guide who uses their bigger perspective to help you reach your destination in one piece.**

## **A Coaching relationship focuses completely on *you*, helping you discover:**

1. Where you're headed
2. Why you're headed there
3. How you're going to get there successfully

But more importantly, your Coach sticks beside you, helping you along the journey.

Lauren found her Coach to be an invaluable support for not *only* her academics (which she didn't have the time or brainspace to keep track of herself), but also her life in general.

**Your Coach is always available to help you figure out what to do next—whether that next step is a “school” step, or a “life” step.** They'll answer your questions and help you see the world through God's perspective.

Of course, you're still in charge of the work. A Coach can't do that for you. But they *can* help you move forward confidently, knowing you have someone watching out for you, praying for you, supporting you, and guiding you the whole way.

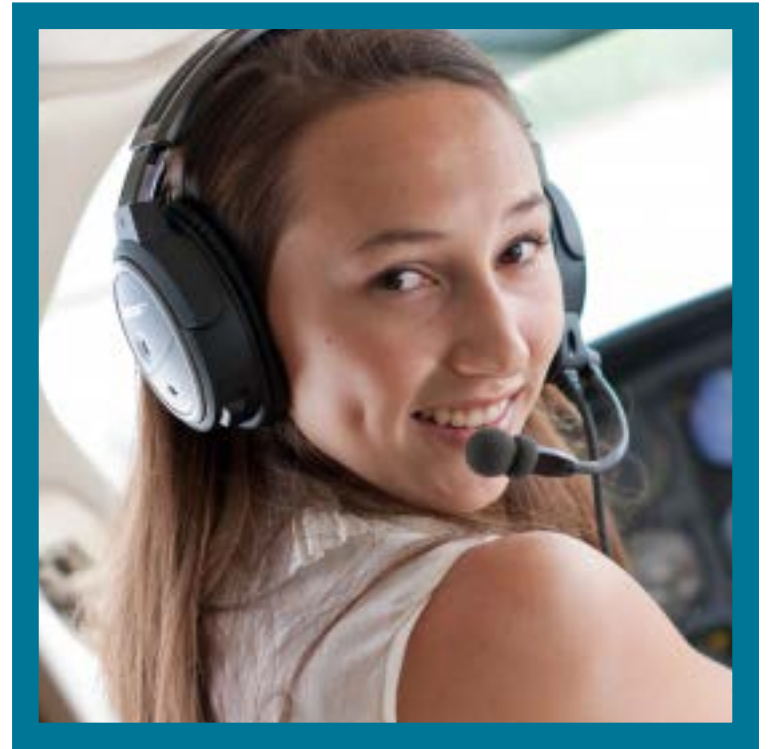
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# Step 3 - You Need Credit. But You Also Need Expertise

## *Thea's Story*

Thea wanted to be a pilot ever since she was twelve. By the time she was ready to make a decision about college, she'd already been involved in Civil Air Patrol for several years, had gotten aviation experience, and knew she wanted two things:

1. a pilot's license
2. a journalism degree



Thea was built for adventure. After high school, she took time off from her studies to travel to Italy and work teaching young children, only further whetting her appetite for travel and new experiences.

Staying home and studying wasn't an option. She knew attending a school for journalism wouldn't give her the life experience she wanted. But she also knew pursuing aviation alone wouldn't give her the knowledge base she required for her future career.

**But she needed a way to earn her degree around her adventurous lifestyle.**

**She needed a flexible degree program.**

## Enter CollegePlus

And she got it.

During her CollegePlus studies, Thea has been able to pursue breath-taking adventures like traveling to Turkey through an exchange student program. After she graduates with her bachelor's degree, she plans to enroll in a flight school and pursue a career as a pilot for a charter aviation company.

Thea didn't have to choose between college and adventure. She did both.

**She was able to pursue her degree on *her* schedule with no classes, projects, or due dates holding her back.**

## Earning Credit on Your Schedule

With CollegePlus, you have access to literally thousands of efficient credit-earning methods, from credit by exam to independent coursework to flexible online courses. And with every option, you will reap the benefit of completing each college subject *without* the fluff that comes with a traditional classroom.

By skipping the busywork, **CollegePlus allows you to gain a college education *while* pursuing your passion.**

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## Step 4. You Need *Your Degree*

### *Christian's Story*

Christian loved the way he was doing college. Taking it upon himself to create a self-directed degree, he loved that he could hand pick which classes he got to take and which ones he didn't. He loved the flexibility and cost-savings of credit-by-exam (his preferred method). It was perfect!

But, 27 credits into his degree, he became frustrated. Christian couldn't keep up with the ever-changing college graduation requirements. He just didn't have the knowledge or experience required to make sure every class lined up. He became afraid of continuing his studies unassisted and accidentally taking the wrong courses. Could he be *wasting* time instead of *saving* time?

As graduation policies grew and changed, he found he just didn't have enough knowledge to make sure he wasn't taking extra credit or wasting his time.

**He couldn't do it on his own.**

**He needed help.**



# Enter CollegePlus

Christian wanted to follow his passion and become a U.S. diplomat to Myanmar. He needed his degree before he could even begin to pursue that dream.

**So he teamed up with CollegePlus, allowing us to take on the burden of lining up his degree requirements to his chosen college.**

Gone were the days of sorting through courses, credits, and college policies.

**With the help of an Academic Advisor, Christian designed a personalized political science degree from Thomas Edison State College (now University).**

The graduation requirements were checked, his courses assigned, and the degree lined up perfectly.

And he graduated without a hitch.

**You will too.**

Once you've earned all the college credit you need in the way that's best for you, it's time to do something with it. **We'll help you transfer all that credit into an accredited university for graduation.**

And you have a few choices for how you can go about that, depending on your goals:



## CollegePlus: Unbound - Your full bachelor's degree

Of the four CollegePlus options, this program is perfect if you want to maximize the freedom and flexibility of non-traditional college.

If you choose to graduate from Thomas Edison State University or Liberty University Online, **you can transfer in up to 117 credits of your degree** (depending on which major you choose). **That's 117 credits you can earn WITHOUT a college's strict rules, policies, and time-wasting minutiae.**

[Learn about Unbound](#)

### **Not ready for a full degree program?**

If you want to save time and money on your degree, but know you want to finish at a school other than the two mentioned above, the next program is for you.

A photograph of two people hiking on a trail in a forest, overlaid with a teal gradient. The image shows two figures standing on a path, surrounded by trees and foliage. The overall tone is serene and adventurous.

## CollegePlus: Pathway - Your degree jumpstart

Instead of diving right into the deep end of college, **earn your first credits with us.** First choose the school you want to attend, then work with an Academic Advisor to create a degree plan that will save you up to \$32,000 and hundreds of hours on that degree.

With the help of your Coach, you will build a plan for your life and college while **earning as much transfer credit as your college allows.**

[Learn about Pathway](#)





## CollegePlus: Prep - Earn dual credit in high school

With CollegePlus: Prep, you can get a jumpstart on your degree by earning dual credit while you're still in high school!

You will work with an Academic Advisor and your parent to **create a solid plan for high school and college while earning up to 18 transferrable college credits.**

[Learn about Prep](#)

## CollegePlus: Navigate - Create your life plan

Are you trying to figure out where you're headed, but don't feel ready to start college work yet? Navigate may be the best fit for you.

**Dedicating 9 weeks *just* to the Navigate program, you'll work with a CollegePlus Coach to lay out a plan for college and life.**

[Learn about Navigate](#)





# *III. Now Do It!*

CollegePlus is a community of students from all over the world who look to the future, say “I want that,” and then *go for it*. **And they can because they have the time, training, and motivation to work hard and do anything they set their minds to.**

You won't get anywhere by just drifting. And you'll likely find yourself in the *wrong* place by following the status quo. If you want to do something in this world, you have to *do it*. Find your purpose, make a plan, gain the skills, and do it.

**This is a better way to do college.**

Start College Now